



# Shrewton

## C of E Primary School

Welcome to Shrewton's  
Starting School  
Information Guide





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Head of School: Mrs Anna Howell

Dear New Reception Families,

Welcome to Shrewton CE Primary School and the start of your learning journey! We are so pleased to be welcoming you to our school and are excited for your learning journey to begin.

This parent guide will tell you all about our daily routines and give you other information about life in Early Years. But if you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to ask, our door is always open.

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your family and working with you to best support your child in their time at school.

Best wishes,

*Anna Howell*



**Content**

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## Your child will need:

### School uniform:

- Dark grey skirt, trousers or shorts
- Black or Grey socks for boys and girls. Girls may also wear grey tights or white socks
- Girls may wear blue and white checked dresses in the Summer
- Academy sweatshirt or cardigan with logo
- White polo shirt



### Footwear:

- Shoes or well-fitting sandals (no open toed sandals) should be black, brown or navy blue – (not trainers, boots or flip flops)
- During the Autumn term it is ideal for Reception children to have a pair of Wellington Boots that they can keep for use in school.

### PE kit:

- Academy Logo White PE t-shirt or House colour PE t-shirt
- Navy/Black shorts
- Trainers
- Named PE bag
- Outdoors – tracksuit, fleeces (for cold weather)



All uniform is available through School Trends, please see our website for the direct link. We have a limited number of sweatshirts/cardigans/pe t-shirts in stock available from the school office.

It is advisable to have a warm raincoat during the winter months and a lightweight raincoat which is always very useful on outings.

**It is really important that you put your child's name on all of their clothes and bags in a sensible place that we can find quickly, as this enables us to return your child's belongings if they lose them. Sewn in name tapes are better than using a marker pen as they last longer.**

**To help develop your child's confidence and self-esteem ...**

.... It is important that they can manage personal care tasks independently.

**Your child needs to be able to, or have increasing ability to:**

- Hang up their coat and PE bag
- Go to the toilet unaccompanied
- Do up their coat
- Put on and take off all of their clothing by themselves easily, including tights and socks
- Turn clothes the right way out
- Put their shoes on the correct foot and do them up
- Know back from front
- Manage buttons and zips
- Blow their nose



All of these things will make a major difference to how your child feels about their life at school so please encourage them to practise these skills at home.

If you have any concerns please speak to Mrs Richards

## Food and Drink at School



Each child should bring a drinks bottle into school each day. These are kept in class and the children have free access to these throughout the day and are encouraged to drink regularly as this has been shown to improve learning and concentration.

### Morning Break:

Each morning we have a 'snack time' just before we go outside for break. During this time we sit together to eat fruit and have a drink. Fruit is provided free of charge to Reception and Key Stage 1 children.

## Cool Milk

Parents have the opportunity to sign up purchase milk in school through the 'Cool Milk' scheme. Through the 'Cool Milk' scheme, milk is available free of charge to all under 5's.

### Lunch Time:



Hot School Meals are available to all children, unless you opt for your child not to receive one. Since September 2014 this has been free to all Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage children. All our hot lunches are cooked in school and provided by a company called *Apetito*. We send out order forms via email on a tri-weekly basis. In keeping with our healthy eating approach, should you choose to give your child a packed lunch, please include fruit or vegetables. Other lunch box suggestions: sandwiches, crackers, yogurt, cereal bar, cold pasta, pita bread, cubes of cheese. Water is always available at lunch time.

### What is a 'disposable lunch'?

A disposable lunch is one that is wrapped in cling film or a plastic bag (not in a lunch box) that can be thrown away when the food has been consumed. We request these to be sent in by you for outings if you choose for your child not to have a 'school packed lunch' for the trip.



### Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

The school receives additional funding to support families who are in receipt of any of the following benefits; **Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit 'run on' or Universal Credit**. As this money has to be claimed through a grant from the Local Authority we do need to know for our records if you are eligible. To establish eligibility if you are in receipt of any of the above benefits please benefits please come into the school office where you will be given a County form to complete. This form is then sent to Wiltshire Council Free School Meals team who will then inform you if you are eligible. **These grants are put towards the costs of school outings, residential trips, additional classroom support, uniform expenditure and after school clubs and activities for your child**

### **What do I do if my child is ill?**

Please telephone the school office – 01980 620362 on the day that your child is ill and leave a message explaining the situation. The message is passed to your child's teacher. If your child has not arrived in school by 9.30am and we have not received a message the school will ring to ascertain the child is safe. If your child has suffered sickness and/or diarrhoea they must be absent from school for 48 hours after the last incidence of illness.



### **What happens if my child needs medicine?**

The authorisation sheet you will have signed authorises school staff to administer basic first aid in case of an accident or injury. If however, your child is in need of any medication in school a 'Template B form needs to be completed. These forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website. Please ensure you have told the school about any medical or special need your child may have. All medication has to be in its original packaging. If you have any query about medication please contact the Headteacher.

### **What happens if my child is taken ill during the day?**

If a child is too ill to stay in school, a parent is contacted. If they cannot be found, the emergency contact number is used. If no one can be contacted the Headteacher makes a decision about the child's condition and acts accordingly.

### **Accident forms**

If a child is involved in an accident at school a paper slip is sent home at the end of the day to inform parents. In the event of a serious accident, a parent will be contacted immediately.



### **Is anyone trained in First Aid?**

There are members of staff trained in 3 day qualification of Emergency First at Work as well as Paediatric First Aid.

### **Importance of Information on form**

It is extremely important that the school is in possession of current contact telephone numbers. Please inform the office of any changes to contact details or medical information immediately.

## Our Curriculum and Supporting Your Child

Characteristics of Effective Learning	
Playing and Exploring – engagements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Finding out and exploring</li><li>➤ Playing with what they know</li><li>➤ Being willing to 'have a go'</li></ul>
Active Learning – motivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Being involved and concentrating</li><li>➤ Keeping trying</li><li>➤ Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</li></ul>
Creating and Thinking Critically - thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Having their own ideas</li><li>➤ Making links</li><li>➤ Choosing ways to do things</li></ul>

Our curriculum for our Reception class is based on the statutory Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. We enrich this framework with a wide range of exciting learning opportunities that are relevant and exciting for each child.

The curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is embedded through play based on the principles that:

- ✚ Every child is unique.
- ✚ Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
- ✚ Children learn and develop well in enabling environments.
- ✚ Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.



- *Reading with your child, from a range of books and reading materials, encouraging them to help and read the pictures. Ask them to make predictions about the story ending and demonstrate how we read from left to right by following the text with your finger.*
- *Let your child join in, when you write a shopping list, let them write one too (emergent 'play' writing should be praised and encouraged).*
- *Talk to your child as much as possible and demonstrate good listening when they talk.*
- *Enjoy counting in lots of situations such as counting the steps, counting the apples in the basket.*
- *Look out for numbers in the environment and talk about what they are, what comes next (numbers to 20)*
- *Explore the environment together talking about what you see, smell, hear and taste.*
- *When possible allow your child to use a range of electrical equipment with you such as the dvd player or radio.*
- *Talk about your family and what happened when they were younger.*
- *Encourage your child to take part in imaginative play, developing their own story lines and themes, using every day objects as props.*
- *Listen to a variety of types of music and sing with them, nursery rhymes or children's songs.*

**The three prime areas are developed within the four specific learning areas:**

**Literacy**

Development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters to begin to read and write. Children are given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems and other written materials) to ignite their interest.



**Mathematics**

Involves providing children with opportunities to improve their skills in counting, understanding and numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction and to describe shapes, spaces and measures.



develop and using problems;

**Understanding the World**

This involves guiding children to make sense of their and their community through opportunities to and find out about people, places, technology and



physical world explore, observe the environment.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

This will enable children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and



### **Through these key areas we develop the three characteristics of learning:**

#### **Prime Areas:**

#### **Communication and Language**

This involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.



#### **Physical Development**

This is providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food.



#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This is about helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.



## All about daily routines

### What time does school start?

The gate at the side of the school building opens at 8.45am. They then come straight in for the register. Any children arriving after 8.55am will need to come through the main door to the office where they will need to be signed in as late in the register.

### Should I come into the classroom?

Please say goodbye to your child at the gate, where they will be greeted by a member of staff. This arrangement develops your child's independence and organisational skills and makes for a calm and settled start to the day.

### If my child uses school transport who takes them into school?

A member of the school staff will greet your child from the bus and escort them into school. They will then be escorted to the bus at the end of the day.

### When can I talk to the teacher?

The mornings are very busy times. It is helpful if you can keep requests for appointments for informal or formal meetings to after school or write a message for the class teacher on class dojo. We will always endeavour to meet with you as soon as possible should you request it. There will always be a member of staff on the doors should you wish to pass on a message.

### What happens if my child is unwilling to settle?

Please say goodbye kindly but firmly and leave the teacher or teaching assistant to settle your child. We will always contact you to let you know that they have settled.

### Can my child bring toys to school?

No. All children of school age are expected to leave their 'comfort' toys at home. Toys at school nearly always lead to problems due to loss, breakage or distraction. We have class teddies that the children can use for 'comfort' if needed.



### What is our Celebration Assembly?

Parents, carers, friends and family are invited to join us for Celebration Assemblies, generally on Friday mornings and start at 9am. On special occasions these will be held in Church. Please come along when you are able and share in your child's learning and successes.

### How do I know what is going on at school?

Regular newsletters are sent home from school, via email, with details of all the current dates and information. Please check Dojo for regular updates.

All information and letters home are also available on the school website;

[www.shrewton.dsat.org.uk](http://www.shrewton.dsat.org.uk)

### How can I get a message to my child or the teacher urgently?

Please call the school office on 01980 620362

### **How can I send a written message?**

Please write any information/notes for the class teacher on class dojo, this is checked every morning for messages. Please put any other notes, forms, payment for any outings in your child's book bag, in a named, sealed envelope. You can also e-mail your child's class teacher directly.

### **What happens at the end of the day?**

The school day finishes at 3.15pm. A member of staff will escort your child to the playground and meet you there. It is essential that you let us know as soon as you can about any changes to the normal arrangements either through class dojo or by contacting the office.



## **Assessment**

### **What are the Key Stages?**

Foundation Stage	Pre-School/Nursey and Reception
Key Stage 1	Years 1 and 2
Key Stage 2	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

### **What is assessment and how will it affect my child?**

Throughout the year your child will be observed during their learning activities. This is not a test and most of the time they will be unaware. In September the reception team will be working particularly hard to establish what your child knows already, through these observations, and what they need to learn during the year. This helps to form their assessments (judgements) at the end of the year.

### **Foundation Stage Profile**

At the end of the summer term, the team will be making judgement against each of the 17 Early Learning Goals (ELGs). For each goal your child will be given a statement of – Emerging (working towards the ELG), Expected (achieved the ELG) and Exceeding (working above the ELG).

### **How will I be informed about my child's progress?**

There are three parents' evenings where you will be invited to come and discuss your child's progress and a written report is sent home in the summer term. If you wish to contact your child's teacher at any other time please feel free to arrange an appointment. Your child will make the best progress when the school and home work together.

### **How are children rewarded at school?**

Each week we have an achievement certificate awarded per class. We also have house points which are graded by colours. Children receive dojo points for good work in the classroom and house points for following our school values and producing amazing work.

**We hope you have found this helpful and do let us know if there is any other way in which we can help you.**

*Thank you - The Shrewton Team*