



Our MAT Values:  
Perseverance, Compassion, Respect, Wisdom, Forgiveness & Trust



# Foundation Stage Information Booklet

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Due to the Covid 19 situation some information in this booklet may be subject to change. You will be informed by the school of changes as and when they occur.

# Welcome

Welcome to Grampound Road Village Church of England School, we are part of The Celtic Cross Education Multi-Academy Trust.

Our Head of School is Miss Sarah Kennedy



Our Office Staff are Mrs Wright & Mrs Godwin



If you have any questions regarding the day to day running of the school, or you would like to make an appointment, you can contact them on 01726 882646 or via email to:- [grampoundroad.secretary@celticcross.education](mailto:grampoundroad.secretary@celticcross.education)

# What is the Foundation Stage?

The Foundation Stage is the period of education from age three to five. During the first year, the children may join our Nursery EYFS class. The second year of the Foundation Stage is often called the Reception year, as the majority of children join a school Reception Class during this time. Children at Grampound Road join the Reception Class in the September of the academic year when they become five.

## Why is it important?

Early experiences affect children's attitudes to learning so it is vitally important we get it right. Play is crucial to the way young children learn. Through play, children can develop in all areas of the curriculum. The children will be given the opportunity to learn through a carefully planned, well-balanced, topic-based curriculum, tailored to the needs of each individual child.

# The Early Years Curriculum

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework. This curriculum is based upon four themes and principles:-

- **Unique Child** - Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- **Positive Relationships** - Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
- **Enabling Environments** - Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers.
- **Learning and Development** - Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

## The Curriculum

There are 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas of learning in the Foundation Stage framework.

### Prime Areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

### Specific Areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

In the Foundation year, children build on their home, nursery and pre-school experiences and learning. There continues to be a strong emphasis on developing children's skills in the 3 Prime Areas. As these areas become more embedded there is a further focus on the Specific, including reading, writing and maths.

We strive to ensure that our youngest children receive their entitlement to a free flow enabling environment that supports both indoors and outdoor learning through both adult led and child initiated activities.

# What sort of things will children learn during the Foundation Stage?

In the Prime Areas the children will learn to:-

- Share, take turns and develop respect for each other.
- Make friends and become confident independent learners.
- Behave appropriately when playing with others.
- Listen to others and understand spoken language.
- Learn new words rapidly and use them in conversations.
- Join in conversations with adults and children.
- Develop control of their bodies using both large-scale movements such as running and jumping, and small-scale movements such as holding pencils and using scissors.

In the Specific Areas the children will learn to:-

- Enjoy sharing books and stories with adults and friends.
- Read words and simple sentences (Foundation children).
- Draw, make marks, write letters and words.
- Count accurately groups of objects and recognise numerals.
- Add, subtract and problem solve during practical activities.
- Use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, distance, time and money.
- Look closely at how things work, why things happen, living things and the natural world.
- Use ICT equipment.
- Be imaginative, sing songs, dance and create fantastic models, drawings and paintings.

# Tapestry

We have chosen to use an online system of recording your child's learning in Reception.

Tapestry is a website which can be accessed on a computer or laptop, and also on any Apple or Android device such as a tablet or smart phone. We have chosen this company because they are secure and it is an exciting way of keeping track of your child's development and their time with us.

Instead of using the old paper book style way of recording, we will be able to instantly upload photos, videos and observations of your children. You will receive an emailed to alert you that something new has been added to your child's Learning Journal and can log on and view what your child has been up to. A massive advantage of this system is that you can instantly add your own comments to entries, and can show your child's online book to members of the family who would not usually be able to attend parent evening appointments at school.

The safeguarding of our children is very important to us. Everything that is added to Tapestry will be added to our school account and can only be viewed by school staff that use the system, and also yourself, using your own log on. You will only have access to your child's own book and this cannot be seen by other parents. Also, it is crucial that you do not share photos or videos from your child's book on social media or through other online platforms. Any incidents where this confidentiality is broken will be treated very seriously and will result in your access to the system being withdrawn.

Frequently Asked Questions about the system can be found on the Tapestry website where you will find lots of information and videos: <http://eyfs.info/tapestry-info/introduction>

Parents/Carers will be asked to complete a permission slip to allow us to set up a Tapestry account for your child. Please sign and return this as soon as possible, you will then be given your account details.

# The School Day

8.45am	Our gates are unlocked and the children line up with their class teacher
8.50am	Children enter their class, hang up coats and put their book bags in the box and packed lunch and drink on the trolley
8.55am	Registration
9.10am	Maths/Playful learning inside and outside
11.00am	RWI-Phonics/Playful learning inside and outside
12.00pm	Lunchtime
1.15pm	Collective Worship
1.30pm	Topic Work/Playful Learning inside and outside
3.10pm	End of the School Day

The first few minutes of each day are an extremely important time for settling the children and explaining the day ahead. Please make every effort to be on time in order to avoid any unnecessary upset or disruption. Any child arriving after 8.55am will be marked in as late. School finishes at 3.10pm each day. The children will not be allowed to go unless there is a known adult waiting for them. Please inform the class teacher/school secretary if a different adult will be collecting your child. If there is an unknown adult and we have not been notified, we will ask the adult to wait outside whilst we make the necessary telephone calls to verify if the child can be collected by them.

Healthy Eating is important, Grampound Road school is an accredited member of Healthy Schools and promotes healthy eating and drinking behaviours. All infant children are eligible for a free school meal or, if they prefer, you may send them in with a packed lunch. Menus are available for school meals and parents are required to book their child's meal choices in advance on our online booking system via ParentPay. If children prefer a packed lunch from home please encourage them to choose a healthy option for their lunch boxes. Due to nut allergies we request that children do not bring peanuts or peanut butter sandwiches to school. During the course of the morning the class snack cafe is open. Children are encouraged to help themselves to a piece of fruit and water. This is free of charge. Crisps or sweet snacks are not permitted at snack time. Children are also asked to bring to school a named water bottle which they can access whenever required.

Grampound Road is a cashless school, with one exception, in the EYFS we ask parents for a 50p donation a week towards snack and cookery. This can be paid weekly or every term. All trips for Reception children need to be paid using our ePayment system, ParentPay. By making cashless payments you know that your money has reached the school safely. We also operate an online meal booking system, which allows parents to view and select their child's meal choices in advance of each day. Meals can be booked up to 8.30am on the day, or as far in advance, as the current menu runs if desired. Once your child is settled into school, you will be given a unique username and password. You will then need to book meals, pay for school trips and any other items using this system. You can go online to view your account statement and payment history, check when payments need to be made and set alerts to tell you when to pay. To keep up to date with what is going on at school please check out our newsletter or the school website:-

<https://www.grampoundroadschool.co.uk/web>



# The EYFS Classroom



# Outside Learning



# The EYFS & Other Areas



The Cloakroom

The EYFS Toilets & Sinks



The School Office



The School Hall



# School Uniform

Uniform Please ensure that you label EVERYTHING with your child's name! Our school uniform is as follows:-

- White Polo shirt
- Grampound Road sweatshirt £9.00 with school logo
- Black or grey trousers / skirts
- Sensible black shoes
- Coat
- Book Bag £5.00 from the office
- P.E kit- black shorts, blue polo shirt and plimsolls or black trainers
- During the Summer terms, girls may like to wear a blue & white checked dress.
- Items of jewellery should not be worn
- Ear studs are permissible but may not be worn for P.E. If they cannot be removed they will be taped over
- Long hair should be tied up securely
- Nail polish is not permitted

## **Attendance:**

We try very hard to achieve a high standard of attendance (national expectation is **96.4%**) If your child is ill, please phone the school first thing in the morning (**01726 882646.**)

# Staffing



Mrs Wilton

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Miss Kennedy

# Medical matters

If you have any concerns about your child's health or if he/she has a medical condition that we should be aware of please let us know before he/she starts school. We can then discuss the matter with you and be fully aware of, and prepared for, any possible difficulties.

If your child requires prescribed medication to be administered at school please fill out a form which is available from the school office.

If your child has a bout of sickness or diarrhoea please keep him/her off school for 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped. This type of illness spreads very quickly and easily among children and staff!

If your child is ill and cannot come to school, please call 01726 0882646 and leave a message with your child's name, class and the reason for their absence. The office staff will pass this information on to your child's class teacher.

The school office is open Monday-Friday 8.30am-3.30pm.

# Can your child?

## Before school...

When your child starts school it would be helpful if he/ she could do some of these things:



Dress and undress him/herself.



Put on and fasten his/ her coat.



Change his/her own shoes and socks.



Use the toilet properly and flush it.

# Can your child?

## Before school...

When your child starts school it would be helpful if he/she could do some of these things:



Wash and dry his/her hands and face.



Use a knife and fork.



Tidy away his/her toys.



Blow his/her own nose.



# Final Message

We are very much looking forward to the new term and hope that you all have a happy and safe summer. If you have any queries or questions, no matter how big or small, then please speak to your child's class teacher, or email:-

[Grampoundroad.secretary@celticcross.education](mailto:Grampoundroad.secretary@celticcross.education) and we will get back to you as soon as it is convenient.

*'Together with love we can inspire, discover and thrive.'*

