

Welcome to Reception



STOKES WOOD
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head teacher: Mrs L Christensen

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Compassion

Aspiration

Resilience

Excellence

Stokes Wood Vision

Stokes Wood Primary School is an ambitious place. We aim to help every child become a global ambassador, ready to explore and understand the world around them. We encourage our children to be curious, ask questions and seek answers as they learn. Our children are confident in sharing their ideas and opinions. They know how to listen and communicate with kindness and respect. We believe in a community where there are no outsiders– everyone belongs and every voice is heard. Above all, we nurture their well-being, ensuring they grow into healthy, balanced individuals committed to lifelong learning and positive change. Together, we create a caring and supportive environment where everyone can grow and succeed, ready to make a positive difference in Leicester and beyond!

Opening Doors to a Brighter Tomorrow



Our aim is to make the transition from nursery to school smooth and successful. We are sensitive to the needs of your child and you as their parent. At Stokes Wood, we strive to establish and maintain positive relationships with all the children and their parents.



This prospectus will help you to prepare you and your child for school. It will help you to understand what your child will be doing at school and we hope it will answer any questions you may have. If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.

Who you will meet in Reception



Mrs Harrison

Mrs Harrison is the Early Years Lead and a class teacher in Reception. She can't wait to work with you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I lived in America for 5 years and I have a dog called Dove!"

Miss Strickland

Miss Strickland is a class teacher and she works Monday to Wednesday. She is excited to meet you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I love spending time with my family, traveling and learning new things."



Mrs Bevans

Mrs Bevans is a class teacher and she works Monday to Thursday. She is looking forward to working with you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I have a dog called Milo and I love to read books – my favourite book is Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen".

Ms Smith

Mrs Smith is a teaching assistant. She can't wait to work with you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I have been on a cruise and saw the beautiful Norwegian fields."



Who you will meet in Reception



Miss Easter

Miss Easter is a teaching assistant. She is eager to support you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"My favourite animal is an elephant."

Mrs Phillips

Mrs Phillips is a teaching assistant. She is delighted to meet you. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I have been to Disney Land Paris and I would love to go back."



Mrs Wakeling

Mrs Wakeling is our Forest School Lead. She can't wait to take you to Forest School. Here is an interesting fact about her:

"I previously did ballet and tap dancing."

Mr Roberts

Mr Roberts is a care assistant. He is looking forward to working with you. Here is an interesting fact about him:

"In my spare time, I enjoy caring for horses."



What will my child learn?

In Reception, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. There are 7 areas of this curriculum:

Prime areas

1. Communication and language
2. Personal, social and emotional development
3. Physical development

Specific areas

4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding the world
7. Expressive arts and design



Each area of the EYFS curriculum is carefully planned into our topic-based approach to learning, which has a balance of play based and adult-led learning opportunities to suit the needs of all children in the Reception setting. We are passionate about delivering a curriculum that is engaging, creative and challenging for all.

Children will make friends and build self-confidence as valued members of our class and our school. We aim to teach tolerance towards others and respect for attitudes and beliefs, which may differ from our own.

Our Environment

Our main priority is to provide children with a safe, secure and happy place to develop and learn. Our environment encourages children to be confident and independent learners that welcome challenge. Children will access a high quality, carefully planned environment that aims to meet the needs and interests of all of the children. We strive to provide opportunities that inspire children to discover the awe and wonder of the world around them. We work both inside and outside the classroom, all year round.



Forest School

Children in Reception have Forest School sessions every Monday afternoon. These sessions take place outdoors in our Forest School area which is located on the school grounds at the bottom of the school field.

They will have the opportunity to explore the natural surroundings, use the mud kitchen and resources, den build, use tools and once the rules are embedded, attend a campfire and toast marshmallows!

We provide weather proof clothing and sun hats and ensure that children also wear suitable footwear.



School Uniform

We expect all children in to wear school uniform. School shoes with velcro or trainers with velcro are preferable. We spend a good proportion of the day using our outside area as an active learning area so please make sure your child wears suitable clothes each day, especially school shoes or trainers that they can climb and run around in.



All children need a P.E. kit: a T-shirt (provided by the school and linked to their house colour), black or grey shorts/leggings/joggers. Children will need a pair of plimsolls for PE, which will be stored in their PE bag too. School logo PE bags are available to purchase from the school office.

We also ask for a full spare set of clothes in case of accidents (this does not need to be uniform). We provide outdoor coats during the outdoor sessions as they are likely to get dirty. We also provide sunhats in the warmer months.

Please ensure all clothing is labelled with your child's name.

Timings of the day



School day

Start: 8.50am

End: 3.20pm



Breakfast club

Start: 8am

Children can be dropped at breakfast club from 8am. Breakfast club is charged at £3 per day.



After-school care club

Until: 6pm

Care club is open until 6pm. The price is dependent on the time of collection - £2 per half hour.

Meals, Snacks and Drinks

Your child may either bring a packed lunch or have a **free** hot school dinner. In Reception, fruit is free and milk is also free until children turn 5 years old. After that time, milk is provided through the Cool Milk scheme. This will need to be paid through this company and information is available from the school office. To encourage the children to stay hydrated, your child can bring a named bottle of water into school. This will need to be taken home to be re-filled each day. Children who attend breakfast club or after-school care club will be given a light snack.

A typical day in Reception

Morning Session

School starts at 8:50am

- Morning welcome- register and lunches
- Phonics- ALS
- Teaching input (maths/ literacy/ topic based)
- Snack
- Access to the indoor and outdoor learning environment
- Small group work
- Story Time/ Rhyme
- Lunch at 11:50am



Afternoon Session

- Afternoon welcome - register
- Teaching input (wider curriculum/ topic)
- Access to the indoor and outdoor learning environment
- Small group work
- Story Time

Afternoon sessions ends at 3:20pm



Phonics and Reading

We teach phonics (letters and sounds) daily and you will receive copies of the tricky words the children will be learning for reading and writing to practise at home. We will support you with phonics (reading) through our parent events – these are opportunities for you to come into school throughout the year.

At school, your child will take part in shared and guided reading sessions each week.

We will send home a school reading book each week. We advise you to read with your child every day. Books must be returned weekly so that they can be changed. A reading diary will be sent home with the book to enable both parents and school to record your child's progress or any queries you may have regarding their reading.



Maths

We teach the children to recognise, order and write numbers to 20. We teach the children about addition and subtraction as well as shape, positional language and use the language to describe height, length and weight. We do have maths lessons but we also like to get out in the community and practise maths in real life while providing your child with rich learning activities they can access independently.

How can I support my child's learning?

Children's learning begins at home. We recognise that the relationship between home and school is a partnership and that there are steps we can take together to give your child a consistent and successful start to their school journey.

Sharing stories, singing rhymes and songs, listening and talking will all help to develop your child's confidence and communication skills.

Encourage your child to help you e.g. baking, tidying a room and helping with the shopping. These can all give children a sense of responsibility and sharing.



Developing independence

At Stokes Wood, we encourage independence. We expect all children to go to the toilet and wash their hands independently. We will of course be on hand to support any children who need it and to help with tricky buttons and fastenings, if needed.

Children who have toileting accidents will be supported in line with our intimate care policy. If your child has frequent accidents, please send a spare change of clothes into school to keep in a bag on your child's peg (this can remain in school).

To become more independent and prepare your child for starting school, you could encourage them to:

- Put on their own coat and shoes
- Tidy up their toys
- Use a
- Carry and look after their own belongings



Attendance

We are committed to providing the best possible learning and development opportunities for all our children. Regular attendance plays a key role in helping children feel settled, build friendships and fully benefit from all the experiences we offer.

Absence procedure

We expect all children to be in school every day. However, we understand that children may get ill. We ask that you notify school of child's absence either by:

- Calling the school (0116 2875305)
- Emailing the school (office@stokeswood.leicester.sch.uk)
- Or reporting to the school office

If your child is not registered for school and you haven't notified the office, a text will be sent to find out the reason for the absence. If there is no response to the text, you will receive a phone call to ensure the child is safe and well. If your child does not return to school the following day and you haven't followed up with the absence, then a home visit will be made.

Where possible, please make medical appointments for your child outside of the school day.



Absence during term time

We cannot authorise absence during term time. When your child is legal school age (5 years old) leave/absence during term time, which is 5 days or more will result in a Penalty Notice (PN) being issued. This is a legal requirement for all UK schools.

Fines for taking your child out of school are £160 per child, per parent if paid within 28 days. This can be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

There is rolling 3-year period from the date a PN is issued and any second notice within the 3-year period is charged at a higher rate of £160. If further leave is taken within the 3-year period, prosecution or an other attendance legal intervention will be taken.

Furthermore, PNs can be issued for 10 or more sessions of unauthorised absences within a 10-week period.



Illness and Medication

Illness

Please keep poorly children at home, especially after sickness or diarrhoea. The recommended time for return is 24 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

'Long-term' Medication

Inhalers/epi-pens for all children in need of them will be held by the class teachers and kept in a cupboard within the classroom which will be clearly marked with a green and white first aid sticker. It would be best practice if a second medication is available at school for playtimes, lunchtimes and PE.

All medication must be clearly marked with the child's name, with clearly written instructions as to need, frequency, etc.

It is the parents' duty and responsibility to ensure that a child's medication is in date.

'Short-term' Medication

Children who require a short course of medication e.g. antibiotics, will, whilst ill, remain at home until the course is finished. If it is felt by a medical practitioner that the child is fit enough to return to school a school first aider will administer the medicine as long as there are fully written instructions and the medicine is in the original packaging.

All Medication

No medication can be allowed in school unless the appropriate form is completed and returned to school. Forms are available from the school office. These are updated on an annual basis and staff are issued with information concerning their pupils and/or pupils in the school with specific allergies.

Safeguarding

Stokes Wood is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children, staff and visitors, where all feel confident about their own safety or well-being of others. All visitors to school must sign in at the main school office using an electronic sign-in system. They will be provided with a lanyard which must be worn at all times.

Password System

In Reception, we implement a Password System Procedure so that, if you are unable to collect your child, you will be reassured that your children will only be collected by an authorised person. Details of the password and adults authorised by you to collect your child, for example a childminder or grandparent, must be provided to your class teacher and the school office, when your child starts school. We ask that you inform us of any changes to this information immediately.

Safeguarding Leads at Stokes Wood



Liz Christensen
Headteacher



Megan Williams
Assistant Headteacher



Sarah Woods
SENCo



Ela Swakia
Learning and
Behaviour Mentor



Trish Haryman
Pastoral Support



Hazel Bramley
Office Manager



Your child's progress is documented throughout Reception in topic books to showcase their achievements.

Your child's progress through Reception



We use an interactive app to share special moments called 'Evidence me'. We take photographs of each child's 'Wow Moments', share these with parents.

Parental Responsibility

If you have parental responsibility for your child but live apart from each other, you are still entitled to information about their progress and participation in events at school. If you would like to receive a copy of their annual report, newsletters, copies of school photos or information on assemblies and exhibitions please email office@stokeswood.leicester.sch.uk for more information.

We hope you and your child are looking forward to starting their school journey.

If you would like to know more about our school or Reception provision, please call us to speak with a member of staff who will answer any questions or queries you may have.

We look forward to welcoming you to Stokes Wood!

