

# Welcome to Lingdale Primary School Reception Booklet



Lingdale Primary School  
Davison Street  
Lingdale  
Saltburn  
Tel. 01287 651723

Teacher: Mrs Jones

## Before starting school

### Becoming independent

It is important that your child becomes as independent as possible so it is important for them to be able to

- Dress independently including shoes and socks (Try to dress your child in clothes that are easy to pull on and off)
- Use a knife and fork properly (At home show them how to hold them correctly and how to cut up food);
- Explain what will happen before/during/at the end of the school day.

### Toilet training

Children are expected to be toilet trained, be able to clean themselves, flush the chain and wash their hands before starting school. We are always sympathetic if a child soils his/her clothing and provide a change of clothing on these occasions. (A 'spare' set of clothes can be kept in their PE bag.)

### Important information

It is very important that you provide us with the following information:

- Your telephone numbers, including mobiles so that we can contact you if we need to
- Your address
- Any medical information e.g. allergies, asthma, eczema, epilepsy, sight or hearing problems

If **ANY** of these things change please let us know.

We always look after children who are a little under the weather but if your child is too poorly to come to school **PLEASE** ring school (651723) to let us know immediately and keep us informed daily.

## Before starting school

### Naming of clothing

PLEASE ensure that **ALL** school uniform **AND** PE kit is **CLEARLY NAMED** with your child's name. A permanent marker is best when naming initials are not sufficient as many children have the same initials—your child's first and

surname are both needed. It is worth checking clothes every time there is a school holiday and re-writing names in any if the name has washed off. It is easier to return clothes to the correct child if they are named.

### **What to wear**

Children are encouraged to wear the school uniform:

- Blue sweatshirt
- White or blue polo shirt with a collar
- Grey pinafore, trousers, or skirt with elasticated waist
- Velco/buckle fastening **black** shoes (laces make shoes difficult for the children to get on and off independently)
- In the summer, the girls might like to wear blue and white gingham dresses and the boys, a pair of shorts.

Whatever the weather **PLEASE send your child into school with a coat.**

As part of our curriculum we spend time playing and learning outside.

**PLEASE** make sure your child's coat is **NAMED**—many children have the same style coat. No jewellery is allowed. Earrings should not be worn but if they are they should be plain studs.

In EYFS we are learning all the time and this means that occasionally we can get a little messy. This can happen when the children are glueing and painting, playing in the mud kitchen, water and sand but these areas are essential to enabling children to develop social skills, imagination and resilience. We do however ensure that children wear aprons wherever possible.

### **Wellington boots**

Please mark your child's wellies clearly with his/her name. Put the name on the inside of each boot so when the names are put together the boots are ready to wear. A 'named' clothes peg to keep the boots together would help. On 'welly days' please send in a pair of shoes in a named carrier bag.

### **PE kit**

For PE sessions the children need:

- A named bag
- Named trainers or plimsolls
- Named **PLAIN BLUE** or **PLAIN BLACK** shorts
- A named **PLAIN BLUE** or **PLAIN WHITE** T-shirt

PE bags will be sent home at the end of every term to be washed (at

Christmas, Easter and at the end of the year in July) but should stay on children's pegs during the term. Please remember NO EARRINGS on PE days.

As part of your child's development, we all need to encourage them to dress and undress themselves for PE sessions. It would help if you could let them practise fastening and unfastening shoes and clothing before they start school. Clothes that are easy to pull on and off are recommended. Shoes with velcro fastenings or buckles will help your child to be more independent. Shoes and boots with laces are difficult for young children to cope with.

## **Starting school**

The first day at school is a very important day in your child's life. We want to make this a happy time for you and your child. The following pages are a guideline for you in order to help your child to settle and feel secure and confident in school.

### **Where to go and what to do**

School starts at **8.45am**. Children can either attend a free breakfast club from 8:15 - 8:45 from which they will be taken to their classrooms or they need to line up at the pencils on the playground at 8:45. Your child's class teacher will then collect the children from the playground and walk them into the classroom. However, on the first day and during the first week you are welcome to come in to:

- Find the correct peg in the cloakroom to hang up coats and PE bags;
- Sit your child on the carpet, with the teacher...before saying goodbye and leaving.

On the first day parents are often more worried than the children! Children really look forward to starting school and it is important to be positive, confident and happy about this big adventure.

**If you seem upset, your child is likely to be upset.**

**If you seem happy, your child is more likely to settle happily.**

If your child seems upset try not to worry—children do settle well when the parents have gone. If your child becomes very upset we will ring you—but this has not yet happened!

## **Starting school**

At some time your child may be upset when coming to school. This can happen after the initial excitement of school disappears and often happens if a younger brother or sister is at home. **Be firm but kind!** Bring your child to school and hand him/her to the teacher. Try not to fuss. Leave your child—the teacher will soon settle him/her.

If you know any reason why your child is upset e.g. not sleeping, their hamster died—please let the teacher know. It is much easier to deal with an upset child if the teacher knows the reason why.

## **At the end of the day**

At 3.00pm, the school day ends. It reassures your child to see you there a little earlier! Please wait in the EYFS outdoor area and the doors will be opened.

Children are asked to stay on the carpet area until they are called to the door to meet you. Please let the teacher know if a different adult is picking up your child. Children can become very upset if parents are not there at 3.00pm and so become more difficult to settle over following days—please be prompt to pick them up.

Please complete the 'emergency contacts' in your pack and return to school as soon as possible. This form is part of our safeguarding procedure to make sure that your child goes home with an appropriate adult.

## **After the first few days**

Please encourage your child to come into school on their own. This helps the children to be safe as the cloakroom is not so congested and it enables them to feel more 'grown up' and independent. (A crowded cloakroom full of parents and toddlers can be worrying for a small 4 year old!)

The class teacher and teaching assistant(s) will help your child to:

- Hang up their coat and PE bag
- Put their reading bag in the reading box

## **Brushing Teeth**

After lunch every day we will brush our teeth. If you wish your child to opt out, please let their class teacher know.

## **Lunchtimes**

For most children lunchtime is their favourite part of the school day! However, there are always a few children that find the school lunch hall daunting and upsetting. We endeavour to ensure that those children settle into the routine as soon as they feel able. They have 1:1 support and encouragement from an adult and are **never** left to 'muddle' along, confused or upset. The Reception staff eat their lunch with the children for the first few weeks and one class teacher is always present in the dinner hall every day after that. This helps the children feel more confident with our lunchtime routines.

## **School dinners**

We expect that all of Reception will start on school dinners. From September 2014 the Government have been funding school meals for all infant children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2). A sample menu for our school lunches is in your pack for you to look at. There is a considerable choice of delicious foods available each day—hot or cold and even the fussiest eaters are usually catered for. In the event that your child is not eating, we will let you know. Please let us know if your child has any food allergies/dietary requirements.

## **Packed lunches**

We prefer all children to have a school meal so that they can experience new tastes along with their friends. However, if you choose to send your child with a packed lunch please follow our healthy packed lunch guidelines (included in this booklet).

Lunch boxes need to be **CLEARLY** named. As part of our school policy, we ask that packed lunches contain healthy choices—try to avoid fatty foods such as sausage rolls or pasties and sugary drinks. We ask that chocolate bars, nuts or fizzy drinks are not in packed lunches. Children will be asked to take home their own rubbish so you can see what they have eaten. We ask that children only bring crisps on a Friday (when school dinners have chips). Chocolate biscuit/muffin is allowed but please **NO** chocolate bars.

Children need to bring their lunchbox to school at the start of the day.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

2 school weeks notice **MUST** be given at the school office if you wish to change your child from school dinners to packed lunch **OR** packed lunch to school dinners. Please ask at the office for our packed lunch policy.

## **Book bags and communication with parents.**

Each term we will send out a newsletter informing you about plans for the half term and what your child will be learning as well as important dates. We will also display what the children have been doing on our school website and face book page with termly updates.

**PLEASE** check your child's book bag **EVERY** night for important letters. Teachers will endeavour to remind parents that there are letters in bags when they collect their child at the end of the day—but this is not always possible at this busy time. A copy of important dates will be displayed in the window of your child's class for reference.

### **Homework**

Homework in Reception is usually to read their reading book or complete some of the activities in their book bag—an activity, every night is better than trying to do everything in their book bag once a week! Children will start the year with a picture book and a reading record to be signed. If children can read three times in one week and get their record signed, they will be entered into the book draw to win a book to take home that week. Later in the term, as children start to learn sounds and begin to blend them, a pack of sound flashcards will be sent home to practise with and a set of numbers to learn. We might also occasionally send letter formation practise and keywords to learn for homework too.

### **Reading at home**

Children love stories! Children need good reading 'role models' at home and at school to become successful readers— national research shows this is true for boys in particular. At home try to make reading an enjoyable, happy and relaxed time. Encourage your child to read with and to different adults - to share stories with Dads, Grandads, and Uncles as well as Mums, Grandmas and Aunties! Try not to compare your child's progress with that of others—all children progress at different rates. In September a 'Helping your child to read' booklet will be included in your child's book bag. This booklet outlines activities you could try with your child at home and it explains how to use the resources in their bag. If you are concerned about your child's progress, please see the class teacher who can help you and give you many helpful ideas.

Your child will be given a Lingdale book bag to protect the reading books and their homework. If a bag is lost or destroyed, a replacement can be bought from school. Please keep the bag and contents away from pets and younger children and don't use the bags to carry water bottles in—if they leak it makes an awful mess!

### **Other homework**

Sometimes 'special tasks' are set to help your child with their topic work.

For example:

- Asking questions about when they were a baby
- Sponsored activities
- Asking you about toys you had when you were small
- Bringing in an item linked to our topic.

### **'Baking fund'**

Each class will have a baking fund and we ask for a voluntary contribution of 50p a week. This will mean that the children can go shopping for their ingredients and your child can have their turn to bake.

### **Parents and School as a team**

For your child to do well there must be a good partnership between parents and school. To keep you informed of your child's progress we will:

- Arrange a 'New Parents meeting' (in the term before starting school)
- Arrange parents consultation evenings—to let you know about your child's progress and to discuss their reports
- Arrange meetings to help you support your child's learning at home.
- Send home information leaflets and letters throughout the year to help you support your child's learning.
- Proud clouds to help you share your child's successes at home.
- Regular communication about your child's learning journey.

We look forward to working with you, to help your child to be happy and successful.