



Early Years Foundation Stage

All Saints' Church of England Primary School
Happy are we who journey together in faith and love

Welcome to All Saints' Church of England Primary School

Early Years Foundation Stage

Foreword: Gail Branch, Headteacher, says:

Everyone at All Saints' would like to welcome you and your family to our school. We hope that your association with us will be a long and happy one and we look forward to getting to know you.

This booklet is intended to provide you with information about our unit and to answer some of the questions parents often ask. However, if there is further information that you would like, please telephone us on 0161 796 3392.

Starting school

Early Years Foundation Stage is a big step for both parent and child to take. We aim to provide a welcoming environment in which your child feels happy and eager to learn. Parents also need to feel secure in the knowledge that their child will have the best possible care. Our EYFS1 (Nursery) children are known as Caterpillars and EYFS2 (Reception) children as Butterflies.

Safe, joyful and stimulating

Our objective is to make coming to school a happy and positive experience for each individual child. We do this by providing a safe, joyful and stimulating environment for all the children in our care, they are all given the opportunity to experience a variety of activities and equipment, to explore with their senses and to learn to relate to each other and form friendships.



Behaviour and self-development: encouraging the positives

Rewarding positive behaviour

All Saints' Early Years Foundation Stage encourages positive behaviour. We reward positive behaviour and children's achievements through our 'smiley' board.

'Smiley' board

All children are on the board at the start of each day and can progress to the 'star' board following a significant achievement. However, unacceptable behaviour will require children to move their name from the 'smiley' board to the 'thinking' board. If the behaviour continues their name will be moved to the 'sad' board. Please ask your child daily which board they are on.

'Sad' board

A sanction of being on the 'sad' board three times in any one week will result in having time out in another classroom.

Awards

Certificates are awarded at the end of each half term stating how many times your child has been on the 'star' board. Weekly Caterpillar and Butterfly awards are given out in our 'Well-Done' Assembly each week.



Settling in to our friendly Early Years Foundation Stage

Helping your child to enjoy the Early Years Foundation Stage

Early Years Foundation Stage education works best when there is a partnership between the school and the home. We value the role of parents/carers as first educators and encourage you to help settle your child when joining the Unit.

Early Years Foundation Stage hours... and the daily routine

Before your child starts school on their first day, please explain to your child what to expect. It will help to ease any worries and concerns they may have.

Hours

The classroom will be open from 8.45am for a prompt start at 8.50am. School finishes at 3.20pm for EYFS1 (Nursery) and 3.30pm for EYFS2 (Reception). When you collect your child, please be on time to avoid any unnecessary upset.

Collection

Your child will have been told not to get up until they have been called by the teacher; please explain this to them – we need to make sure that they have been collected by a recognised adult. Important: please inform us if anyone different from you is to collect your child. We will not let them go unless this has been previously arranged.

Encourage independence

It helps to encourage your child to be as independent as possible so please allow them to bring their own bag, books, Early Years Foundation Stage contribution, etc. All monies should be handed in to the member of staff at the door.



Talk to your child

On the way home, talk to your child about what they have learned... its fun to share the school day!

Uniform

Please help your child to be independent and able to try all activities by dressing them appropriately, and ensure they can undress themselves to use the toilet. The wearing of school uniform is compulsory. A smart appearance can help the child's attitude to their work and also stop the squabbles in the morning over what to wear! Our uniform is as follows:

Autumn and Spring Terms:

- Grey pinafore, skirt or trousers.
- White school polo shirt with logo*.
- School sweatshirt* or cardigan*.
- Black shoes.
- Grey tights/long white socks (girls).
- Grey socks (boys).
- Wellies (to be left in school).
- Waterproof coat for outdoor use (to be left in school).
- Small reading packet with school logo* (nylon bookbag – not heavy duty).



Settling in to our friendly Early Years Foundation Stage

Summer Term:

- Pale blue check dress, with short white socks (girls).
- Grey shorts with grey socks (boys).

P.E. kit:

- Royal blue P.E. shirt with logo*.
- Navy shorts.
- Single drawstring P.E. bag*.

Items marked with an asterisk * can be purchased online from: www.gooddies.co.uk

Labelling of uniform

To help both children and teachers please mark **every** item of school clothing with the child's name; many children's clothes are identical and trying to sort out who owns what is a teacher's nightmare!

Outdoor clothing

Outdoor provision takes place every day and we embark on a wellie walk most weeks. It is therefore essential that your child comes to school in a coat with a hood, and has a pair of wellies as well as a waterproof coat that can be left in school. Provide enough warm clothing even on days that look ok – we all know what the English weather is like!

We encourage sensible footwear for the playground. Please select black shoes which your child can fasten, unfasten and walk in! All items of outdoor, including footwear, should also be marked with your child's name.

School meals and snacks

All children in EYFS2 are entitled to a free hot or cold meal. Children who attend EYFS1 are currently charged for meals. You will be given details of how to pay for these online when your child starts school in September.

Free school meals

Some families may be entitled to free school meals if they are in receipt of certain benefits. If you believe that your child may be entitled to free school meals please contact the Education Department on 0161 253 5858, or talk in confidence to the School Office.

Packed lunches, drinks and snacks

Alternatively, children may bring sandwiches, fruit and a suitable drink. Please do not include cans, glass bottles, leaky cups or chocolate or sweets in your child's lunchbox. As we have children in school with severe nut allergies, please do not include any items of food which contains nuts. Children are not allowed to bring drinks (other than in their lunchboxes) or snacks into school as water, milk and a healthy snack are available in the morning and the afternoon.

Please encourage your child to use a knife and fork correctly.



Curriculum: promoting academic, social, emotional and personal success

Children learn through play and our dedicated team of teachers and teaching assistants will plan a curriculum to meet your child's needs, using the four overarching principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework:

Every Child Is Unique

We understand that all children are unique and have a variety of different experiences before attending our Early Years Foundation Stage. Your child is constantly learning, and we plan to ensure that they can continue their learning journey being resilient, capable and self-assured.

Positive Relationships

Relationships are key to children's development and therefore we value your support and input into your child's education. By working in partnership, we can build strong, capable independent learners. We build strong relationships with the children in our care and encourage the children to develop positive relationships with each other.

Enabling Environments

Our Early Years Foundation Stage is a stimulating and inviting learning space where your child can engage in a wide range of learning opportunities, supported and guided by our experienced staff. The children have access to a wealth of activities indoors to promote their creative and investigative natures. In our outdoor environment children can use their gross motor skills to explore the large equipment and can experience the change in seasons in our ever-changing garden.

Learning and Development

Characteristics of Effective Learning

The Early Years Foundation Stage team will plan engaging activities to ensure the best outcomes for all learners by using the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning':

Playing and exploring – children will investigate their environment, ask questions and experience a variety of things. Children will be encouraged to 'have a go'.

Active learning – children will be encouraged to concentrate and keep on trying even when they encounter difficulties. Children will be praised for their achievements and show pride in their own learning.

Creating and thinking critically – children will have their own ideas and will have the resources to develop these ideas, making links and developing their own strategies to complete a task.

At All Saints', these Characteristics of Effective Learning are at the heart of our planning, ensuring that each child receives the support and encouragement to become creative and adventurous learners throughout their lives.

Seven areas of learning:

Communication and Language

The development of children's language underpins all the areas of learning in the early years. Your child will be part of a language-rich environment, where they will learn to expand their vocabulary and be able to express their thoughts coherently. They will listen to stories and sing rhymes daily and use these experiences to create their own stories in their play. Through role play and story telling your child will become a confident communicator.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Through warm and positive relationships with staff your child will be able to understand their own feelings and those feelings of others. Your child will be supported in developing a positive self-image of themselves and develop their confidence in a variety of situations. The children will develop strong relationships with each other, learn how to solve conflicts, take turns and share. They will understand the importance of looking after their bodies and being healthy. Jigsaw Jenie is our special class mascot who helps us to understand our emotions and share our feelings.

Physical Development

Physical activity is key to your child's development, ensuring they have healthy and happy lives. Children will become more aware of their bodies with an increasing awareness of space, control, balance and coordination. They will have daily access to outside play, where they can develop their gross motor skills on large equipment, wheeled toys, large building materials, balls and hoops. Fine motor skills are vital to early writing. These skills will be developed through a variety of experiences and opportunities including threading, puzzles, malleable materials, small construction kits and a variety of mark-making tools.

Literacy

Reading

Through an immersion in stories and rhymes children will develop a love of books and an understanding about how books are structured. One of the best ways to develop a positive interest in books is to read a bedtime story. Young children love to hear their favourite stories repeatedly. Words are all around children and your child should be encouraged to notice words and read anything, such as shop signs, packets and tins in the cupboard!

When your child is ready to read, after lots of games and exposure to rhyming words and tuning in to sounds around them, they will begin to link sounds (phoneme) to letter (grapheme). At All Saints' we use a scheme called 'Jolly Phonics', where there is a story, song and action linked to each sound.

Writing

When your child starts to write (mark make) they will use shapes, pictures and symbols and they will gradually begin to use familiar letter shapes. Most children show an interest in writing their name, we encourage your child to write using lower case letters and just a capital letter at the start of their name (please see a sample of letter formation at the back of this booklet). In our Early Years Foundation Stage setting the children have access to a variety of mark making tools both indoors and out and interesting stimuli to encourage a purpose for writing.

Mathematics

Your child will be immersed in number to develop an excellent understanding of numbers to ten and they will develop a positive attitude to mathematics. They will use practical equipment to understand the composition of number and use it to compare different amounts. Every day your child will count and be encouraged to use mathematical language to explain their thinking. They will sing rhymes to develop their understanding of addition and subtraction. Your child will develop their spatial reasoning by creating patterns, building with blocks and completing jigsaws. Through sand and water play they will develop an understanding of capacity, weight and volume.

Understanding the World

This is the foundation for geography, history, science and technology. Children will talk about the world around them, their families and the changes they observe. They will be encouraged to ask questions and enrich and widen their vocabulary through non-fiction texts. In our garden, your child will have the opportunity to plant, tend, harvest and then eat the produce! Cooking sessions provide opportunities for observing changes in materials and practical mathematics. In weekly religious education sessions, the children will learn about Christian values and develop an understanding of cultural diversity.

Expressive Arts and Design

Through painting, craft activities, music, singing, stories and role play, the children will develop their imagination and creativity. The children will have regular sessions with our resident artist. Your child will be able to explore colour, textures and music and have access to a range of resources in order to express their artistic ideas.



Key information

Absence

If your child is unwell please do not bring them into the Early Years Foundation Stage, as infection can spread to other children. Please telephone to let us know or send a message via another parent or carer. The recommended time to be absent after vomiting or diarrhoea has stopped is 48 hours.

All unexplained absences will be recorded as unauthorised.

Emergencies

Parents/carers are asked to complete a form providing the school with phone numbers on which to contact someone should your child need to go home. This information is important to the welfare of your child and we rely on you to keep it up to date.

Fees for lunchtime supervision in EYFS1

Fees for lunchtime sessions, for those children attending full time, must be paid for by standing order once a month. The standing order form will be included in your pack with the cost spread over a 10-month period from September to June. Lunchtime sessions must be paid for even if your child is absent.

Toileting

Please ensure your child can use the toilet independently before starting our Early Years Foundation Stage. Please provide nursery-aged children (EYFS1) with a change of underwear to be left in school, in a drawstring bag.

Early Years Foundation Stage contribution

To cover the cost of daily snacks, regular baking, resources and other activities in our Early Years Foundation Stage, we ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 per half term or £30 for the year. Either cash or cheque made payable to All Saints C of E Primary School. Please send in an envelope marked with your child's name and 'Early Years Foundation Stage Fund'. Thank you.

Your child's achievements: celebrating success

The progress of each child is closely monitored by staff and children's achievements are celebrated. Photographs and videos will be used to record your child's time in the Early Years Foundation Stage setting using a piece of educational software called 'Tapestry'.

There will be opportunities throughout the year to visit your child in the unit and share their experiences. Dates will be advised when available. You will also receive a summary report at the end of each year.

Early Years Foundation Stage 2

Please note, parents of nursery-aged children (EYFS1) will still need to apply for a school place to continue their child's education in the second year of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS2) and beyond – transfer is not automatic. The Local Education Authority will send you a letter explaining how to apply in November this year. Please look out for this important letter and if you do not receive it by the 1st December please inform the school office.

Getting involved

Parental involvement

We welcome the support, co-operation and interest of all parents. The staff are always willing to discuss any matter concerning your child. Please may we ask you, however, to arrange a mutually convenient time to see the teacher, preferably after school. There will be open sessions throughout the year to discuss your child's progress more fully. As a parent you are automatically a member of All Saints C.E. Primary School Parent Teachers Association and we look forward to seeing you at forthcoming social events, meetings and activities. Please keep up to date with our news on our website (allsaintscoepswhitefield.co.uk).

Happy start at school

Finally, may we thank you for your co-operation. We hope this information booklet will help to make your child's start at school a happy one.



SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!



Mission statement

Happy are we who journey together in faith and love

Through our mission statement, we aim to:

1. Provide a safe, caring community.
2. Respect and appreciate each other in an atmosphere which reflects our Christian values.
3. Encourage everyone to work together.
4. Develop partnerships between parents, school and the wider community.
5. Create a happy place where people matter.
6. Encourage a love of learning and creativity.
7. Bring out the best in every child and help them grow into confident, independent citizens.
8. Be responsible for our environment and ourselves.

How to find us

All Saints Church of England Primary School, Stand
Rufford Drive,
Whitefield,
Manchester,
M45 8PL

Telephone: 01617 963392

Email: allsaints@bury.gov.uk

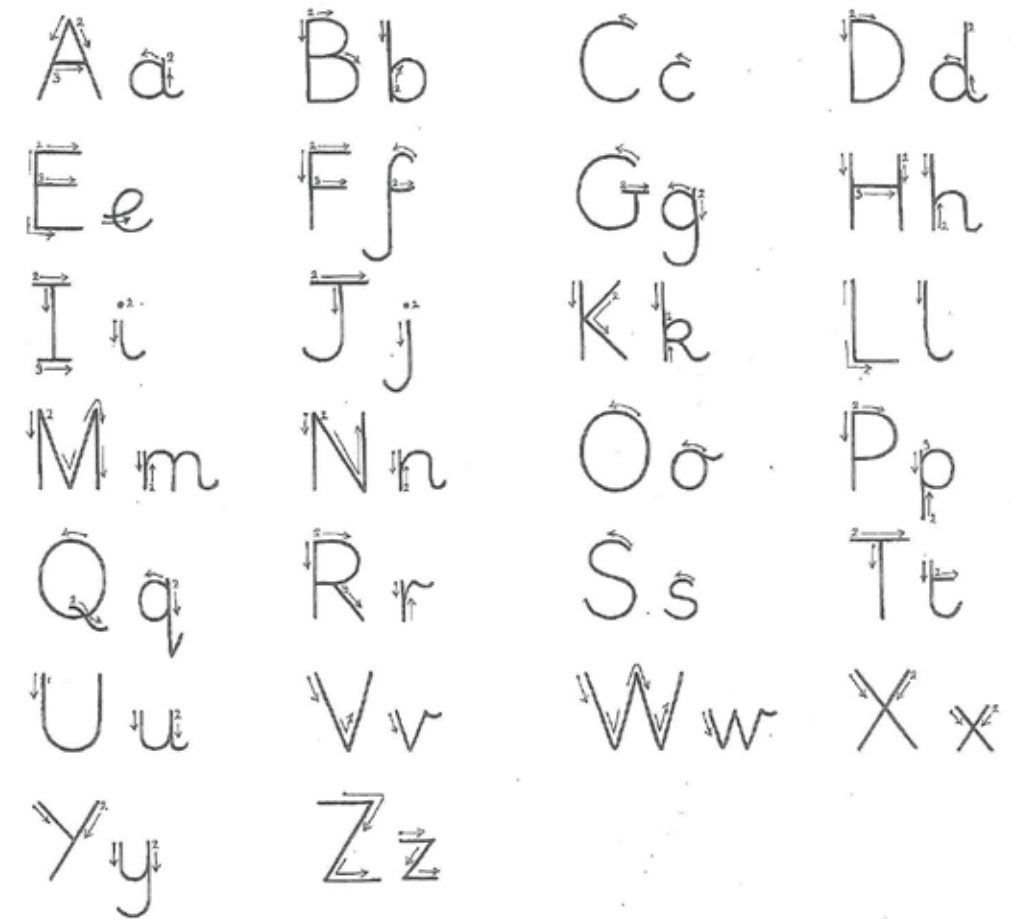
Website: www.allsaintscoepswhitefield.co.uk

Head Teacher
Deputy Head Teacher
Foundation Stage Manager
Foundation Stage Teacher
Foundation Stage Teaching Assistants

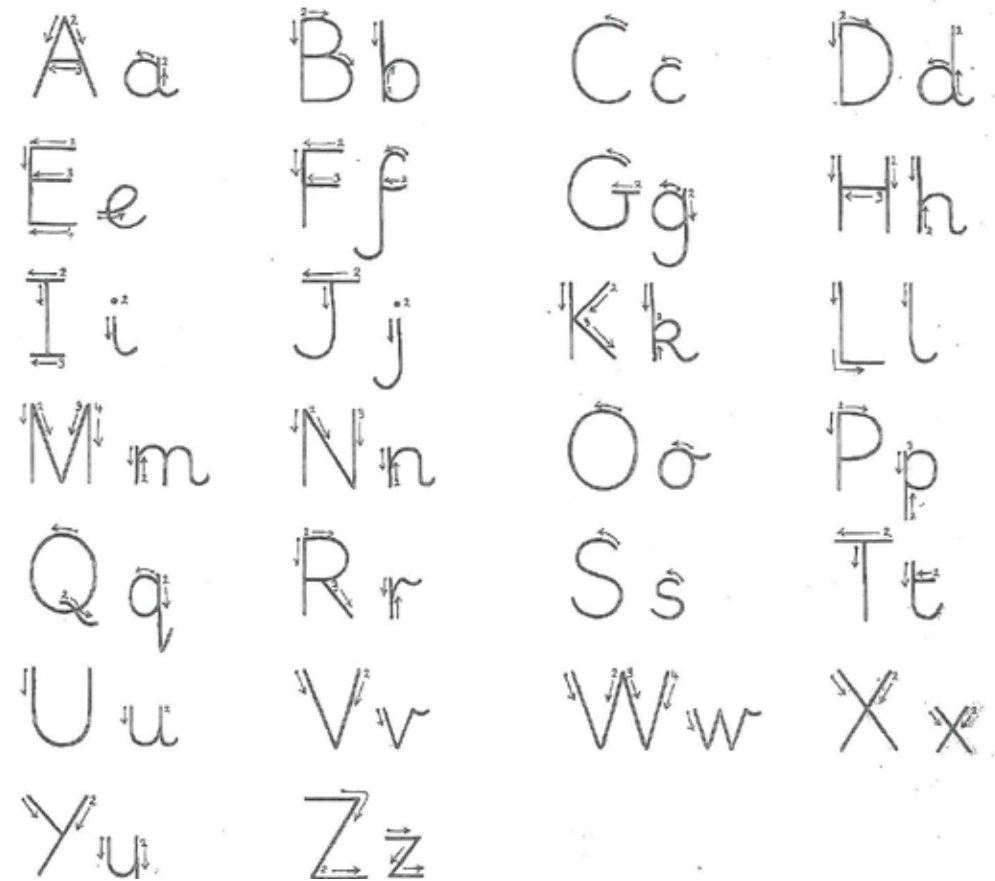
Mrs Branch
Mrs Farrell
Mrs Barrett
Mrs Yates
Mrs Halsall & Mrs Kelshaw



Letter Formation for Right-Handed Children



Letter Formation for Left-Handed Children





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