



GOD WITH US

ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL



The Early Years Foundation Stage

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Welcome

Welcome to St David's School at the beginning of what we all expect will be a happy and successful school career for your child.

In order to ease the transition from home to school we have produced this booklet which will give you a flavour of the education we can offer your child.

If you need further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school or member of staff.

The first step towards independence is important in a child's life and our aim is to provide the best possible start.

At St David's School, we appreciate that all children are individuals and in providing appropriate learning activities and a well planned and managed curriculum, each child is able to progress at his/her own rate in all areas of development.

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), covering the six areas of learning:

Personal, social and emotional;

Physical development;

Communication, language and literacy;

Creative development;

Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy;

Knowledge and understanding.





Nursery

The Nursery is accommodated in a happy and secure setting which is both stimulating and nurturing. The small class size allows for that crucial individual attention that children of this age need. The outside area is completely secure and is accessed in all weathers.

Parents can be confident that their child is being offered the very best in a caring and supportive environment, with the emphasis on learning through play and activities which lays down the foundations for numeracy and literacy skills.

How can parents help?

We work towards your child gaining independence and therefore it would benefit your child if they:

- Could be learning/drinking from an open beaker;
- Appreciate the need for hygiene after toileting and are learning how to wash their hands correctly;
- Are aware and attend to their own toileting needs with limited help;
- Have a growing independence in doing things for themselves such as pulling up their pants after toileting;
- Have named clothing.



Reception

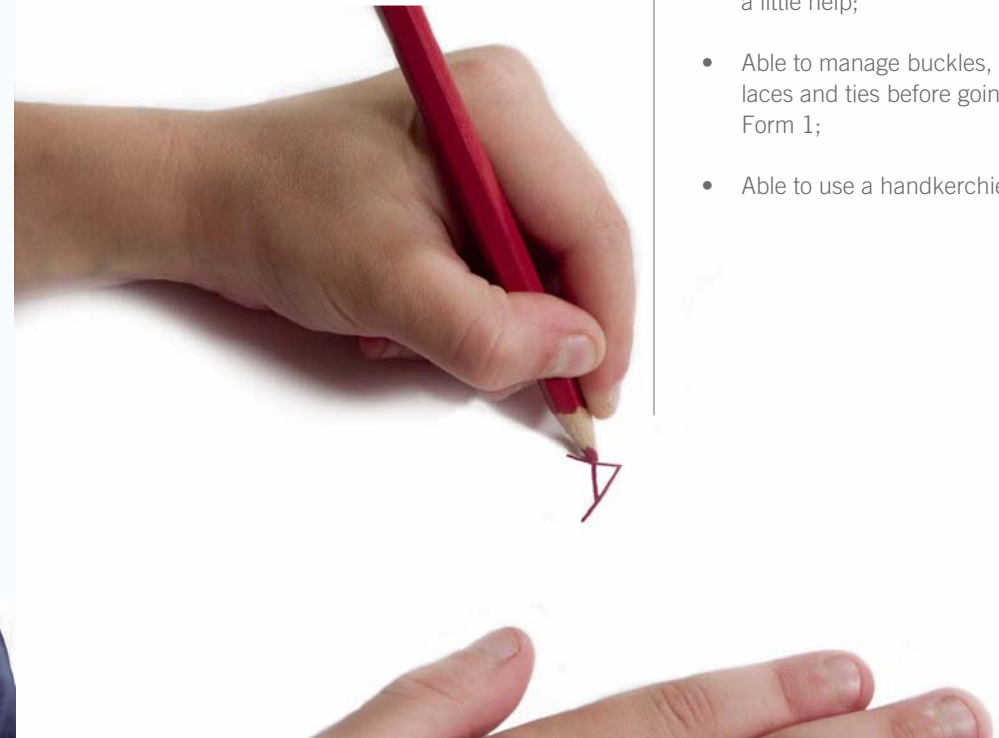
Our children are given the opportunity to flourish and extend their learning through well planned activities and through close liaison between staff, they are ensured a smooth transition into Year 1. Numeracy, language development, music, craft, science and physical activity contribute to the extensive and balanced curriculum.

Children learn best through experience and when having fun.

How can parents help?

Your child should be:

- Independent when using the toilet and washing hands;
- Able to drink confidently from an open beaker;
- Able to dress and undress with a little help;
- Able to manage buckles, shoe laces and ties before going into Form 1;
- Able to use a handkerchief.





Reading



In nursery we begin by providing a variety of activities specifically planned to develop the very basic skills of language and literacy.

In reception the first part of the year is spent concentrating on phonic sounds and blends. Reading books will be introduced once your child has a sound understanding and can read some small words independently.

For both classes it is important that you read to your child and ask questions. Look at picture books together and talk about them.

Allow time for playing games such as Snakes & Ladders and Ludo.

General Information

Mrs M.Derringer	Office Administrator
Mrs J.Dyson	Secretary
Mrs T.Hartfield	Nursery Teacher EYFS Co-ordinator
Miss R.Hodgson	Reception Teacher

Mornings only for Nursery children:
children should be collected at 12 noon.

Full school day:

Nursery: 08.50 - 15.00. Parents opt for number of afternoon sessions required.

Reception: 08.50 - 15.00 pm.

Nursery children attend every morning and for at least one full day (Monday) in the summer term.

Reception children attend five full days.

NB:As the children are leaving while the rest of the school are still working, please remind them to walk quietly when leaving the school.

Absence: If your child is absent from school, please notify the school by telephone by 9.00am on the first day and by letter to the class teacher on return. The school will follow up any unnotified absence.

Sickness: If your child suffers an attack of sickness or diarrhoea, please keep him/her at home for at least 48 hours after the last attack.

School uniform

Please refer to the uniform list. Caps and hats are to be worn by all children, to and from school at all times. Painting overalls are essential and should be clearly marked. Shoes should be lightweight and of a simple style, black or navy in colour. Please ensure that they are easy for the children to put on themselves. Plain navy tracksuit bottoms may be worn in very cold weather.

Young children expend a lot of energy during school time and require a good nights sleep. To enable them to take full advantage of the learning experiences that school provides please encourage a regular bedtime routine.

Future Developments

We are currently planning improvements to our outside area and would be happy to discuss these exciting plans with you.



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The School Day

Arrival

Please try to leave your child and say goodbye as soon as he/she is settled. In reception class, it is important that the children learn to take off their own coats.

Milk and fruit

If the children want a drink at break-time, they may have milk. The alternative is water, which is always available. If your child is not to have milk please delete this item from the fee invoice. Fruit is provided.

Lunch time

The children are provided with a nutritious and well balanced meal.

Using cutlery may well be a new skill to most children of nursery age and we encourage good table manners. We regard lunchtime as a social occasion for both children and staff who eat with them.

When children begin to stay for school lunch, the school must have notification in writing if your child may not eat certain foods on medical or religious grounds.

If a child has a known nut allergy we prefer him/her to have a packed lunch.

Role of parents

All children develop at different times but their journey is the same. Young children acquire complex skills once simpler skills have been learnt.

When parents participate in their child's education, the results have a positive impact on that child's development and learning.

At St. David's school, you are encouraged to become involved in your child's education and participate in outings and events.

The Early Years teachers hold regular meetings with the parents to discuss how the school day is structured and their child's progress.

Parents are provided with a contact book/reading diary and newsletters are distributed when required.

We are always happy to discuss your child's development and adopt an 'open door' policy.

Welcome to St David's School!





ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL

Policy Statement

We aim to provide an educational environment that is welcoming to both parents and children, effective in supporting children's learning and ensures that their early experiences at school are positive and rewarding.

Activities are planned to take account of each child's individual needs through the development of intellectual, physical, social and emotional abilities.

The Early Years Foundation Stage sets the standards for learning, development and care and introduces the child to the basic skills of literacy, language and mathematics and to provide opportunities for exploring the world around them. Physical and creative development is given a high priority with an emphasis on acquiring personal and social skills.

Children are encouraged to develop the ability to sustain concentration through large and small group activities. The value of creative, explorative play is recognised and provision is made for this vital aspect of early learning.

On school entry an initial assessment is made of each child's level of achievement in all areas of development. Progress is recorded and twice yearly written reports are sent home and parents invited at evening meetings with the class teacher.

The fundamental role that the parents play in their child's education is recognised and valued at St. David's. We aim to foster a partnership between home and school that is based upon communication, shared responsibility, understanding and mutual respect.

