



Long Row Primary School Early Years Foundation Stage

We hope that when your child begins their education at Long Row Primary School they will soon settle in and become part of our happy and caring group by:

- becoming familiar with their new surroundings
- forming good relationships with teachers and all other adults who work in our school
- mixing with other children
- becoming increasingly independent



We recognise that starting school is a major step in the life of your child and the whole family.

We hope that this booklet will answer most of the questions you might want to ask and will help everyone to take this step with more confidence.

If you have any questions, worries or concerns please come and speak to a member of the Early Year Foundation Stage (EYFS) team. We are here to help and want this to be a happy time for everyone.

Long Row – Inspire, Respect, Belong

“Our belief is that all children have the right to a stimulating learning environment where they are motivated to learn through the provision of a varied and exciting curriculum. We promote excellent standards of behaviour, have high expectations and are committed to high standards of achievement for all our pupils.”

At Long Row we: -

- Provide a safe learning environment, which promotes creativity and a curiosity of the wider world.
- Encourage children to be confident, independent lifelong learners.
- Encourage children to have a positive view of their own self worth, enabling them to feel secure and valued as individuals within the school community.
- Provide an inspiring, challenging environment for ALL children so that they can become highly motivated learners.
- Develop an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement to succeed.
- Develop the whole child, nurturing and extending their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding.
- Provide equal opportunities for ALL children.
- Teach children a sense of responsibility showing respect for others and the environment.

Nursery sessions

Our morning session runs from 9.00am until 12.00pm and 12.00pm until 3.00pm for our afternoon session. Children staying for our afternoon sessions will have lunch 12.00- 12.30pm in our school hall and then return to the classroom for the remainder of the afternoon. All children are entitled to 15 hours of funding and these can be taken over either morning or afternoon sessions. If your child requires additional hours, these must be funded using the Government 30 hour funding or by paying £5.36 per hour – payable through The ParentPay app. To find out more about 30 hour funding, please visit the Derbyshire County Council website or childcarechoices.gov.uk

The School Day

8.45 a.m. – The playground gate is unlocked and opened so your child can make their way to their classroom. You are welcome to bring your child into their classroom. They will need to hang up their coat and choose an activity within the classroom. Once your child is settled and happy we would suggest saying goodbye so they can get on with playing and learning! Don't panic if they get upset, this is quite normal and our experienced staff will soon help to get them settled.

8.55 am – The outside door will be closed. If you arrive after this time please take your child to the **office** via the main gate. You **MUST** report to the office so your child can be registered. School staff will then take your child to their class teacher.

12.00 pm – Children attending only morning sessions are collected now from the Nursery door- the gate will be unlocked and a member of staff will open the door for you to come in and collect your child.

3.00 pm – Afternoon session finishes. The playground gate will be unlocked around 3.00pm and you must collect your child at immediately. **If your child is collected any time after this, a fee of £5 will be charged. Please let us know in advance who will picking your child up at the end of each session. If any last minute changes need to be made, please inform the office as soon as possible. This is essential for the safety of your children in school.**

Snacks

Our snack table always has a choice of milk, water and a healthy snack (fresh fruit or veg). This is available all day, every day. Throughout the day your child will be able to choose when to have a break. The children are taught to wash their hands before going to the snack table and are encouraged to independently pour their drink and choose a snack. They soon learn to help each other and enjoy having a chat whilst eating their snack!

Please **do not** send a water bottle for your child.

We ask parents to send £1.00 each week. This is a voluntary contribution towards the cost of consumables; however, without these contributions we find it difficult to fund some resources e.g. baking ingredients, play dough ingredients and other messy play resources and enhancements. We also add extra foods to the snack table and carry out food tasting activities linked to our topics. ***A pot will be out each day for donations – thank you!***



What will my child do at school?

In joining our Reception class your child's education is part of **The Foundation Stage** – which is the period of education from age 3-5. The Foundation Stage gives children secure foundations for later learning. There are seven areas of learning development.

There are three 'prime' areas:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

And four 'specific' areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Here are some of the things your child will experience at school and the reasons why:

1. Activities that involve working with a friend or within a small group e.g. choosing a book or game to share, talking about school rules and expected behaviour & learning about how to stay safe. *These activities will help to develop your child's confidence and independence.*
2. Activities that include listening to and joining in with stories, rhymes, poems & songs. They will work at jigsaws, sorting and matching games, lotto & snap etc. *These will help to develop an interest in books and skills needed for reading.*
3. Learn number rhymes and songs, sort objects, play matching games, counting activities, explore shapes & investigate using different types of measure. *These activities help your child to learn to count, to understand number and to develop their mathematical vocabulary.*
4. Play with and investigate a range of equipment such as sand, water, mud, bricks & construction equipment etc. *These activities help your child to develop their senses of touch, sight and hearing – which are important in your child's language development and their increasing knowledge and understanding of the world.*



5. Take part in physical activities (large and small physical skills) – using large equipment (e.g. climbing resources, crates, planks & tyres) and small apparatus (e.g. threading, peg boards & mark making equipment) indoors and out, music and movement activities & dressing up in the role play areas. *These activities help your child to develop their co-ordination and their gross motor skills – leading to a strong and healthy body.*



6. Creative activities such as drawing, painting, sticking, tracing, colouring & modelling with different materials. Your child will learn to use glue, scissors, chinks, paints & small hand-held tools and equipment etc. *These activities will help your child to develop fine motor skills needed in writing. Also, role play, music and drama activities will help to develop their imagination.*

During the day the children will be involved in a variety of learning activities:

- **Child initiated learning** – Activities will be chosen and set up by the children based on their interests and motivation. These activities will be led and controlled by the children.
- **Adult directed learning** – These opportunities will be used to teach specific skills. The children will then use these skills when playing and learning independently.
- **Adult guided learning** – The adult will initiate these learning experiences and they will be playful and experimental. The will aim to enthuse and interest the children and will be very open ended.



All learning will be informed by your child's individual assessments and will be based on your child's needs and interests.

Once the children are settled and confident, we will begin to implement daily phonics and Little Big Maths sessions. These sessions will be short, well-paced, very interactive and lots of fun!!

What will my child need to bring to school?

- A dress code will now be in place in line with the rest of the school. This comprises of a white t-shirt, black or grey leggings or trousers, dark trainers or shoes (no sandals or open toed shoes)
- A bag with a change of clothes- we do have spares in school but these are limited, so please send your own set in a labelled bag.
- Weather related items- in summer this includes suncream and a sunhat; in winter a hat, scarf, gloves, wellies and a warm coat; a waterproof coat and cardigan/ jumper are always handy to have all year round!
- **NO TOYS!** We have plenty of fun activities to keep your child occupied whilst at Nursery.
- If your child is staying for lunch, you will need to provide them with a packed lunch. This needs to be just enough to eat in half an hour so here are a few suggestions-

A small sandwich/ crackers/breadsticks

A few crisps in a box

Fruit/vegetables- chopped up into small manageable pieces- children can struggle to eat a whole apple or banana! **Grapes and cherry tomatoes must be chopped to avoid choking!**

A small yogurt

Chocolate biscuit/cake/cereal bar- no full chocolate bars or sweets
A drink



How can I help my child at home?

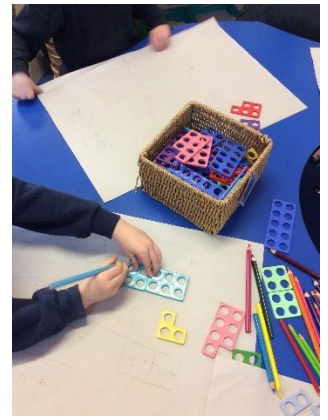
Reading

- Share stories at home with your child – talk about the pictures, point to and read the words, and enjoy the book.
- Try to encourage your child to sit quietly and listen for short periods.
- When you are out and about shopping or travelling, talk about things that you see.
- Teach nursery rhymes and play picture games, lotto, dominoes & jigsaws etc.
- Choose a story from our library box regularly, to widen your child's reading experience for free!

Writing

- Encourage your child to make marks in sand and mud or trace pictures and draw patterns.

- Help your child to cut out pictures from magazines.
- Provide your child with the chance to paint pictures and model with dough and plasticine.



Maths

- Play simple games of dominoes, number snap, etc.
- Talk about the colours and shapes of everyday objects.
- Let your child set the table for a meal.
- Let your child play with objects that can be sorted, e.g. buttons.
- Make comparisons about tall/short, wide/narrow, thin/thick, rough/smooth, etc.
- Count objects by touching them and holding them as they are counted.
- Let your child help with baking and shopping – where they have to measure and count.



Developing their independence

- Encourage your child to go to the toilet on their own and wash their hands.
- Give them opportunities to practise putting on their coat and shoes independently.
- Practise explaining to adults and friends what they need or how they are feeling e.g. happy, sad or cross.
- Carry out games, activities and tasks which involve them having to stop, listen and follow simple instructions.

Towards the end of the year, before starting in Reception, please visit www.derbyshire.gov.uk/readymforschool for further information about how to help your child get ready for school.

Would you like to help?

Volunteers are always welcome in school to help in all sorts of ways. If you have the time and a skill to offer, please feel free to talk to a member of staff to make arrangements to suit both yourself and the school.

Some of the ways in which volunteers help are:

- * listening to children read
- * helping children with art activities
- * baking with small groups of children
- * playing games with children
- * helping children on the computer
- * accompanying classes on trips

Useful Information

The School App

We use The School App for general information and messages for the whole school/nursery. All emails will be sent via PrimarySite who manage our website.

Once your child is in Nursery we will send you an invitation to download the app.

ParentPay

We are now a cashless school. All things from trips, meals, book bags, nursery fees etc are paid for through the ParentPay app. We will send you a letter containing your activation details to enable you to set up your ParentPay account once your child starts Nursery.

We hope the information given in this booklet is relevant and helpful. Please don't hesitate to ask a member of the EYFS team if you have any other queries or questions. 😊