



Sandling Primary School

- ✓ *We learn together*
- ✓ *We achieve together*
- ✓ *We have fun together*

**INFORMATION
FOR
NEW PARENTS**

Prepared for School?

Parents often ask what we expect their child to be able to do when they start school.

We do not expect children to be able to read or write but would like them to be able to do most of the following:

Independence Skills

Wash and dry their hands

Blow and wipe their nose

Take themselves to the toilet and wipe their bottom

Use a knife and fork

*Take responsibility for their belongings

Help to tidy up after an activity

Change for PE

Put shoes on the right feet

Fasten coats

***Please would you name all of your child's uniform and belongings and show them where you have done so.**

Social Skills

Take care of school property and equipment

Share and take turns

Listen attentively

Sit at the dinner table

Find their own belongings, coat, bag etc

Follow simple instructions

Talk with a child or an adult rather than shout

Understand that it is not appropriate to hurt others

Early literacy and numeracy skills

Enjoy looking at books and know how to handle them

Engage in mark making - this may be at the 'scribble' stage for some children or single letters stage for others

Sing or say simple rhymes and songs including number rhymes

Sort and name by colour

Ask and answer questions

Use simple comparative language such as bigger, smaller and more than

Please do not worry if your child cannot do all of these things. When you bring your child to school let the teacher know what they find difficult and we will help them.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

Those children who have been attending pre school provision will already have experience of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. When children transfer to school they continue to learn and develop their knowledge and skills through the same Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum areas:

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Communication and Language
Physical Development

Specific Areas

Mathematics
Literacy
Understanding the world
Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout your child's first year in school staff will observe and assess their progress, identify their strengths and plan activities to consolidate areas of learning and development where they may be experiencing some difficulties.

Each child's progress will be recorded in an on-going profile. You will be involved in forming this profile by being invited to meet with the class teacher to share information about your child and contributing to a shared 'Learning Journey' record book. At the end of the school year you will be given a report detailing how your child has progressed during their first year in school.

Many pre-school and nursery provisions are already involved in supporting schools in this process by providing a pre-school transfer document for your child. This will help school staff to know what skills and knowledge your child has already developed, where their strengths may lie and in which areas they may need support. This transition document will be passed to school by the pre-schools and nurseries.

Since the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is aimed at supporting all children from birth to the end of their Reception Year, your child should not notice a huge change in their learning provision which is very much focussed on learning through play. This allows us to continue the work started by pre-school and develop it to support your child in developing the skills and knowledge they will need to access the National Curriculum at the start of Year 1.

September 2016 starting dates and times

To support your child in their move from pre-school we will operate a transition programme which builds up to a full school day over a matter of weeks.

You have already received a letter informing you of the day on which your child should start school. On your child's first school day please come to the playground where you will be met by the class teacher and members of staff who will take you to the classroom. You are welcome to stay with your child for a time if they are unsettled or nervous. The Induction Programme for the cohort is overleaf.

Induction Programme

Dates	Hedgehogs Group A	Hedgehogs Group B	Owls Group A	Owls Group B
7 th – 9 th September	Parent Interviews 9.00 to 3.00			
12 th - 16 th September	9:00 to 11:30	12:30 to 3:00	9:00 to 11:30	12:30 to 3:00
19 th – 23 rd September	9:00 to 11:30	12:30 to 3:00	9:00 to 11:30	12:30 to 3:00
26 th – 30 th September Staying for lunch	9:00 to 12:30	11:30 to 3:00	9:00 to 12:30	11:30 to 3:00
3 rd October onwards	8:45 to 3:10	8:45 to 3:10	8:45 to 3:10	8:45 to 3:10

KCC TERM DATES 2016/2017

During an academic year children are not required to attend school on 5 Staff Inset Days. Two Inset days have already been set and will fall before the children start school on Monday 12 September. We will advise you of 3 further dates as soon as possible.

TERM 1	Start	Monday 12 September	Finish	Friday 21 October
TERM 2	Start	Monday 31 October	Finish	Wednesday 21 December
TERM 3	Start	Tuesday 3 January	Finish	Friday 10 February
TERM 4	Start	Monday 20 February	Finish	Friday 31 March
TERM 5	Start	Tuesday 18 April	Finish	Friday 26 May
TERM 6	Start	Monday 5 June	Finish	Friday 21 July

Important Dates for Year R Parents

19th September : Curriculum Evening–5.45pm (please could we ask that children do not attend this meeting)

7th- 9th September : Parent Conference appointments with the class teacher. The appointments take place in the afternoons and you will be able to book a slot during your child's first Play and Stay session.

Absence

If your child is absent from school for any reason please ensure you contact the school office on the **first** day of absence on 01622 763297. If you are unable to speak with office staff because the lines are busy you may wish to email office@sandling.kent.sch.uk stating your child's name, class and the reason for absence. Please keep the office up to date on your child's absence and on the day they return to school please ensure a written note is sent to the class teacher stating the reason that your child has been absent. *If your child needs to attend a medical appointment during the school day, the absence will not be recorded as authorised unless the school office has sight of the hospital/doctor's letter. If you have to make an emergency appointment would you please request a medical appointment card to cover the absence.*

Money

When your child is required to bring money/correspondence to school it should be placed in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the child's name, class, the amount/reason. Your child will hand the envelope to their class teacher who will then send it to the school office. Please note that there is a small red post box for your use sited in the main entrance area to the school but would ask that you do not post cash into it.

We hope you and your child enjoy your time at Sandling School.

Mrs L Downes
Head Teacher