



Welcome To Reception



Information for Parents

Autumn Term 2026

Term starts: Thursday 3rd September

Holiday: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Term ends: Friday 18th December

Holiday: Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January

Spring Term 2027

Term starts: Monday 4th January

Holiday: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Term ends: Thursday 25th March

Holiday: Monday 29th March – Friday 9th April

Summer Term 2027

Term starts: Monday 12th April

May Day: Monday 3rd May

Holiday: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Term ends: Wednesday 21st July

Holiday: Thursday 22nd July – Wednesday 1st September.

*INSET Days will be communicated to parents via the Headteacher's weekly Newsletter.



Holidays

Parents have a legal duty to make sure their children attend school regularly. When joining Five Ways, parents accept the terms of our Attendance Policy. All absences not linked to illness or planned medical visits require a 'Time off during Term Time' form to be completed and returned to the main office. Attendance at our school is monitored closely and holidays taken within term time may be subject to a penalty notice issued by the Local Authority. Therefore, we ask that you choose to take holidays outside of term time.



Uniform

We ask that our children wear a school uniform when they join us. This consists of:

- grey trousers / skirt / pinafore
- blue gingham dresses or grey shorts in the summer months
- white polo shirt or white blouse / shirt (school logo optional but preferred)
- royal blue cardigan / jumper (school logo optional but preferred)
- blue school book bag (£4)
- PE bag (£4) to contain a white PE t-shirt, black shorts / skirt, black pumps or trainers
- white / black / grey socks (we would like your support in discouraging character themed socks)
- flat black sensible school shoes

All about us

We are a 90 place Reception that comprises of three Reception classes. We have an experienced and dedicated teacher and a highly skilled Early Years Practitioner in each class, offering the children an exciting and engaging curriculum, focusing on children's interests, stage of development and 'next steps.'

A day in Reception

We open our doors at 8:45am and close them at 9:00am. Once enjoying a morning activity, the children then join their registration group for our morning routine, which includes register and calendar time, number facts, and talking about the daily timetable. We then start our FFT Success for All Phonics lesson – which follows a Complete Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) Programme for Primary Schools. Phonics is followed by snack time, where we encourage communication and language skills, along with polite table manners. The children are then free to explore the indoor and outdoor space, and engage in activities planned to inspire and extend the children's play and learning. During this time, the adults lead small groups through an activity which focuses on skills from one of the seven areas of learning: Physical Development, Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Understanding the World, Mathematics, Expressive Arts and Design and Literacy. At 11:30am, the children have their lunch. Afternoon registration is at 12:30pm, after which the children are then directed to access the continuous provision activities, with the adults extending learning through play, small group learning and embedding new skills. At 2:15pm the children enjoy an afternoon snack and playtime. We then finish the day with a story – chosen by the children as part of British Values and Democracy – before opening the doors at 3:30pm for home time.

Extended Provision

We offer additional wrap-around care for children, from 7:45am until 8:45am before the start of school, and again at the end of the school day from 3:15pm until 5:30pm. For more information, including pricing and policies, please speak to a member of staff.

Lunch

All children in Reception are entitled to a free school meal. They can choose from a main meal, a vegetarian option, a jacket potato with filling, or a sandwich each day. Reception children eat their lunch in the school dining hall, supported by familiar staff to ensure they feel safe, calm and confident during mealtimes. Specific dietary requirements can be discussed with a member of staff. Menu options are available in advance so that you can support your child in making meal choices, and these can be found on our school website.



Evidence Me

We use 'Evidence Me', to share information and 'wow' moments with parents through this platform. We ask that parents share home learning with us, using the same online platform which enables your child to share things they have done at home with their friends during circle time. This is one of the ways that we can work together to build a strong teacher-parent relationship, underpinning our belief that parents are their child's first teacher.

Early Years Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium is extra funding paid to school which is used to provide additional support for children. Any child may be eligible for this extra help if their parents are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

Any child formerly looked after by a local authority in England or Wales through adoption, a special guardianship order or a child arrangements order, they are also eligible.

For further information regarding your child's entitlement to Service Pupil Premium (SPP) please contact the main school office.

If you're learning and need help with childcare, there are special schemes for:

- Parents under 20
- Parents over 19 studying for NVQs, BTECs or PGCEs
- University students

Pupil Premium funds are spent to improve outcomes for children.

To check if you are eligible for support, you can visit: <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/childcare-early-years-education/15-and-30-hours-support/working-families/>

Parental Responsibility

In family law, parental responsibility refers to the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority that a parent has in relation to the child. Everyone who is a parent, as recognised under education law, can participate in their child's education and has the right to:

- receive information – such as pupil reports
- participate in statutory activities – such as voting in elections for parent governors
- be asked to give consent – such as agreeing for their child to take part in school trips
- be informed about meetings involving their child – such as reports from outside agencies



Parent Pay

Parent Pay enables you to pay for dinner money, trips, Extended Provision, wrap-around care and other items such as snack. We will send you an activation letter containing details to enable you to set up your Parent Pay account, once your child has started school.



Our PTFA

We have a wonderful and dedicated PTFA that work hard to raise funds for resources and activities to enrich your child's experience in school. For more information, please visit their Facebook page: Parents, Teachers and Friends of Five Ways Primary School.

TELEPHONE: 01543 278071

Email: office@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk

