

Reception 2021

Welcome letter



Welcome to Reception at Ben Rhydding Primary School.

The Early Years team (Miss Alston, Miss Leafe (full time) and Miss Head (part time)) is looking forward to a fun filled, exciting and rewarding year and hope your child will enjoy and be happy in their Foundation Stage of learning. Over the next few weeks, I will be sending out lots of information to you; if you find you are not receiving any information through parent mail - School Ping (the school's communication system), please could you let the Office staff know and check they have an up to date email address for you. Also, if you require paper copies of correspondence, this can be arranged through the Office staff.

To begin with, your child is only in school for the morning, and they will need to be collected at 12 noon, from outside the School Office. The school day starts at 8.45am and school finishes at 3:10pm for Reception children, once the children are full time. In the morning, for the first few weeks, you are welcome to come into the outdoor area with your child to help them settle. Please use the hand sanitiser on arrival and follow social distancing from other adults. Children will need to wash their hands with soap and water. After this settling in period, I will be expecting the children to come into the Reception area by themselves. They will line up on a morning. I will show them where to stand nearer the time. When collecting your child in the afternoon, please could you wait outside the Reception play area and I will bring the children out to you.

I require written permission for anyone collecting your child if it is not you. This could be a one off or a regular arrangement. You can also email the office any alternative arrangements and myself on lucy.alston@benrhydding.bradford.sch.uk

There is a house system in school. Your child will be allocated to one of the houses (Aire, Nidd, Swale and Wharfe) and will be awarded house points during the week. At the end of the year, the winning house gets a treat. The children are very proud to get points and it encourages them to work together as a team.

I will let you know when we will start PE and the day, we will have our PE lessons on. It is usually a few weeks into the school term. On the day of PE, children can come to school in their PE kits with warm clothes on top e.g., like a track suit or leggings and a jumper. Children can wear trainers or pumps on this day.

After half term, we will send home reading books for you and your child to read at home. There will be an evening meeting about phonics and supporting early reading development for you to attend. We will send out more information about this nearer the time. Please ensure your child has their book bag in school every day as this helps us if we have letters or flyers to give out.

Each day the children will have the option to have fruit and help themselves to water throughout the day. You are welcome to provide your child with a water bottle (please send only water to school). Children can have milk and you should have received some information about this from the school office. You will need to order and pay for milk (the term in which your child turns 5) by going on the website www.schoolmilk.co.uk.

Please check your child's hair for head lice / eggs and treat regularly. It is helpful if you could let a member of staff know if your child has had head lice. I can then send an email around asking all parents to check children's hair.

Throughout the year, your child may become ill. Please ring the school office to inform school of their absence. If your child is suffering from sickness or diarrhoea, they need to be off school for 48 hours, from the last episode of sickness / diarrhoea. The school staff can only give medication which has been prescribed by the Doctor. You will need to fill out a consent form for this. If your child has an appointment, for example a medical appointment, please go to the school office and fill out a form to notify the school of the absence. You will be required to show proof of the appointment e.g. a letter or appointment card. You are also required to follow the guidance on Covid-19 and what you should do if your child or someone your child lives with is showing symptoms of Covid-19. Please read carefully the separate advice sent from Mr Hartford, so you know what to do.

I hope your child will be happy in their new school and that they have a fun and productive year. I observe and record your child's learning throughout the year and to help us do this we use a program called EvidenceMe! At the end of each half term, I will email you a copy of the observations and photographs of your child's learning, so you will be kept fully up to date with your child's learning and progress in Reception. You will receive an email from EvidenceMe! in the coming weeks. Follow the instructions to set up receiving your child's learning journey electronically. Please share any WOW moments your child has with us; you can either fill in a WOW form or email me. You will find copies of WOW forms in your child's book bag.

If you would like to know more about what your child has been learning about in Reception then please have a look at our page on the school website (www.benrhydding.ngfl.ac.uk). You will find information about the learning taking place each week, dates for diaries and resources to help support learning at home. The page is updated each Friday, so you know what the children have been doing each week. To access the page, you will need to click on the link that says Pupils, Year groups and then Reception or click on the link below <http://www.benrhydding.ngfl.ac.uk/reception/>

Please discourage your child from bringing toys to school as they can become lost or broken. With regards to 'Show and Tell', we will set up a rota based on your child's house within the next few weeks. More details to follow soon.

Hopefully, Covid dependent! I will be able to get the Stay and Play sessions up and running after half term. You will receive the dates of these sessions soon.

We have a buddy system at Ben Rhydding Primary School, where Reception children are paired with a member of the Year 6 class. We try to avoid pairing family members together. Your child will find out who their buddy is when they start full time. Throughout the year, the children do activities together as well as going on a trip to Nell Bank together at the end of the year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know and I will try to help the best we can. I'm available before and after school. Generally, after school is better as there is usually more time. You can telephone / email the office and they will pass on your messages; or you can email me directly.

Also, there are a few slots available for Home Visits if you would like one this week. Please ring the school office to check availability.

Our learning theme for this half term is Magnificent Me! Where the children will be learning all about themselves and things that are important to them.

Thank you,
Miss. L. Alston