



Reception Information Booklet

**Everything you need to know about your child
starting Reception**

Reception Class Information

Welcome to Reception! This booklet will give you some of the information that you will need as your child starts Reception and a brief outline of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We hope to answer many of the questions you may have about your child's time in Reception at St Margaret's C of E Primary School.

In relationship with St Margaret's Church, The Diocese of Manchester and the wider community, the school takes care to thoughtfully nurture the promotion of spiritual values that reflect its richer culture, secular and religious intake. In practice, this means that everyone is given equality of opportunity, irrespective of race, culture, religion, gender class or ability.

Such an approach maximises and develops the strength of its Church of England foundation, namely to grow as an inclusive school community, where spiritual values of caring and respecting and achieving are promoted.

Transition

Transition provides an opportunity for your child to become familiar with their surroundings and school routines. We want to ensure all children to feel safe and secure in our setting. We will complete home visits to support building a picture of all the children starting in our Reception.

Settling sessions

We will be inviting the children to attend two stay and play sessions. This will give them the opportunity to become familiar with the staff and classroom environment before starting Reception.

Starting School

We implement a staggered start when your child starts Reception. You will receive a start date for your children later in the term. We are aware that the staggered entry can cause some disruption to family routines. However, we know that the initial transition is a crucial step for your child.

The School Day

Drop off time and location	8.40am Reception classroom door on main playground
Pick up time and location	3.15pm Reception classroom door on main playground

Lunchtime

All children in Reception are entitled to a free school dinner prepared in our school kitchen.

Uniform and clothing

Information about our school uniform and how to purchase this, can be found separately within your welcome pack.

All children will need to bring spare clothes into school.

We go outside in all weathers so we do recommend that you send in a pair of wellies to stay in school. Please make sure all uniform including shoes and wellies are clearly named.

Can children please bring a bag to school that is big enough to fit in their weekly library book.

Attendance

Regular attendance is very important. During their first years at school your children will encounter many new learning experiences, meet lots of new people and make new friends. Please be aware that holidays in term-time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. If you take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday, you may be issued with a penalty notice.

SEND Support

At St Margaret's we recognise that every child is unique and we are committed to ensuring that we meet the needs and discover the individual potential of every child. All staff in EYFS work closely with the Special Education Needs Co-ordinator and Play Therapist to ensure the needs of all children are met. We ensure that we intervene early and put any appropriate support or referrals needed in place for individual children.

Early Years Foundation Stage

The children in Reception follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and work towards the seven areas of Learning and Development. It is a very holistic approach to learning and places a strong emphasis on the individual child.

What will my child's learning look like?

Play and Exploration are fundamental within our Reception class. It means children are able to choose activities where they can engage with other children or adults or sometimes play alone. During these activities the children will learn by first-hand experiences; by actively 'doing' as well as through scaffolding and modelling by adults. We will provide them with sufficient space, both indoors and outdoors, time and choice with a range of activities.

Reading and Writing

From the moment your child starts school s/he will be encouraged to develop a love of books. Staff plan for the development of your child's spoken language in many ways – through drama, singing, telling stories and rhymes. Your child will be bringing books to share at home after October half term. We will have a reading workshop to share how you can support your child in the early stages of becoming a confident reader.

The children take part in daily phonic sessions. These will initially focus on building children's phonological awareness. The first stage of phonics concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills. The sessions will then progress to reading and writing and enable children to gain confidence in recognising, saying and writing sounds. They will then progress to reading and writing simple words and finally reading and writing simple sentences.

Thank you for choosing St Margaret's C of E Primary School for your child. We want all of our children to be happy and to do as well as they are able.

We recognise that you may be feeling anxious about your child starting school, however, please be rest assured we are doing everything we can to ensure a smooth and enjoyable start to your child's journey at our school. If at any time you are concerned about your child or unsure about how to support your child's learning, please speak to your child's class teacher.

We look forward to a long and happy partnership with you and your children.