

Reception 2021

Frequently Asked Questions

We would have loved to welcome you to our wonderful school and had the opportunity to meet you personally. We understand just how important the process of choosing the right school setting for your child is, so we have compiled some additional information that we hope you will find helpful, based on the types of questions that parents have historically asked at this time. We have tried to include responses to the most common themes, but if you have a specific question which hasn't been included, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

What before and after school provision do you offer?

Before and after school child care is provided by Child's Play UK who use the school site. Typically, there is a Breakfast Club which operates from 7.45am until the beginning of the school day at 8.45am. After school, children are collected from the classroom and taken to After School Club, where they have a snack and drink and play until they are collected at a time to suit parents. All children must be collected by 6pm. If you would like to secure a place for your child, after you have accepted your child's school place, the After School Club can be contacted by emailing leckhampton@childsplayclub.co.uk

How do you allocate children to classes?

Mrs Ross, our Reception lead, liaises with the pre-school settings prior to allocation to gather more information about the children before we organise classes. We try to create a balance of age and gender, as well as a mix of pre-school settings. If children attend the same pre-school, we try and allocate children to a class where they know someone else from their pre-school setting. Where large numbers of children come from the same setting, we usually allocate the children across all three Reception classes. Where twins are joining school, we will liaise with the family to determine the best allocation to meet the family's needs.

How is lunch organised?

School lunches are cooked on site and eaten in our school hall. All Key Stage 1 children are entitled to a free hot lunch. Lunches are provided by Caterlink Ltd and there is a choice of three meal options, including a vegetarian option. Lunch consists of a main course and pudding. Children request their choice of lunch daily when the morning registers are taken. Parents may choose to provide a packed lunch for their child. Key Stage 2 children's lunches are paid for via ParentPay at the current rate of £2.32.

My child has specific dietary requirements, how are these catered for?

Caterlink Ltd are able to accommodate specific dietary requirements such as gluten free or dairy free options upon written request from families.

Do I need to provide milk/snack for my child?

No. A daily fruit or vegetable snack is provided in school for all Reception and Key Stage 1 children (ages 4-7) by the Government scheme. Milk is provided by Cool Milk, free of charge until a child's fifth birthday. Thereafter, parents may choose to pay if their child wishes to continue having milk.

What is the best way to bring my child to school?

As families generally live very close to school, we actively promote walking to school as the healthiest option for families.

What extra-curricular clubs are available?

From Year 1 onwards, Teachers provide a wide variety of enrichment opportunities through leading clubs. Clubs usually take place after school. Teacher led clubs are provided free of charge to parents. Typical clubs might include music groups, choir, cross-country, netball, football, rugby, dance, and athletics. In addition, there are clubs led by outside providers which incur a charge e.g. French Club, multi-skills and football.

How is the outdoor space used in Reception?

The outdoor space is used in a variety of ways to support the children's learning. We are fortunate to have a large field, two tarmacked playground spaces and a new purpose built Multi-Use Games Area, as well as a woodland area and conservation area with a pond. In Reception, the children are encouraged to make maximum use of the outdoor learning environment regardless of the weather. Outdoor activities enable children to learn and explore on a larger scale and in ways which complement classroom activities. Weekly outdoor learning and P.E sessions take place throughout the year.

When can my child learn to play a musical instrument in school?

Children are introduced to percussion instruments as part of the music curriculum from Reception. From Year 3, all children are taught to play the recorder and visiting music teachers offer lessons in violin, cello, woodwind, brass and drums. Instrument lessons take place throughout the school day and are paid for by parents.

Which modern foreign language is taught in school?

French is taught weekly to Years 5 and 6.

How is Information Technology (IT) used in school?

IT is used to support the children's learning throughout School. All classrooms are equipped with an interactive whiteboard or Smart TV and children have access to a range of devices. As part of our computing curriculum, children are taught how to use equipment safely and responsibly.

What opportunities are there for my child to get involved in the wider life of the school?

All children are allocated to one of our school Houses, which helps to further develop a sense of belonging in the school. House competitions take place throughout the year and typically include cross-country, tug-of-war, football and House Music, all of which attract very high numbers of participants.

House Sports Day is one of the highlights of our school calendar and an opportunity for all pupils to get involved. Many children represent school as part of competitive and non-competitive inter-school sporting and musical events.

Our Pupil Parliament enables children to express their views and opinions about a wide variety of aspects of school life. Children are elected by their classmates to represent their class in one of the four ministries. Each ministry is led by elected House Captains from Year 6 who oversee school projects. Typical projects include raising money for school charities, organising walk to

school weeks, reviewing learning opportunities both within school and with partner schools and promoting eco-friendly practices in school.

Where do I source school uniform?

The school uniform, although non-compulsory, is worn by all the children and contributes to a feeling of belonging to the school. The school prospectus details school uniform and P.E kit requirements and can be viewed on our website. Uniform is available from most stores, with `Leckhampton` embroidered uniform available from Michael Hope Sports; a link to this supplier is also available on our website. All other equipment, such as stationery is provided by school.

What are your links with the Church?

Our School`s Christian values are at the heart of school life and guide all members of our school community in their practice and decision making. Daily collective worship takes place either as a class group, a Key Stage or as a whole school family. Worship is broadly Christian in nature and inclusive of all pupils.

We enjoy close links with St Peter`s Church, Leckhampton. Reception children and their families visit the Church to welcome them into the family of the School and Church and many year groups visit St Peter`s as part of the R.E curriculum. Rev Gary Grady is a regular visitor to School.

How does the School introduce Reception children to school life?

All Reception children are invited to `taster visits` in the Summer Term where they spend time getting to know their teachers and familiarising themselves with the classroom, playgrounds and school routines. The children are admitted into school in groups of 15. During the first weeks of the Autumn Term the children continue in these smaller groups, before the groups join together as a whole class, usually by Week 3.

How can parents support the wider life of the school?

When your child joins the School, you automatically become part of the Parent Teachers Association, known as Friends of Leckhampton Primary School (FOLPS). This group of committed volunteers organise events to raise invaluable funds for school use as well as having plenty of fun along the way.

How do we know how our child is getting on at school?

There are lots of ways parents can find out about how their child is getting on at School. Parents are regularly invited into School at the beginning of the day to view a selected aspect of their child`s learning. This is known as `Open Classrooms`. These popular sessions usually take place every month. Formal Parents Evenings, where parents have the opportunity to discuss their child`s progress with their class teacher, take place in the Autumn and Spring Terms. An informal Open Evening takes place in the Summer Term, where parents have the opportunity to view work in school and meet their next year`s class teacher. A formal report is written in the Summer Term which summarises the year`s attainment and progress.

How do you promote good behaviour?

We are proud of the high standards of behaviour displayed by our children. Here at Leckhampton, we know that children`s behaviour is how they show their emotional and developmental needs. Our behaviour policy is founded on four key principles of visible consistency, visible kindness, deliberate care and never giving up on any child. Behaviour is addressed positively and our three school rules to be kind, be respectful and be the best you can

be, frame the expectations for behaviour in School. All interactions are guided by our school motto `Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors`.

What support is available for families and children?

At Leckhampton, we understand just how complicated family life can be and that there may be situations where families need extra help and support. We always find time to listen to families and provide support either ourselves or by involving other agencies. All our staff make children's wellbeing a priority and we always make the time to listen to children's concerns. Staff in the classroom are usually the first people to notice if a child is worried and they provide pastoral support and seek extra help if needed. In addition, we have a Wellbeing Teaching Partner who provides pastoral support throughout the school. She works with children individually or in groups. We have a bespoke personal, social and health curriculum that teaches children strategies to cope with the ups and downs of life.

How does the School meet children's individual needs?

At Leckhampton we recognise every child's right to a broad, balanced, relevant and challenging curriculum which is appropriate to individual abilities, talents and personal qualities. We aim to identify and minimise any barriers to learning and participation at the earliest possible opportunity so children can meet their true potential. In our school every teacher embraces the needs of all the pupils in their class. We are committed to raising the aspirations and expectations for all pupils and focus on the outcomes for children and implement a wide range of well researched strategies.

What is the School's catchment area?

There is no set catchment area for Leckhampton C of E Primary School. We are able to admit 90 pupils in Reception each year. Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria are applied, in the order set out below:

- 1 A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption; child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
- 2 Children who will have siblings attending the school at the time the applicant child is admitted.
- 3 Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the ordnance survey address point of the child's home address (including flats) to the ordnance survey address point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Further details of the application process and timeline can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-or-infant-school-place/>

All applications for primary school places should be submitted by Friday 15th January 2021.

We very much hope that you have found this information helpful in your decision making process.