

How can we help our child get ready for school?

1. Make sure your child can put on and take off their own uniform including their coats and shoes.
2. Make sure your child is managing their own toileting and hygiene.
3. Encourage children to put away their own belongings, even if it is just their shoes and coat.
4. Have tidy up times, make it fun and time your child or have a race!
5. Practise writing their first name, even if it is just their first initial.
6. Practise using their lunch box, opening it up and eating within a given time or using a knife and fork if having hot dinners.
7. Encourage your child to speak in full sentences to explain what they need/would like or express how they feel.
8. Even if you are feeling anxious about your child starting school, talk positively about what is going to happen in September. There are some lovely books that you can read which explore starting school. I know Chichester library will probably have a special section!
9. Make sure "starting school conversations" are light and every now and then. Do please avoid any which start with, "What would your teacher say if they could see you.....?". It is important the children do not consider the staff as some distant threat!

Enjoy your summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all very soon!



Singleton CE  
Primary School



Welcome to Willow Class

### Current Organisation

In September 2020 there will be 8 Year Two children, 7 Year One children and up to 10 Reception children.

The children in Year 2 are taught separately every morning for their Maths and English learning.

There will be 2 teachers and one teaching assistant for the morning lessons.

In the afternoon the class will be taught by 1 teacher and 2 teaching assistants.

### The School Day

Morning class doors open at **8. 25am**

Gate closes and Register marked at **8.30am**

Pick up at end of day at class door **2.45 pm**

**Please do try and be on time for pick up as children can become anxious if no one arrives for them. If a different person is going to collect your child , please let the class teacher know. We will NOT release a child to any unknown person, unless we have been told.**

If your child is unwell please contact the school office before 9am on: **811679**

**(The office is manned from 8 am.)**

### Food and Drink



The children are provided with free fruit every day.

Milk is free until your child turns 5. If you wish your child to have milk please fill in the relevant on line form. [Coolmilk.com](http://Coolmilk.com)

Water bottles are provided as your child starts school. They are washed and refilled daily in school. These bottles are designed to last for your child's entire primary years. Replacement lids will be available at a low cost.

Hot and packed lunches are eaten in the School Hall. The Headteacher or Teacher supervises lunchtime and the children are supported by their peers. Please only pack what you know your child can eat in the 25 minutes.



### How do you encourage and teach positive behaviour?

The children will learn about how we expect: Brilliant Behaviour. The children will explore being:

- **Ready to learn**
- **A responsible learner**
- **A respectful learner.**

Together with our Home/School agreements, these form the supportive and consistent approach to Behaviour Improvement for all children.

Where children behave inappropriately and do not demonstrate one of our Brilliant Behaviours we:

1. Remind child of the 3R's and support them to reflect & restore
2. If the behaviour repeats on more than 3 occasions, we provide time out in a quiet space where children spend a short time reflecting on their behaviour, before being supported to restore and reintegrate into an activity
3. In a situation where behaviour continues to be unacceptable, a child may move to a different classroom for the remainder of a lesson
4. In the rare circumstances that a child continues to behave in a manner that does not reflect our expectations they would spend time with the headteacher

Of course each child is an individual and reacts and behaves in different ways.

Behaviour is part of learning and children need to be shown and taught what Brilliant Behaviour looks like.

In a school community it is vital that the boundaries are clear, concise and consistent, to ensure the children can access and maximise their academic learning.

**Positive Praise** is vital to Brilliant Behaviour. Children need to feel valued and know when they are displaying behaviours which are great.

They will receive direct recognition through verbal praise as well as whole class and school rewards for specific behaviours we are 'looking out for'. Young children need a higher level of extrinsic praise and recognition to build their self-esteem and intrinsic sense of self worth.

### What will my child be learning?

The children in their Reception Year follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

#### **There are 3 Prime areas**

Communication and Language

Physical development

Personal, social and emotional development

#### **There are four specific areas:**

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the world,

Expressive arts & design

The Early Years Curriculum states that children should learn indoors and out, and make choices and decisions about how and where they wish to learn. This helps to foster independence and allows children to make links in their learning.

Your child will spend part of each day involved in short focused adult led activities, especially in phonics and number learning. Initially these input sessions will be very short, with opportunities to carry on the learning in a very hand-on way, throughout the learning environment.

Every child will have a journal of learning and observations which are used to support planning and provision to match your child's needs and interests.

### What if my child is ill or upset during school?



If your child becomes poorly or has an accident that requires further medical attention, during the school day, we will call you. **Please make sure we always have up to date contact details in the office.**

If your child has a minor accident in school, they will be treated by our trained first aiders and a note will be sent home.

If your child is sick due to a bug, please ensure **they stay at home for 48 hours** after the last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea. This ensures that we prevent the spreading of germs to children and staff.

If your child becomes upset for any reason, they will be shown the compassion and understanding that you would provide at home. We will allow children time to calm down, explain their worries if possible and reassure and comfort. If your child is regularly upset, we will of course communicate our concerns with you. Often it can be a sign of tiredness or the onset of illness or possibly be a reaction to a change of circumstance.

### What if we are concerned or need to speak to the staff?

Children who can see open, friendly communication between home and school, settle much more easily and feel secure within their setting.

- With this in mind, we are always available in the morning for a quick chat. We are often able to put parents minds at rest very quickly, and you can go about your day feeling happier!
- If it is clear that we will need a longer discussion, I can always see you at the end of your child's day or if necessary schedule a meeting.
- It is very important that you address issues with us directly. We cannot deal with problems or concerns if we do not know about them.
- Equally if we need to speak to you about a concern, we will raise this as soon as possible.

**It is only by building an honest, open and respectful line of communication, that the home school partnership can flourish.**

## Toilets

Your child will be able to go to the toilet as and when they need to go. They are just next to the classroom and in the first few days, we will ensure that we have “toilet stops” to make sure everyone is certain where to go and how to sign or ask an adult.

In the case of a child wetting/soiling their pants, they will be treated with dignity and reassurance. Please can every child have a spare pair of pants, socks and skirt/trousers to change into—just in case.

We are not able to change or clean your child. Soiled clothing will be sent home in a carrier bag, with no fuss. It may sometimes be necessary for us to contact you to help with the cleaning and changing.

It is often the case that children become so absorbed in their learning, they forget to go to the toilet. Please do not worry if your child has the odd “accident”

## Settling in and saying Goodbye.

In the first couple of weeks we understand that you will wish to ensure your child has settled before saying goodbye to them, though please remember that our day starts at 8.30am. We expect the children to independently put away their belongings and will be encouraging them to do this.

We know that children settle into school at different rates and it may take some a little longer than others. If your child has been particularly upset in the morning, we will always phone to let you know that they have settled. It is often the case that children are quickly distracted by a busy classroom

## Reading Books

Your child will bring a book home to share after their first week in school. This will be accompanied by a record book for you to write comments in about how you enjoyed the story together. These books are designed for you to read to your child. As we start to teach phonics, whole words and reading strategies, your child will bring home texts which match their stage of development.



## How will we know what is going on in school?

We have a variety of communication systems in place, all designed to keep you as informed and as involved as possible.

1. **Check book bags daily** for letters: especially bumped head letters
2. A newsletter is emailed and on the Website every Friday
3. Half -Term topic letters to tell you about learning and key dates
4. The notice board at the front of school has reminders/events
5. We are always available if you are ever unsure about anything, just ask!

## How will we know about our child's progress?

We will always try and share anecdotal information with you about your child's development, but also have several formal opportunities for you to meet with the teacher and discuss progress.

1. Six week in 30 minute appointment for every family, during the school day, to discuss initial settling in and any concerns
2. Spring term, 20 minute appointment for every family during the school day
3. Summer term: meeting about the Early Years Profile Report
4. End of Year Report and additional Parents evening for anyone with any concerns arising from the report.

## How can we be involved in our child's learning and school life?

- Be ready to listen **when** your child **wants** to talk about school— resist being on your mobile phone when your child comes out of school so you can show your interest in their day
- Sharing their books from school and telling stories at bedtimes
- Enjoy and support your child in any tasks, which comes home
- Attend and take part in the FROGSS fantastic events throughout the year. They always need new faces and support.