

Welcome to Jubilee Reception **FAQ**

We wish you and your family a warm welcome to Jubilee and hope that you have a wonderful experience of being part of our school community. Jubilee Reception is a thriving, happy place where children can play and learn to their heart's content. We have a vibrant playground and an engaging and inviting indoor environment, staffed by enthusiastic, caring and creative professionals. Here are the answers to some Frequently Asked Questions:



Will I be able to settle my child into class on the first day?

Yes. Please stay with your child as long you feel is necessary for them to feel comfortable. We will help you to judge when your child is ready. There is no rush to say goodbye. Hopefully within a few days the children will feel happier about saying goodbye. If your child is still anxious after a week or so the staff will discuss strategies with you. Please help your child to feel confident about coming to school by being positive about it yourself.



What does my child learn in Reception?

We have different topics each term, such as The Natural World or Space. We plan a variety of fun learning activities based around our topic, as well as planning activities follow the children's interests. Every day there are different learning opportunities indoors and out, covering all the areas of the curriculum. The children can enjoy arts, writing activities, number and shape play, dressing up and role play, book corner, physical play and small world play. We also have weekly P.E. sessions and Music sessions.

Will my child have homework?

We expect children to read their reading book from their bookbag every day. Please do come to our session for Parents on How to Read with your child. You will be invited to this session in September. In addition to the reading, we will send home longer term projects linked to our topic. These are usually creative and open-ended.

How shall I prepare my child for Reception?

Firstly, be very positive about it yourself. It can be a nervous time for parents as it marks a new beginning, but never let your child pick up on your own anxieties. Tell your child that they are going to learn a lot of new things and make new friends.

Encourage your child to dress and undress independently, to go to the toilet on their own, to feed themselves and to ask questions and tell others if they need help.

Please encourage them to experiment with pens and paper at home. Drawing is very important to develop their confidence and skills and if they want to write just let them do it their own way. We would advise you not to teach them to form letters in any formal way, as being taught in two different ways can be very confusing to children. If you show them how to write their name it should only have a capital for the first letter.





Does my child have to wear uniform?

Yes. The uniforms can be purchased by clicking on the school website, in the parents and carers section. The children need a school jumper or cardigan, a yellow gold polo shirt, and a navy/black/grey dress/skirt/trousers as you choose. We encourage dark coloured shoes.

However, we often have special dress up days that are lots of fun for everyone! We will give you advance warning for these days.

They will also need a full PE kit, consisting of a white t-shirt and shorts, and a pair of plimsolls.

Every child needs a book bag. They are available from the office costing £4.

How often do you have Parents' Evening?

We have a Parents' meeting afternoon once a term, with slots booked through Parentmail. However, you do not need to wait for this day if you would like to speak to a member of staff. Please arrange a suitable appointment time with the teacher. Each child receives a written report at the end of the year.

When does my child get to go outside?

The outside area is open for play every day during maths and topic lessons. In addition to this, the children also have designated outside playtimes. Please ensure that your child has a warm, sensible coat for all weathers. We encourage children to bring in wellies and leave them at school by their peg for our Forest school sessions.



How do you teach Phonics at Jubilee?

We start teaching phonics in September, and use the Read Write Inc. programme. The children are assessed and then put in small groups and taught at their level. We hold a meeting for parents on how we teach phonics, in the Autumn term. You can help at home by practising the sounds using the letter sounds phonics cards we sell at school. You can buy them from the main office at a cost of £5.

What are the arrangements for snacks?

Every child receives a healthy snack (fruit/vegetable) every day. They can also have water or milk, to drink. Please do not provide your own snack unless your child has special dietary requirements. If this is the case please explain this to the teachers.

What is the wrap-around and club offer for Reception?

There are a range of clubs for Reception children. Please see the website for more information. We have Breakfast club in the morning, costing £4 a day. It starts at 7:45am, and is open to any age. The children have breakfast choices such as cereal, fruit, toast, bagels, and milk. The children can play with the other children after having their breakfast. It is held in the Old Hall. Playcentre is the after school club, run by the school, costing £10 per day. Again, this is a popular, mixed age club where children can play inside

and out. You must pay in advance of attending either club as there is no contract. Playcentre does not run on the last day of each term where we finish at 2pm.

How do the lunches work at Jubilee?

Children can choose either a school dinner or packed lunch. You need to commit to one choice for a whole term. All children in Reception are entitled to a free school lunch. All our meat is halal. Children can either choose a hot lunch or a sandwich and salad. There is always a pudding and fruit. Children can have seconds of both main course and fruit if they wish. Reception staff stay with the children whilst they go into the hall at 11:45 and queue up to choose their lunch. The staff stay with the children to support them in eating their lunch. They are the first children to go into the hall and they sit at their own table as a class. If you prefer your child to have a packed lunch please note that the school has a healthy eating policy and we ask you not to pack sweets, chocolate bars, biscuits or fizzy or sugary drinks. (Sandwiches, fruit, yoghurts are recommended.) We also strive to be a nut-free environment so please do not pack anything containing nuts into your child's lunch bag as they may be sitting near another child with an allergy.

We also ask you not to bring in cake for children's birthdays. We do suggest fruit or raisins. If in doubt ask the staff for guidance, we are happy to help.

How can I support my child's learning?

The best things parents can do is to talk to their children, listen to them and give them different experiences, e.g. go to the park or teach them to ride a bicycle etc.

Every day the children take home a reading book and a story/picture book. You can share or read the story book to your child and he/she can read the reading book to you. At first they will just be using their memory and the pictures. Please make sure they return their books every morning.



What kinds of trips do the children go on in Reception?

There are different trips each year. This year, the children have enjoyed watching a pantomime about Rapunzel at the Hoxton Theatre, a visit to London Zoo, a trip to the National Gallery, and the library.

What else is handy to know?

- There are two bells rung in the morning. One is the Hello bell, rung at 8:55. Teachers open their doors at 9:00am. The next bell is to say goodbye at 9:05, when the classroom doors are closed. If you are late, you need to come to the school entrance on Filey Avenue where it will be noted. Late

pick-ups at the end of the school day are also here. Reception pick up is at 3:25pm, and any child not picked up by 3:40 will be taken round to the front desk.

- Coming in to the school building by Reception Classes is often very busy in the mornings. We would really appreciate it if you helped us keep to Health and Safety rules by not bringing buggies into the main shared coat area by the Reception doors. Thank you.
- The Reception year changes in the style of teaching and learning from the start to the finish. At the beginning of the year, children will be able to play freely as they did in nursery, apart from in phonics which we do start to teach from September. Gradually over the year, the children become more prepared for Year 1 by having slightly more formal lessons by the summer term. However, there is still lots of play and free choice right up to the time the children leave Reception.
- School closes early at 2pm on the last day of each term and there is no Playcentre on this day.
- Please look after the books sent home in the book bag. If a book is lost, we will charge you £5 to replace the book.
- Please name all items of uniform clearly. Children in reception are well known for having uniform that likes to disappear... please help us to give the correct uniform back to the child by using clear labelling.
- There is lots of information about school in the handbook. You should have a new handbook in your welcome pack, and you can find it on our website too.

Finally, we warmly welcome you to Jubilee and know that you'll make lots of great memories here over your child's time. We hope to see you at our PTA events – keep up to date by checking the website calendar and by reading the newsletter each month.