



Abberley Parochial V.C. Primary School

Inspiring Hearts & Minds

Reception Class

What do I need to know about my child's first day at school?

We understand that your child's first day at school can be daunting for both the child and the parent so we wanted to let you know step by step what will happen on the day.

We suggest you arrive on the playground with your child for 8:50 a.m. The school bell rings to let you know that the school is now open. Then you need to make your way round to the classroom where your child's teacher will be there to greet you and help settle your child in. We try and encourage the child to hang up their own coat on their very own coat peg, put their book bag in the book bag box and finally their drink in the drinks tray by themselves. The teacher is there to guide them but by doing this themselves it helps them to become more independent and settle into the class routine quickly.

We do encourage you to stay and play with your child to help them settle into the classroom and discover what exciting activities there are to play with. The bell will ring again at 9:00 a.m. and the children are then invited to come and sit on the carpet ready for the morning register. If your child does become upset or unsettled at this point don't worry as the teacher and teaching assistant are there to support you both. We realise that this can be a bit stressful and an unsure time for both of you. However, we do usually find that children soon settle down again very quickly once their parent or carer has said goodbye and left the classroom. If for any reason they do not, we will call you and let you know.

At home time we ask that all parents wait in the main playground. The school bell rings at 3:15 p.m. and you are then able to walk into our reception playground. Your child will be sitting on the carpet in the classroom ready to be collected by you. Your child's teacher opens the classroom door and only when they see you will they call out your child's name, your child is then able to come out to meet you.



Please make sure your class teacher is aware of anyone different that is coming to collect your child. For safety reasons we do not allow your child to go home with anyone else if we have not been informed. If for any reason you are late collecting your child, can you please contact the school office as soon as possible on 01299 896332, your child will then wait in the school office reception area for you to collect them.

How can I help my child during their first year at school?

During your child's first half term at school they will have a daily phonics session where they start to learn about letters and sounds, helping them build up their knowledge and confidence to start reading. Children are given sound cards to take home each week covering the sounds that they have been taught. Each letter sound has an action to go with it which they can practise at home with you. It is important that they do this regularly as it builds up their sound knowledge ready for reading. At the end of each half term your child is also given a set of 'action word cards' to take home. These are usually made up of tricky words that are not able to be 'sounded out'. Again we ask all parents to practise these with your child as it helps them become more fluent with their reading.

Children are able to visit our school library once a week and can choose one book to take home at a time. Books are changed weekly so if you would like your child's book changed please make sure it is in their book bag on a Monday.

After the first half term children start having reading books to take home. These are changed twice a week. Your child is given a reading record to keep track of the reading books they have been given and also to note down how they are progressing. Please make sure you write in your child's reading record to record what page your child is on, how they are doing or if they have finished the book. Parents are encouraged to read with their child regularly. Looking at books and reading together is an important step towards them becoming a confident reader.

A typical day at Abberley Parochial V.C. Primary school

8:50am Children Arrive at School
9:00am Morning Registration
9:10am Assembly
9:30am Whole Class Activity 'Choosing time' where the children have a free choice of indoor and outdoor activities
10:15am Snack Time
Morning Play Time 10:30 - 10:45
10:45am Whole Class Activity 'Choosing Time' where the children have a free choice of indoor and outdoor activities.
Lunch 12:00 - 1:00pm
1:00pm Afternoon Registration
1:10pm Whole Class - Topic based activities / P.E./ Library 'Choosing time' where the children have a free choice of indoor and outdoor activities.
Afternoon Playtime 2:00 - 2:15pm
3:00pm Whole Class - Tidy up time/ Songs / Show + Tell / Story
3:15pm Home Time

General Information

Absences

If your child is ill or absent from school you must phone the school before 9:30am. If we do not receive a call we will then contact you. When your child is ready to come back to school please send them back with a short note detailing why they were absent.

Administration of Medicines

The school has an administration of Medicines Policy which complies with guidelines issued by the local authority and the Department of Health. There is no legal requirement for staff to administer medicines to pupils. However, if a child requires prescribed medicine during the school day please contact the school office for a parental agreement form. All medicines should be prescribed by the family doctor and have a clear visible label. Aspirin or paracetamol will not be administered in school.

Naming clothes

Please make sure all children's clothes are clearly named including coats and your child's P.E. kit.

Playtimes

Playtimes are an integral part of the day for Reception children and here at Abberley we have an indoor / outdoor policy which means that your child could be outside at any time and in any weather. Can you please make sure that your child has a coat every day as the weather can change rapidly.

Please make sure that your child brings a named drinks bottle to school every day for lunch and breaks.

Fruit & Milk

Each reception child is entitled to a free piece of fruit each day which they can eat as their morning snack. Reception children also receive free milk until they reach their 5th birthday. Children over the age of five may continue to have milk every day. This is ordered through 'Cool Milk'.

Lunch Time

Children will have the choice of a hot lunch or to bring a packed lunch with them. All KS1 children are eligible for free school meals. Please note all parents are required to complete the form **Free School Meals / Universal Infant Free School Meals** to register your child for free school meals.

Parents' Evening

We hold two parents' evenings a year one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term where you can discuss how your child is settling into school and their progress. Parents receive a written report about their child at the end of each academic year.

Before and After school clubs

The school runs a breakfast club every weekday morning from 8 a.m. for which we ask a small charge. The after school club runs from 3.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. every weekday. This is again charged at an hourly rate.

School Website

For more information about the school and our weekly newsletter please check on our website www.abberley.worcs.sch.uk

