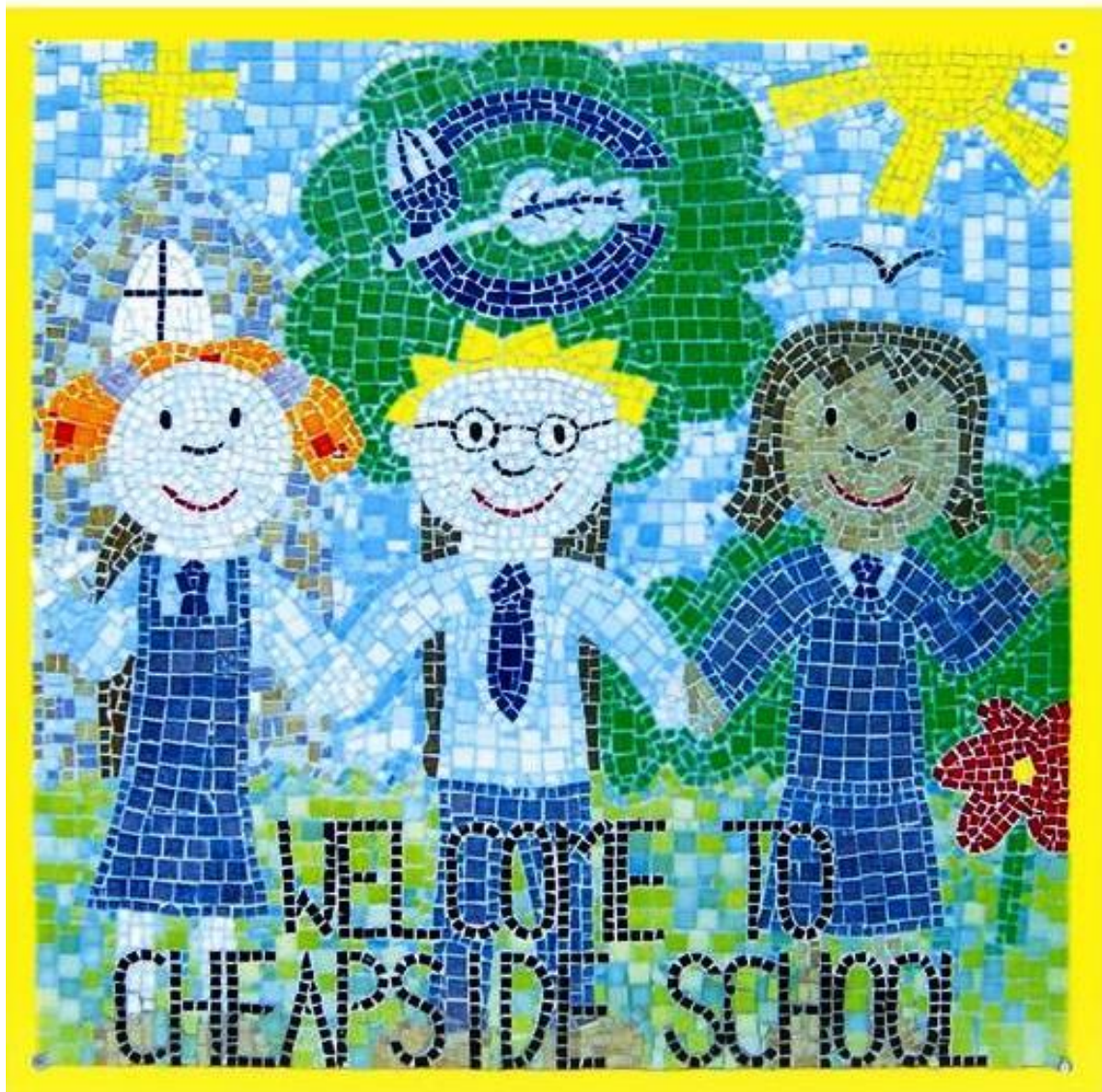


Starting School at Cheapside



An introduction for new families

Welcome to Cheapside CE Primary School



We hope that this booklet answers the main questions that you may have when your child starts school.

Year Groups and Classes
School Work
Help from Parents
Further Useful Information
A typical day in Wrens Class

*We look forward to welcoming you
and your child to our school.*

YEAR GROUPS AND CLASSES

Wrens Class is our Foundation Stage Class; the class teacher will be Mrs Coe. Mrs Summers is our Foundation Stage Leader and Assistant Headteacher.

SCHOOL WORK

Foundation Stage

Children follow the Foundation Stage Curriculum, following the guidelines and objectives (Early Learning Goals) of the Foundation Stage. The Foundation Stage became statutory in all state pre-schools and primary schools in September 2008. The Foundation Stage ends at the end of the academic year in which your child is five.

A newsletter will be regularly added to the class gallery page on the website letting you know what your child has been learning in school. There will also be home learning challenges set which you might like to do with your child at home.

The Foundation Stage Profile

In the Foundation Stage, the Foundation Stage class teacher will record your child's progress in achieving the Early Learning Goals term by term. In the final term these results will be finalised and an End of Foundation Stage Report will be written in July, prior to your child entering year 1. A learning journal will be kept for every child. This serves as a record of their achievement and we welcome parental contributions to the journal. We use a piece of educational software called 'Tapestry' to record your child's progress. More details on this are included in your starting school pack.

A parent meeting will take place early in the first term when more details about the curriculum and the learning journals will be discussed.

National Curriculum

Once children enter Year 1 they follow the National Curriculum. The National Curriculum is divided into two Key Stages. Key Stage 1 is the curriculum your child will cover from the age of 5-7 years. Key Stage 2 is the curriculum your child will cover from the age of 7-11 years.

HELP FROM PARENTS

We greatly value the support we get from willing parents who come in to school to help with classroom activities or hear children read. If you would like to help, please let the class teacher know.

HOW TO PREPARE YOU CHILD FOR SCHOOL

Parents often ask us how they can help at home. Please take a look at the Ready for School information provided by pacey (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years) Please note that these ideas are intended as a guide and not as a requirement.

More details and information to support you in preparing your child for school can be found at <https://www.pacey.org.uk/partnerships/starting-school-together/preparation/>

We will be holding Parent-teacher meetings in September prior to your child starting school. This is to give you an opportunity to tell us about your child and discuss any worries or concerns you may have about them starting school. We have a phased start to the school term and details of your child's start date will be shared with you as soon as possible.

#READYFORSCHOOL



PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR STARTING SCHOOL



START
SCHOOL
WITH A
SMILE

Starting school is an exciting time for young children and their parents. It can be a daunting time, too. But with a little preparation and encouragement, most children will settle in easily at school.

PACEY childcare professionals have a great deal of experience in helping children to cope with times of transition. Here are some top tips, put together by some of our most experienced members, to help you prepare your child for starting school.

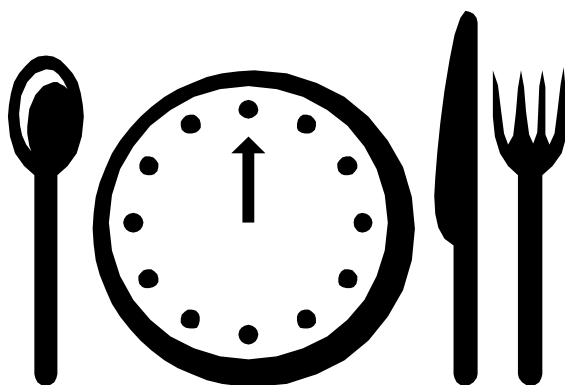
We hope they help you both start school with a smile!

FURTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School meals are cooked on site each day. Menus are carefully thought out and balanced nutritionally. Please let us know if there are any special dietary needs for your child. The menus are sent home with the children before each new term starts for the parents to see. If your child particularly does not like something, there are several alternatives each day.

We would like to remind you that all children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will be eligible to receive their school lunches free. Children sign up for their school meal choice everyday using our interactive whiteboard. Parents are very welcome to stay and support their child to do this.



PACKED LUNCHES

This is mostly up to individual parents. If you provide an orange, it would be of great help to the staff if it was already peeled and sectioned. Please be aware that sweets, nuts, chocolate and fizzy drinks should not be provided.

A drink of water is always provided as part of the school lunch. Those who have a packed lunch can provide their own drinks in either a flask or other suitable container.

DRINKS

Please provide your child with a labelled, non-spill drinking bottle so that they can have access to water at all times during the school day. This needs to be brought to school full of water and we can top it up in class if needed using our drinking water dispenser.

SNACKS

Wrens Class have fruit and vegetables provided for them by the school to eat during morning break. Further up the school children are required to bring a fruit or vegetable snack. Children under the age of 5 are also offered milk during the day.

MONEY

All money sent into school must be in a sealed envelope, labelled with your child's name and its purpose.

PE BAGS

The drawstring variety should be provided. Ordinary bags tend to take up too much room in the cloakroom. School PE bags can be purchased from the school uniform shop. We will inform you of our PE days at the beginning of term.

UNIFORM

Items for both boys and girls school uniform are listed in the School Prospectus. **Please ensure that ALL items are named.** Named items rarely go missing for long.

School jumpers, cardigans, ties, school coats, hats and t-shirts can be purchased from the school uniform shop.

BOOK BAGS

Each child should have a book bag so that the books taken home are well protected. The bags are available from the school uniform shop. Information sheets, which are given out regularly, will also be put in school bags, so we advise you to check them each day. Please do not put food or drink in these bags.

SCHOOL HOURS

School officially starts at 8.55am, but you can bring your child into Wrens Class at 8.50am. We also have a soft start policy which allows you to drop your child off 15 minutes before the start of the school day, they will be cared for in our school hall and then escorted to class at 8.50am. This is a good time to sort out any brief queries with the class teacher and allows you time to settle your child at an activity before you leave. If at any time you would like a longer chat with any of the class teachers, then please do not hesitate to arrange a time with us which is mutually convenient. School finishes at 3.15pm.

HOUSE TEAMS

Your child will be allocated a house team once they start school. Our 4 house teams are Oak, Ash, Willow and Birch. Your child can earn team ticks for their house and during our celebration assembly on a Friday morning, the house with the most team ticks is announced. We also have regular house team days and events throughout the year.

TEAM TICKS

Children are awarded team ticks for effort and achievement in their work, helpfulness, good manners, team work and being a good friend towards

others. These team ticks accumulate until there are enough for your child to receive a prize they also count towards the final house team score announced at the end of each week.

Forest School

In the autumn term, your child will have a session of Forest School every week. These sessions will be led by Mrs Summers. You will be notified of the day at the beginning of term. Your child will need the following on those days:

- Long trousers (school tracksuit trousers are ideal)
- Wellington boots
- Warm waterproof coat
- Hat, gloves (as the weather gets colder)

School will provide your child with a pair of waterproof trousers. Please note on a Forest School day, your child may come to school wearing their tracksuit trousers or other suitable long trousers so they are ready for forest school.

END OF THE DAY

Please collect your child at the end of the day from outside the classroom. We ask you to wait outside our pencil gates in the outdoor area. Please could you ensure you let the teaching staff or the office know if there is any change in your pick up arrangements. For health and safety reasons we will not release your child unless we have prior knowledge of any change to your usual pick up arrangements.

CLUBS

A list of after school clubs will be released early in the autumn term. We offer a wide variety of clubs for all the different age groups. We do offer clubs to our reception children but we would ask you to carefully consider signing your child up for clubs in the autumn term as they are often still trying to settle in school and learning to manage a full school day. We often find that our reception children find this term quite tiring.

YOUR CHILD'S FIRST DAY

Please arrive at the front entrance. We will then walk round to class together and go through the drop off routine. Your child will need:

- **Book bag**
- **Water bottle**
- **Coat (weather dependent)**

A TYPICAL DAY IN WRENS

8:50 AM	Arrive. Help your child to put their coat, bag, bottle, lunch box in the correct places (We will show you where all these are on the first day). We encourage children to be independent and responsible for their belongings. Finally, settle your child into an activity and leave when you and your child are ready.
9:00AM	Children self-register in the morning and sign up for their school lunch using our interactive whiteboard.
9:00 AM	Whole school collective worship
9:20 AM	The rest of the day will be a combination of whole class teaching, adult supported group work and independent child initiated activities, covering the seven areas of learning. At some point during the day there will be a phonics session.
10:20 AM	Fruit/vegetable time and break Fruit and vegetables are provided for the children by the government fruit and veg scheme. Fruit and vegetables provided include apples, pears, oranges, carrots, bananas, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, peas and strawberries.
10:45 AM	Continuation of morning activities.
11:50 AM	Lunch We encourage the children to have a hot meal and these are free of charge to reception and Key Stage 1 children. School meals will be cooked on site.
1:00PM	Continuation of activities as per Am session
2:30PM	Tidy up and Play. The children take responsibility for setting up and clearing away activities and making sure that the floor and tables are clean and tidy at the end of the day.
2:50PM	Story
3:15 PM	Home time.

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