



# Reception Induction



# Welcome to Hillside Primary School



## We want to...

- **Share the ethos of Hillside Primary School**
- **Meet members of our staff**
- **Find out arrangements for children starting school**
- **Learn more about the curriculum your child will follow**
- **View the school environment**

# **Welcome from Head teacher: Mrs K. Schonau**

**Thank you for taking the time to enquire about life at Hillside.  
We hope that here you will find lots of information to help  
you to make an informed choice about choosing the right  
primary school for your child.**

**If you have any further queries or questions please do not  
hesitate to contact our school office either via email:  
[office@hillsideprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@hillsideprimary.org.uk) or via telephone: 01782 235350**





# Our Ethos and Values

Hillside Primary School is a friendly, caring school where everyone works hard towards our school motto which is: 'Developing the Individual'. We facilitate this by fostering the values of Inspiration, Determination, Excellence, Friendship, Respect, Equality and Courage. These promote outstanding behaviour and mutual respect for one another.

At Hillside we provide an excellent foundation for our children to develop as individuals and are committed to enabling all pupils to fulfil their potential. We encourage children to grow personally, socially and morally as well as academically.

The aim of our provision is to encourage and foster an inquisitive nature and a love for learning. We believe that this is the key to academic success. Our dedicated, hardworking team of staff deliver an exciting, broad curriculum and are continually striving to improve outcomes for our pupils.

Hillside Primary is a fully inclusive school and welcomes applications from all pupils, including those with special educational needs.





# Ofsted

**Our last Ofsted was in November 2019**

**“Hillside Primary School continues to be a good school. There is enough evidence of improved performance to suggest that the school could be judged outstanding if we were to carry out a section 5 inspection now”**

**<https://hillsideprimary.org.uk/ofsted-information/>**



# What does Ofsted say about Hillside:

**Pupils love learning in this hardworking school. Pupils are very happy at work and play. Their attendance and behaviour are very good. Leaders and other staff are ambitious for pupils. They set pupils interesting work and encourage them to think hard. They teach pupils to learn in different ways. Leaders take great care to ensure that pupils learn effectively. A well-organised curriculum helps pupils achieve high standards....**

**...Staff know each pupil very well. Warm and trusting relationships underpin the school's high aspirations. Pupils are kind to each other. Bullying is rare. Pupils who struggle with friendships get help straightaway. Great teaching and concern for welfare ensure that all pupils thrive at Hillside. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) get very regular support. Like all other pupils, they enjoy effective teaching and individual care. Disadvantaged pupils achieve well. Parents trust staff to do what is right for their children. They appreciate the great effort the school makes to interest all pupils in learning. Communication between home and school is very good.**



## **What do Ofsted say about our early Years:**

***“ Children settle quickly when they start in early years. Specialist and enthusiastic staff get children off to a great start. They provide imaginative resources that help children learn with enjoyment. Care for children is very good. Children’s experiences in Nursey and Reception prepare them very effectively for Year 1.”***



# Reception Staff

**Staff can change from year to year dependent on the needs of each class. This year our Reception team includes:**

**Mrs Ashton is the Reception Class Teacher**

**Mrs Dixon, our Senior Early Years Practitioner  
works in Reception class**

**Miss Riley, Learning Support Assistant supports the children in the  
Reception class**



# What is the Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S)?

- The E.Y.F.S. is the stage of education for children from **birth** to the **end of the Reception year**.
- It is based on the recognition that children learn best through **play and active learning**.

## It is developed around 4 themes that underpin the EYFS

1. A unique Child- Observe what a child is learning
2. Positive Relationships- What adults can do
3. Enabling Environments- What adults could provide
4. Learning and Developing- Children's achievements through the above

# Areas of learning...

## The Foundation Stage Curriculum

### PRIME AREAS

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Communication and Language
3. Physical Development



These are crucial for developing children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

### Then there are 4 SPECIFIC AREAS

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Understanding the world
4. Expressive arts and design

# Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- Become self-confident and self aware;
- Making and building relationships;
- Know what their own needs are;
- Dress and undress independently;
- Become independent;
- Manage feelings and behaviour - tell the difference between right and wrong.



# Communication and Language



- ▶ Encourages children to develop conversational skills in a rich language environment and in a range of situations.
- ▶ Will help children to develop listening and concentration skills.
- ▶ Enables children to express themselves and understand and act on instructions given to them.





# Physical Development

- Supports children's healthy development.
- Provides opportunities for using a range of large and small equipment.
- Helps them to develop a sense of space around themselves and others.
- Encourages balance.
- Develops practical skills such as dressing, undressing etc
- Handling equipment and tools effectively including pencils for writing.
- Fine motor skills



# Fitzy Fox



**As part of your child's Physical Development, we will send home Fitzy Fox. (Two children each week)**

**Fitzy comes with a bag full of activities designed to encourage your child to keep fit and healthy.**

**You and your child can have fun completing Fitzy's Diary before sending it back to school. Your child will then talk to the class about the exciting things they have done with Fitzy over the weekend.**



# Literacy



## Reading-

- link sounds and letters
- Segment sounds in words and blend them
- Read words and simple sentences



## Writing-

- Communicate meaning through clearly identifiable letters
- Encourages children to develop pencil control and to begin to make marks on paper
- Write for a wide range of purpose- name, labels etc.

# Reading



- ▶ **At Hillside, we place great emphasis on encouraging the children to read for pleasure. We do this in a number of ways.**
- ▶ **We learn about a new author each half term. As well as learning interesting facts about these authors, we share stories and encourage the children to find other stories by the same authors.**
- ▶ **We also send home Reading for Pleasure books, along with a Reading for Pleasure booklet. The booklet is a list of what we believe to be the 25 best reads for a Reception child.**
- ▶ **On a more formal level, during the first couple of weeks, we will assess your child's phonic ability.**
- ▶ **We will then either send home some letter sounds to learn, along with a discussion book to share with your child or if we feel your child is ready they will be given/continue with a reading book.**
- ▶ **We have two kinds of reading books; ones that encourage sounding out using phonics and ones that require 'tricky' words to be learnt and read by sight. Depending on your child's ability, they will have one of each of these books by the end of Reception.**
- ▶ **We encourage you to read with your child at least 3 times a week and if you would like your child to be entered into the Reading Rocket prize draw, they will need to read 5 times a week. Each half term a winner will be chosen to receive a prize.**



# Mathematical Development

## Number

- Helps children to count up to ten and beyond.
- Supports children's understanding of numbers



## Shape, space and measure

- Encourages the use of mathematical words such as greater, smaller, heavier, lighter, more, less etc.
- Develops skills in comparing and sorting objects.
- Supports children's understanding of shape and size including 2D and 3D shapes.

# How to help your child develop their maths skills

- Counting out loud to 10, then to 20.
- Counting objects to 10, then 20.
- Recognising numbers to 10.
- Matching numerals to correct number of objects.
- Recognition of 2D shapes.



# Understanding the World

- ▶ **People and communities-** helps children to gain an understanding of their world
- ▶ **Encourages them to look at changes over time (History)**
- ▶ **Encourages them to explore, observe and investigate their environment (Science)**
- ▶ **Helps to develop designing and making skills (DT)**
- ▶ **Will give your children the opportunity to understand and use information and communication technology and understand how it is used in homes and schools (ICT).**



# Expressive Arts and Design

- Inspires children to explore colour and colour changes.
- Helps them to explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques.
- Experiment with colour, design and textures.
- Develops an interest in music, singing, music-making and dancing.
- Develops confidence and imagination.





# Constructing and making





# Outside Learning





# Forest School

We are fortunate enough to have our own wooded area at Hillside. We use this area as much as we can to give the children the opportunity to explore and investigate in a safe environment.





# Forest School

Circle times



Exploring



Campfires



Treasure hunts



Looking at nature



Minibeast hunts



Stories

Making dens



The Characteristics of Effective Learning (CoEL) are an element of the current Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS). CoEL advocate that in planning and guiding children's activities, practitioners must reflect on the different ways that children learn, and then reflect these in their practice. A child's individual learning characteristic will determine the way they respond to both the teaching and learning taking place in the environment. The three characteristics of effective teaching and learning identified by the EYFS are:

## Characteristics of Effective Learning

### Engagement

#### Playing and Exploring

##### Finding out and exploring

- Showing curiosity about objects, events and people
- Using senses to explore the world around them
- Engaging in open-ended activity
- Showing particular interests

##### Playing with what they know

- Pretending objects are things from their experience
- Representing their experiences in play
- Taking on a role in their play
- Acting out experiences with other people

##### Being willing to 'have a go'

- Initiating activities
- Seeking challenge
- Showing a 'can do' attitude
- Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error

### Motivation

#### Active Learning

##### Being involved and concentrating

- Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time
- Showing high levels of energy, fascination
- Not easily distracted
- Paying attention to details

##### Keeping on trying

- Persisting with activity when challenges occur
- Showing a belief that more effort or a different approach will pay off
- Bouncing back after difficulties

##### Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

- Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals
- Being proud of how they accomplished something – not just the end result
- Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise

### Thinking

#### Creative and Critical Thinking

##### Having their own ideas

- Thinking of ideas
- Finding ways to solve problems
- Finding new ways to do things

##### Making links

- Making links and noticing patterns in their experience
- Making predictions
- Testing their ideas
- Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect

##### Choosing ways to do things

- Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal
- Checking how well their activities are going
- Changing strategy as needed
- Reviewing how well the approach worked

# A typical day in our Foundation Class...



- 8.50 -Welcome and name writing/early start activities
- 9.00-9.05- Register
- 9.05-9.30 - Phonics session
- 9.30-10.40 -Adult directed group work-Literacy focus and activities
- 10.40-10.50 -Playtime
- 10.50-11.45- Adult directed group work-Maths focus and activities
- 11.45-1.00 Lunch and playtime
- 1.00- 1.20 Registration and assembly / singing practice
- 1.20 -2.45 Topic work/KUW/Creative/Forest School
- 2.45 Tidy away, story, meditation and Home Time @3.15.

# When you come to school..



- This is where you will hang your coat



- This is where you will put your book bag



- Then you will select how you travelled to school

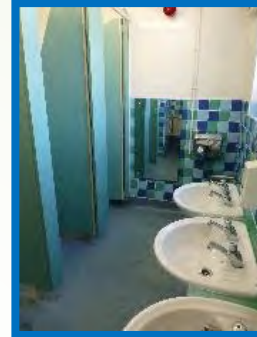
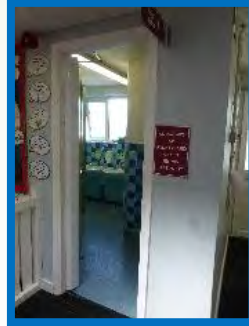




# At playtime you will...



- Go to the toilet



- Choose a piece of fruit and go out to play



- At lunchtime the lunchtime supervisors will help you to choose something to eat





# Music and P.E.

On Tuesday mornings, the children will have a Music lesson with our Music teacher, Mr Hall and P.E with our P.E. teacher, Dan.

In Music they will:

- Begin to build a repertoire of songs & dances;
- Explore the different sounds of instruments.



In P.E. they will:

- Explore ways of moving;
- Making different shapes with their bodies;
- Team games;
- Games skills.





# Assessment

- Staff will use EvidenceMe to make observations – children will be observed regularly throughout their child initiated learning. These will be recorded and sent home by email on a half-termly basis.
- Teacher-led activities – while your child completes activities set by the teacher they will be assessed against the learning intentions for the specific activity, from this next steps can be planned to develop your child's learning.
- WOW moments – you will be given some blank WOW moments during the first few weeks of school. We love to hear of new/special moments that your child has done, we ask for you to fill in a WOW moment and send it in so that we can share this with the class and celebrate your child's achievement.
- End of year reports- this is an overview of your child's time in nursery and will discuss social, emotional and academic achievements.



## **What can you do to help your child's learning before and when they begin school?**

- **Sharing books, talking about the pictures**
- **Reading Book, make comments in their reading diary**
- **Read/share books at least 3 times a week**
- **Practise letter sounds – reading and writing.**
- **Practise sounding simple words out, e.g. c-a-t, d-o-g**
- **Encourage mark making, shopping lists etc.**
- **Encourage children to talk**
- **Practise counting at any time-climbing the stairs, shopping etc.**
- **Play simple board games**
- **Sing number rhymes and songs together**
- **Support any homework that comes home, sounds and number work.**



# Uniform

- **Compulsory- Sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo**
- **Please ensure that names are in EVERYTHING**
- **Send coats EVERYDAY**
- **Sensible shoes, no boots and no jewellery**
- **P.E. kits in school everyday**
- **A Forest School outfit.**
- **A pair of wellies with a waterproof pair of trousers and jacket.**
- **(Not an all-in-one please. The children find these very difficult to put on themselves.)**
- **PE t shirt and school jumpers/ cardigans are available from Mr Motif in the village of Milton- opposite the Co-op.**





# Exciting Events



- **School trips – throughout the year we go on different visits linked to our topics, we have one visit a term. We choose and plan these carefully to make it a memorable and meaningful experience for your child.**
- **Showcases – this is an opportunity for you to come into school and share time with your child, taking part in activities linked to the learning they have been doing in class.**
- **Celebration Assemblies – children are recognised for their work and get the opportunity to showcase this to the school as well as receiving an award from Mrs Schonau. Children will also be recognised for displaying our school values and they too will receive an award.**
- **Christmas Performance**
- **Sports days**

# Communication with Parents



## Parents Evenings:

- ▶ Parents are invited to parents' evenings during the year. You will be able to discuss your child's progress with members of staff and letters of the dates and times will be sent home.
- ▶ If, at any time you have any questions or concerns please come in and discuss them with a member of staff or the Headteacher.

## School Website

- ▶ The school's website [www.hillsideprimary.org.uk](http://www.hillsideprimary.org.uk) has a wealth of information, including policies, uniform requirements, a calendar of events, class information, newsletters and much more.

## School App

- ▶ We have a school app that can be found on your app/ play store. We strongly recommend downloading this, it is updated regularly with examples of the children's learning, notices and special events that have taken place.

## Newsletters

- ▶ The school provides regular newsletters for parents/carers, giving up to date information of activities and events.

## Open Door Policy

- ▶ We operate an open door policy. You can speak to a member of staff on the door, either in the morning or after school.



# The First Few Days ...

There can be a lot to remember in the first few days, but please do not worry as your child will quickly be teaching you the routines!

**All clothing  
named!**

**Book bag everyday**  
(New children will be gifted a Hillside  
Book bag)

**Water bottle  
(named)**

**Sun hat and  
sun cream -  
All named**

**PE bag - left  
in school**

# Other matters...



- ▶ Please let us know if someone different is collecting your child!
- ▶ Parent Helpers always welcome – Please enquire via a member of staff and be prepared to complete a DBS check.
- ▶ If you are interested in joining the school PTFA, please let the office know.
- ▶ Any absence requires a telephone call to the school office by 9:15am.
- ▶ We strongly advise taking your child out of school for a holiday during term time.
- ▶ At Hillside we operate a cashless environment and all payments are made through an online payment system called ParentPay. Details will be provided as part of your child's induction pack. We require a notice period of one week for any changes to school meal arrangements.

## Medical

- ▶ Any sickness, diarrhoea, must be followed by at least 48 hours absence.
- ▶ Head lice are common! Please check regularly and treat as recommended.





# We cant wait to welcome you to Hillside

We look forward to a happy partnership in your  
child's first year at school and beyond.



Useful websites:

<https://hillsideprimary.org.uk>

[www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk)

What I love  
most about my  
classroom  
is who I  
share it with

