

WELCOME TO RECEPTION 2025-2026



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Together we will do our best for Jesus'



OUR SCHOOL AIMS

- To offer the best standard of education for each pupil in our care.
- To encourage the development of relationships based on the teachings of Jesus 'love your neighbour as yourself'.
- To be a centre of excellence for lifelong learning and spiritual growth.
- To support each child in developing responsibility for his or her own learning and motivation to succeed.
- To provide an effective, broad and balanced early years and primary curriculum.
- To equip each child with the skills to meet the demands of a changing

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Jesus***



OUR GOSPEL VALUES

Humility - seeing life as a gift

Compassion - empathy

Kindness - gentleness

Justice - working for a fairer world

Forgiveness - reconciliation

Integrity - do what you say

Peace - committed to peace making

Courage - standing up for truth

We integrate these values in everything we do through our learning and play.



GETTING IT RIGHT FROM THE START

- **Arrive on time every day**
- **Aim for above 95% attendance**
- **Call the school office to inform us of illness**
 - **Holidays- not to be taken in term time.**



ATTENDANCE

Every day matters, so for your child to reach their full potential, and have the best chance of meeting the Early Learning Goals, they need to attend school every day that they are well enough to do so.

100%	No days of school missed Child's maximum potential filled
95%	9 days of school missed – equivalent to 2 weeks and 54 lessons missed!
90%	19 days of school missed – equivalent to 4 weeks and 114 lessons missed!
80%	38 days of school missed – equivalent to 8 weeks and 228 lessons!



OUR BEHAVIOUR POLICY

- Be Ready
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe

These are our guiding principles.

Restorative conversations form the basis of our behaviour regulation strategies.

These conversations between pupils and their supporting adult help children to make sense of conflicts and their actions.





SCHOOL READINESS



I can ... practise these skills ready for school

Recognise my own name

Talk clearly and express what I am thinking

Go to the toilet by myself

Use buttons, zips and poppers

Hold a pencil using a tripod grip

Share toys and take turns

Draw pictures and talk about them

Get myself dressed

Feed myself using a knife and fork

Show curiosity and explore

Put my shoes and coat on by myself

Listen to a whole story, remembering key parts

Use scissors safely to cut along lines

Recognise numbers 1-10

Happily, spend time away from parent

Colour in each circle

Name: _____





UNIFORM

Uniform can be bought from PMG Schoolwear on Poole high street. You can also purchase it from any local supermarket. However, they will not have the school logo.

Boys - Grey trousers with dark socks

Girls – Navy skirt or pinafore with navy or white socks/navy tights(no grey) Navy trousers

White collared shirt (No polo shirts)

School Tie

St Joseph sweatshirts/cardigan

Black, sensible shoes

A warm weatherproof coat





UNIFORM

Early years children will be learning outside in all weathers.

Please ensure shoes are appropriate and a waterproof coat is provided depending on the weather forecast.





PE KIT

Navy shorts
St Joseph's navy t-shirt
Trainers

Tracksuit bottoms - The children go outside in all weathers so please provide them with warm trousers to wear.

PE kits are to be worn to school on PE days only.

No jewellery is allowed to be worn for P.E. including earrings. This is following guidance from the LA and the National PE guidance provided to all schools. Our advice is for ear piercing to be scheduled for the beginning of the summer holidays in order to comply with the guidance.

Long hair should be tied back securely at all times.





NAMING

Please ensure that every item of your child's uniform is named.

We encourage our children to be independent, so please make sure their shoes are ones that they can take off and put on by themselves.





Home Visits

- **Smooth transition between pre-school and school.**
- **Opportunity to meet you and your child in their home setting and for you to meet your new teachers!**
- **Perfect time for you to ask any questions or express any concerns.**
- **Teachers will be talking with you about your child's interests and what they like to do.**
- **We will also discuss any other medical or allergy concerns or any other personal matters.**
- **Contact lists and named contacts.**
- **These will take place before the summer holiday. Timeslots in the transition pack.**



OUR CLASSES



There are two classes for reception age children. These are Ladybirds, and Bumblebees.



OUR CLASSES



Children will find out which class they are in when we come to visit you for the home visit. We will be bringing you a pack of useful information and activities for children to do over the holidays, as well as a free school bookbag generously funded by our PTFA.



What does learning look like in the Reception Year?



- Reception is all about learning by playing, exploring, and having a go.
- Children will be busy building, talking, drawing, dressing up, and discovering the world around them.
- Most important is that children will be getting moving, talking, and learning about their own emotions. Children will be physically active to help them develop their motor skills– facing learning challenges both socially and mentally which will help them grow emotionally– and learning new vocabulary through songs and stories.
- **Early Reading and Writing:** Children will learn letters and sounds which help them to read simple words. They begin to write these as well.
- **Early Maths:** Children will be counting toys, singing number songs, playing games, and sorting objects. Very hands on– lots of building, measuring, and spotting shapes.



OUR SCHOOL PLAYGROUND



Our school playground which you can use in the mornings and at lunchtimes. Play equipment is brought out onto the playground such as balls and tennis racquets.



OUR SCHOOL HALL



This is our school hall. You will come here for assembly, PE and lunchtime. At lunchtime the hall has lots of tables for you to sit at with your class. Here it is set up for breakfast club.



OUR CLASSROOM



We have 2 classrooms which are very similar. We have 'Discover and Explore time' in the classrooms as well as in the outdoor learning garden.



TOILETS



All classes share the same set of toilets for you to use. There are also toilets outside the school hall at lunchtime.



Learning Garden



Our outdoor learning garden has areas for construction, water play, a climbing frame, scooter and bike riding, a mud kitchen and more.



BIKES/SCOOTERS



If you ride a bike or scooter to school, this is where you can leave it until the end of the school day.



FOREST SCHOOL



We are very lucky to have an on-site forest school and accredited forest school teacher.



WHERE IS MY CLASSROOM?



If you are in a reception age class, this is where you will come into school.



Upcoming events



Summer Transition mornings (dates in transition pack)

September half days & Full time start (dates in transition pack)

Welcome to Early Years Base meeting (TBC: Sept)

Early Reading and Phonics meeting (TBC: Oct)

Christmas Sparkly Show (TBC: Dec)



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON TRANSITION MORNING



This is an incredibly important part of the school journey for children, so we strongly encourage every child to attend their transition morning.

Please drop your child off at the ramp and encourage them to walk into the classroom.

Generally, for safeguarding reasons, parents/carers are not allowed to enter the school building unless invited in by a member of staff.



We will be there to welcome your children in. There will be lots of fun and exciting activities for them to take part in.