



**Welcome!**



## **Here at Lytham C. of E. we have a happy, friendly team!**

We aim to provide a warm and welcoming environment for children starting school.

We would like to emphasise the important role you play in your child's education. In order to feel confident and secure, your child needs to see the relationship between home and school. Good communication between families and school helps to ensure a smooth transition and also enables the teacher to learn about each child from the adult that knows them best.

We look forward to working with you to build a strong partnership based on mutual understanding and respect.

### **A Shared Philosophy**

At Lytham Church of England Primary School, we want every child to grow and develop within our caring, Christian community. As a school, we want to enhance the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of every child, enabling every child to flourish. The school provides a secure, caring and stimulating learning environment which will enable children to acquire the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to become confident, independent learners.

In a relaxed, happy atmosphere children can develop confidence, self-esteem and respect for others, whilst reaching their own full potential emotionally, intellectually, socially, physically and spiritually.

At Lytham C. of E. we aim to provide challenging learning experiences, both indoors and outdoors, acknowledging the value and importance of quality outdoor provision for young children.

### **Our Aims**

- To create a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment
- To establish high expectations at an early stage by helping the pupils to develop an inquiring mind and a positive attitude towards learning
- To encourage each pupil to become confident, independent, responsible and sociable
- To work in partnership with parents recognising the important influence of the family

### **Families as Partners**

Our school acknowledges families as the child's primary educators, having a unique knowledge about how they learn. We value the positive results that are gained by practitioners and families working together. All members of the Reception team work hard to develop effective partnerships with families in the following ways:-

- by listening to families accounts of their child's development
- by acknowledging any concerns
- by keeping families fully informed about the Early Years curriculum
- by suggesting experiences in the home which can be used to develop learning in the school

- by working to make families feel welcome and valued

## Attendance

Attending school every day will help give your child the best possible start in life.

Going to school every day supports your child in making friends and building lasting relationships whilst also giving them the exciting learning opportunities.

- If your child is too ill to attend school or is absent for any other reason, please contact the school office by 9.15am each day they are absent giving a reason for that absence
- Each term you will receive a copy of your child's attendance certificate and if there are any concerns we will make contact with you directly to offer support

## Staffing

**Staff working with the Reception children are as follows.....**

- Miss Victoria Harter – Class Teacher
- Mrs K Wilkinson – Teaching Assistant

## An example of a typical day in Reception

8.45 – 8.55	Children come into school
8.55 – 9.00	Register and dinner choices
9.00 – 9.30	Whole class phonics
9.30 – 9.40	Fruit snack/water
9.40 – 10.45	Writing
10.45 – 11.00	Playtime
11.00 – 12.00	Maths
12.00 – 1.00	Lunch
1.00 – 2.15	Planned activities in the classroom and outdoor learning
2.45 – 2.55	Playtime
3.00 – 3.25	Whole school worship in the hall
3.30	Home time

## Some Questions Answered

### What time should I arrive at school with my child?

Once they have started school full time you should arrive at School between 8.45am and 8.55am A member of staff will open the green gate opposite the bike store at 8.45 a.m. Children can come in through the gate any time between 8.45 and 8.55. You then walk

round to the Reception outdoor area. A member of the Reception team will be waiting at the gate to welcome your child. Please try to ensure that your child is at school on time as a late arrival can be upsetting, especially for infant children and disruptive for the Teacher and the rest of the class. In the unlikely event of you being late, please accompany your child to the front of the building and report to the Main Office, as the gate will be locked.

### How do I collect my child from school?

The children will leave through the Reception classroom red doors on the Key Stage 1 playground. Please wait by the green fence of the outdoor area. The children will not be allowed to go home unaccompanied, a family member or other nominated adult must collect them. The children will only be allowed out of the classroom door when the teacher has seen the adult who is collecting them.

### What should my child wear?

#### **School Uniform**

- Grey trousers or shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Dark green school jumper or cardigan
- Short sleeved white shirt
- School tie on elastic
- Grey school socks or tights
- Black shoes with a Velcro or buckle fastening
- Hair accessories need to be green and long hair needs to be tied back

#### **Summer Uniform**

- Plain grey shorts with a white polo shirt or green summer dress
- Dark green jumper or cardigan
- Grey or white short socks

#### **PE Kit**

All children should attend in their school uniform on PE days and bring their PE kit to school in a bag that can be hung on their peg.

- Green PE top with school logo on
- Plain black shorts (not cycling shorts)
- Black trainers with a Velcro fastening (no laces please)

Please make sure all items are labelled including shoes and trainers.

### Will my child need any equipment for working outside?

As part of the Early Years Foundation Curriculum we like to be outside as much as possible whatever the weather. Please could you provide a pair of wellies which will be kept at school. Please make sure they are labelled with your child's name. They will be kept in the outdoor area.

### Do they need a bag for school?

Children in Reception should have a school book bag that they will bring to school each day. In this they will keep their reading record, reading books and fruit from home. No other bag is required apart from the PE bag.

### Is my child allowed to wear any jewellery at school?

For safety reasons, the wearing of jewellery, including necklaces, bracelets and rings is considered to be dangerous. Children are allowed to wear watches but not smart watches. They can wear stud earrings but these must be removed and not worn on PE days.

### [Can my child have a hot meal at lunch time?](#)

All Reception children are entitled to a free hot school dinner every day. This will be provided automatically unless you tell us differently. A menu will be sent home each term so you can discuss dinner choices with your child.

### [What can my child drink at school?](#)

#### **School Milk**

All infant children are provided with a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of a pint of milk each day. Milk is free until the term when your child is 5 but you will need to register online for your child's milk at milk4life. Please see the letter provided in your pack for more information on milk4life.

Please inform the class teacher if your child does **not** drink milk.

#### **Water**

Children are also encouraged to drink water throughout the day. Please supply your child with a clearly named sports bottle filled with water only, which should be refreshed each night at home. Children are not allowed to bring juice or flavoured water in their bottles.

### [Can my child bring a snack to eat at school?](#)

**Morning Break** – Children to bring fresh fruit or vegetables. Any loose or cut fruit should be in a clearly labelled container. This will be kept in their trays.

**Afternoon Break** - Each day, every child will be given a piece of fruit to be eaten in class. This fruit is provided free of charge and is part of the Government's Healthy Schools initiative.

### [What happens if my child is ill at school?](#)

We will contact you on the details that you have provided on your admission form.

### [Accident Record](#)

We keep a record of any accident that a Reception child has. The accident is recorded in the class Accident Record book and at the end of the day when you collect your child, you will be asked to sign this record to confirm that we have informed you of the incident. If your child bumps their head you will also receive a text message from school informing you of this.

### [What if my child needs to be given medicine?](#)

Only medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist or pharmacy prescriber can be administered in school eg. antibiotics. You will need to complete a form and hand both the form and the medicine into the school office. The medicine must be in original packaging with the prescription label giving details of your child's name, dosage and date. Without this we cannot administer medicines in school. Asthma forms will also need to be completed and school will require a separate inhaler to be kept in school at all times and another inhaler if they are attending breakfast and afterschool club.

### [What if my child has an allergy?](#)

Please inform the school before September of any allergies your child has on the form provided in the welcome pack. Only include items that would cause them to have an allergic reaction and not foods that they just dislike or have an intolerance to. Once your child starts school you may be required to complete further paperwork.

### [How can I contact my child's class teacher?](#)

We use an app called Class Dojo. Please make sure you are signed up to this from the start. This will allow you to see important information. You can send a message to the class teacher on Dojo.

## School Readiness

### How can you help your child to become school ready?

You can be helping your child in a variety of ways. Start now! It is really important that you support your child's learning in the early stages, as this will help them immensely once they start. These are our expectations of what we mean by 'readiness for school'

- **Putting on and taking off their coat, looking at how it fastens**
- **Putting on their school uniform and taking it off**
- **Put on their own shoes**
- **Putting on their P.E. kit and taking it off again**
- **Washing and drying hands independently**
- **Using the toilet independently**
- **Eating whole pieces of fruit (this is how they will get it in school)**
- **Using a knife and fork**
- **Using a tissue**
- **Helping to tidy up**
- **Co-operating and sharing with other children**
- **To be able to listen to instructions**
- **To be able to cope with the separation from their parent/carer**