



Welcome to Ovingham CE First School



Reception New Starter Booklet

All the staff at Ovingham CE First School would like to wish you and your child a very warm welcome to our school. This booklet will provide you with all the information you need about your child starting school in September. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us on admin@ovinghamfirst.northumberland.sch.uk or call us on 01661 832

581.

Meet the Staff

All About Miss Bough

My name is

Miss Bough

I have been a teacher for

6 years! 😊



My favourite book is

The Stick Man.

I really like to
spend time with my family
and read new books.

You should know that
I am really looking forward
to meeting you all!

Meet the Staff

All About Mrs Turner

My name is
Mrs Turner.

I have been a
teaching assistant for
8 years.



My favourite book is
Winnie the Pooh! ☺

I really like to
learn new languages.

You should know that
I can't wait to meet you all!

Meet the Staff

All About Mr Hudson

My name is
Mr Hudson.

I have been a
head teacher for
10 years.

I really like to
watch rugby union!

My favourite book is
The Faraway Tree.

You should know that
I can't wait to meet you all!





Starting School

Getting Ready

Firstly, I would like to thank you for choosing Ovingham CE First School for your child and welcome you to the Ovingham team! I am Miss Bough, the Reception class teacher and I look forward to meeting you all in September.

In normal circumstances, I would be giving you information about open evenings, drop in sessions and nursery visits but because of the current situation, sadly this is not possible. Instead, here you will find all the information you need before your child starts school.

Along with this, a video tour of our classroom will be available to watch on our school website from Friday 3rd July, in the 'New Starters 2020' section.

Your child will start school on Wednesday 2nd September. This schedule is provisional based on schools fully opening in September. If anything changes, we will be in contact to confirm this with you.

If you have any questions, would like to have a chat over the phone or arrange an online Zoom meeting, please contact me on admin@ovinghamfirst.northumberland.sch.uk and we can arrange a suitable time and date.

I understand some of you may be feeling a little anxious about what school will look like in September and we will do everything possible to make your child's transition as smooth as possible. With this in mind, I have created a suggested list of activities to complete at home in order to help your child with the transition.



Getting Ready

- Talk about school with your child and share the welcome pack and video tour with them.
- Encourage your child to manage their own personal hygiene when using the toilet.
- Encourage your child to tidy away their own toys.
- Encourage your child to wash and dry their hands independently.
- Encourage your child to use a knife and fork when eating.
- Read lots of books together and encourage your child to discuss the main parts of the story.
- Encourage your child to handle a range of tools and writing implements, including pens, pencils, crayons, glue and scissors.



The Reception Year



In Reception children are provided with a play-based curriculum that includes a wide and varied selection of learning experiences through a balance of planned, purposeful play and a mix of child-initiated and adult-led activities.

Child-initiated

Children make choices from within the learning environment and create their own challenges and outcomes.

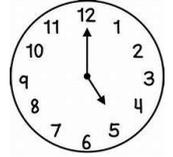
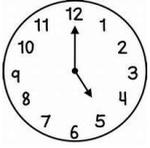
Adult-supported

Resources will be adapted by an adult to stimulate and consolidate learning through careful questioning and planning.

Adult-directed

Children engage with planned activities to meet specific learning outcomes.

Through careful observation, adults are then able to provide purposeful and challenging next steps in order for all children to thrive and reach their full potential.



The School Day

Arriving at School

The school gates open at 8.40am and children from Reception are met on the Reception playground by Miss Bough. There will be a member of staff present to meet you at the school gate and point you in the right direction! The gates are closed when the bell rings at 8.50am and any latecomers will need to enter school via the main office.

The School Day

Once inside the children will be helped by staff to hang their coats on their pegs, put their bookbag into the box and select their lunch. From 10.30am until 10.50am, the children have a morning break with Year 1 on the Reception playground. At 11.45am the children go into the hall for lunch and go to the playground until 1pm after they have eaten.

Going Home

School finishes at 3pm and parents are asked to collect their children from the Reception playground. The children will line up in class and Miss Bough will dismiss them one at a time. Please complete the attached form and state who will be collecting your child each day.

If another adult is collecting your child, please let us know by speaking to Miss Bough, calling school or by making a note in your child's school diary. Your child will be given a diary from school when they start in September.

School Uniform

Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled, as clothes do often end up on the wrong bodies after PE!

Girls

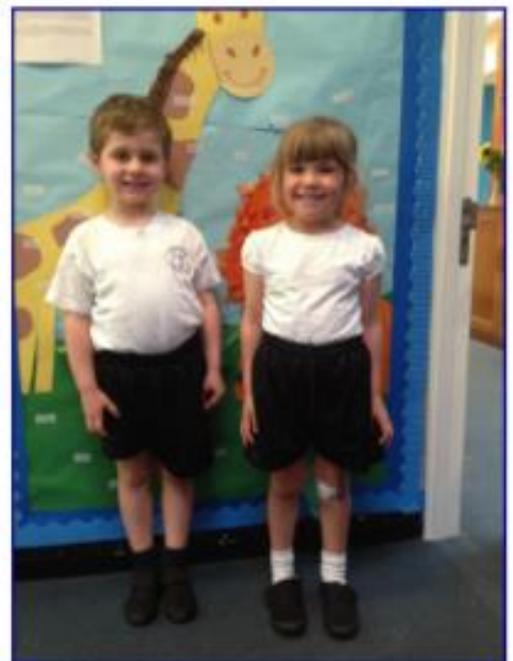
- Grey skirts/pinafores/trousers
- Blue or white blouses/polo shirts
- School sweatshirt or cardigan with logo
- Grey or white socks/tights
- Black school shoes
- Blue and white checked dress
- School bookbag

Boys

- Grey shorts/trousers
- Blue or white shirts/polo shirts
- School sweatshirt with logo
- Grey or white socks
- Black school shoes
- School bookbag

PE

- White T-shirt with our without school logo
- Black shorts
- Black plimsolls/trainers for outside
- White socks
- PE bag



School Uniform



Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, and most importantly, we hope you are all safe and well and looking after each other. We would like to update you on our plans to ensure you are able to receive the school uniform required for when the children return to school.

Please see below the ways you can order. As the situation changes, we will notify you via our Facebook page and on our website, so please check in now and again to stay updated.

ONLINE

We are currently processing all uniform orders from our website www.saltouk.com

When you order online, you will have 2 delivery options:

1. Home delivery - where your child can try for size at home and this gives you time to exchange if required. We will endeavour to process and dispatch orders as quickly as possible, but as we are working with a smaller team, please allow extra time for delivery.
2. Free 'collect from store' option - your order will be processed and will be available from our collection point in Prudhoe as soon as non-essential shops can open once again – hopefully, early June.

Exchanges can be made by contacting us via email or Facebook and we will have your preferred size ready to exchange once our collection point is open. Any items that are returned are dated and hung untouched for 48 hours before they are returned to stock.

BY POST

If you do not want to buy online, please contact us via email and we will provide an order form for you to print, complete and post/deliver to our shop in Prudhoe. Orders cannot be processed unless full payment is enclosed.

SHOP

We will open our 'collection point' as soon as non-essential shops can reopen, as we will be able to adhere to the social distancing measures through a queuing system outside our shop. However, we will only open our main shop when we feel it is safe for you, your child and our staff, as we must provide a risk-free, Covid secure environment. We expect that children will not be able to try communal clothes on due to the risk of cross contamination, therefore we are encouraging everyone to order online as the 'try before you buy' in our shop may not be an option.

QUERIES

We will add measuring videos on our Facebook page and our website to help you make the correct choice. If you have any queries please contact us via our Facebook page or email us at enquiries@saltouk.com

GUARANTEED UNIFORM FOR SEPTEMBER

We urge you to order as soon as possible as it will allow you time to exchange if necessary. When our shop does reopen, we will be observing strict rules in accordance with the Health and Safety Executive, therefore queues may be likely as we expect only 2 customers (plus one child per adult) in at a time.

As you know, this situation is ever changing, and we are monitoring it daily. We are committed to keeping our loyal customers updated and providing the best service we can under difficult circumstances, so please remember, as your local supplier, we are here for you.

Health and Medical Information

Emergency Contact Details

It is extremely important that we can contact you through the day. Please complete the attached Data Collection Form and return it to school via email or post as soon as possible. Please update us if there are any changes as we do send information out electronically.

Nut Allergies

We are a peanut and nut-free school as we have several pupils in school who are allergic to nuts. Please ensure no nuts or chocolate bars or cakes containing nuts are brought into school.

Sun Policy

As we spend a considerable amount of time enjoying our wonderful outdoor space, please apply sun protection prior to your child coming to school along with sending in a sunhat.

Water Bottles

Your child will be given a named water bottle to keep when they start school in September. Bottles will be sent home every Friday and need to be returned the following Monday.

Accidents in School

If your child sustains a minor injury, for example falls on the playground and has a grazed knee and plaster, you will receive a form to inform you of this. We will contact you via telephone if your child has sustained a larger bump to the head or face.



Food in School



Fruit and Vegetables

You may have heard about the Government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. Under the scheme, each child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be entitled to receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable each school day.

The initiative behind the scheme is to encourage children to eat more fruit/vegetables and help towards their 5 a day, with the focus being on reducing obesity and reducing the risk of heart disease, stroke and some cancers.

From September your child will be offered a free piece of fruit or vegetable each day. The fruit and vegetables will be fresh and of good quality. The aim is for the children to have a positive and enjoyable experience of fruit and vegetables.



Milk in Reception



Your child will receive a free carton of milk each day up until their fifth birthday. Please let us know if you would not like your child to have milk.

After your child's fifth birthday, milk will be charged at approximately 24p per day if you choose to continue.



Food in School

School Lunches

Our cook, Mrs Pizzey, provides delicious school lunches for the children and they are free to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Each morning, children select their lunch preference and wear a corresponding coloured wristband. There is always a vegetarian option available.

At lunch time, children swap the wrist band for their chosen meal; this handy system reduces waste in the kitchen and ensures children receive their preferred meal choice.

Mrs Pizzey also serves a delicious themed lunch each month. These incorporate international days such as Chinese New Year and American Independence Day and celebrate national and regional events.

You can find copies of our menus on our school website.





Northumberland

School Dates

HOLIDAY OR CLOSURE	DATE SCHOOL CLOSSES	DATE SCHOOL REOPENS
Summer 2020	FRIDAY 17 JULY 2020	WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2020
Teacher Training Day	Tuesday 1 st September 2020	
Teacher Training Day	Friday 30 October 2020	
OCTOBER MID-TERM 2020	THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2020	MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020
CHRISTMAS 2020/21	FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2020	MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2021
Teacher Training Day	Friday 19 February 2021	
SPRING MID-TERM 2021	FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2021	MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2021
EASTER 2021	FRIDAY 26 MARCH 2021	MONDAY 12 APRIL 2021
MAY DAY	MONDAY 3 MAY 2021	
SUMMER MID-TERM 2021	FRIDAY 28 MAY 2021	MONDAY 7 JUNE 2021
SUMMER 2021	FRIDAY 16 JULY 2021	MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021



Communicating with Parents Tapestry

We have chosen to use an online system called Tapestry to record and track your child's learning in Reception. Here we will provide you with regular updates, including photographs, videos and comments about how your child is doing at school and ideas on how to support them further at home each week.

Each time we add a new observation, you will be informed via email and can log on to access the update and respond with your own comment. You can also add your own observations and photographs to your child's account for us to access at school. You will only have access to your child's account and this cannot be seen by other parents.

Tapestry can be accessed via phone, iPad, tablet, laptop or computer. If you do not have access to any of the above, please speak to Miss Bough in September and we can organise an alternative method.

The safeguarding of our children is very important to us. Everything that is added to Tapestry will be added to our school account and can only be viewed by school staff that use the system, and also yourself, using your own secure log on. It is crucial that you do not share any photographs from Tapestry on social media or any other platform and this will be highlighted in our Tapestry consent form.

Please sign and return the attached consent form via post to our school, or via email on admin@ovinghamfirst.northumberland.sch.uk. More information about Tapestry and how to use it will be provided in September.



Get in Touch

We hope you find the information in this pack has eased some of your worries and you found it useful.

We promise to make your child's start to school as smooth as possible and look forward to welcoming you all in September. If any of our plans need to change regarding government advice or guidelines, we will be in touch as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns (no matter how small!), please get in touch via email on admin@ovinghamfirst.northumberland.sch.uk to arrange a telephone appointment or online Zoom meeting.

We look forward to meeting you all in September!

Miss Bough and Mrs Turner