

Starting Reception

September 2023



Langafel CE Primary School

Main Road

Longfield

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Introduction

This booklet is designed to help parents of new Reception children starting at Langafel Primary School. It contains information covered at the introductory Parents Meeting and reference to it will ensure that your child makes a settled start at our school. If you have any further queries not answered by this booklet, please ask.

Meet the Headteacher



I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new pupils of Langafel C of E Primary School.

Our vision for Langafel is:

We believe in the potential of every child regardless of background or individual needs. We are committed to providing an emotionally supportive environment, where pupils flourish, growing both spiritually and academically; securing foundations for each child to understand who they are and the unique qualities they bring to the world.

We work in partnership with our families, St Mary Magdalene Church and the local community to ensure the children make great progress academically and socially and leave us with happy memories and a solid foundation for secondary school.

Langafel and SLIC@Langafel have a fantastic team of staff who work tirelessly to ensure that your children are given the best opportunities to succeed and be fulfilled. We are incredibly well resourced, with a

swimming pool, gym, performing arts studio, extensive grounds and ICT facilities which are used to enrich the topic based curriculum. As a Thrive school, with inclusion at our heart, we know children need to be settled and safe in order to succeed.

Our children care for each other and linked to our learning values of confidence, aspiration, enjoyment and team work pupils encourage themselves to achieve and become lifelong independent learners.

Meet the EYFS Team



Ladybird Class



**Ladybird Class Teacher
&
Phase Leader**

Dear Ladybirds,
I have worked in most classes at Langafel, and this will be my third year in Foundation Stage. I think Reception is your most important year, building the foundations of a love of learning, and making firm friendships that will hopefully last your whole school journey. I can't wait to share with you my summer experiences, and hear all about yours. I have less pets than I used to these days: I have a chihuahua, two cats, a hamster and a snake! I love being outside in the fresh air, or curled up with a book in front of the fire. We are going to have the best year together, looking forward to seeing you all again very soon. Enjoy your summer fun!



Bumblebee Class

I have worked with Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 but I specialised in Early Years at University and how children learn through play. I enjoy baking, swimming, painting and taking long walks in the countryside or on the beach. I am part of a big family and love spending time with my sister and two brothers, (along with my tortoise Turbo and hamster Cookie). What I enjoy most about working at Langafel is the supportive team and amazing children who smile each day and take each challenge in their stride. The best parts about being a teacher for me are listening to children read and making beautiful art projects together. I hope to see you soon!



Bumblebee Class Teacher



Mrs Bailey
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Bardoe
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Longhurst
Teaching Assistant

Our Aims

Our aims are that your child will:

- Be happy and feel positive about school.
- Feel safe and secure in their new environment.
- Fit in well with peers and make friends.
- Develop confidence in relating to and cooperating with new children and adults.
- Be polite, kind and considerate towards others.
- Become more independent and self-confident about tackling new skills and activities.
- Develop good attention skills and the ability to concentrate on tasks.
- Develop their vocabulary and communication skills, feel confident to express their ideas and know that their ideas will be valued.
- Achieve their best in all areas of the curriculum and be proud of their achievements.

The Reception Curriculum

We will be following the Revised Early Years Foundation Stage framework (EYFS) which now consists of three prime areas and four specific areas of learning and development. The prime areas cover the knowledge and skills which are the foundations for children's development and future progress, and which are applied and reinforced by the specific areas, particularly literacy and maths which form an appropriate baseline for the National Curriculum in Year 1.

The Reception curriculum now consists of: -

The Prime Areas

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

The Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Further information regarding this can be viewed at <http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/parents/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning

The children will experience a lot of practical work and structured play activities which take place outside as well as within the classroom.

The purpose of these will be to: -

- Interest and motivate the children.
- Develop their feelings of security and confidence;
- Extend their vocabulary, and language skills;
- Develop their fine and gross motor skills;
- Develop their concentration and persistence;
- Develop their own thoughts and ideas
- Encourage their personal interaction with their peers so that they quickly form friendships and settle into their new environment.

The practical work may seem like play to the children, because we endeavour to make the activities enjoyable, but the activities are structured and provide a sound foundation for moving on to more formal, recorded work towards the end of the year. Activities are planned for both the indoor and outdoor areas throughout the year. The children will follow topics each term to bring together the different curriculum areas.

Assessment

All children are assessed on first entering school. As far as possible these assessments are incorporated into the children's classroom activities so that the children are not aware that they are being assessed. These initial assessments enable teachers to track each child's progress and aid early identification of children with additional or special educational needs. Ongoing assessments are recorded in each child's individual profile, and these are shared with parents during the year and contribute to their final end of year report.

Lunch Arrangements

The lunch break for Reception pupils is from 12.00 to 1.15 pm.

All children are entitled to a free school meal.

Your child has the choice of:

- Eating a school dinner, which can be ordered through CH&Co. We will email you a parent guide separately.
<https://chandcoparents.myschoolmealorders.com/login>
- Bringing a packed lunch, to be brought in a named box/bag.
- Drinks – your child may bring a drink in a named refillable flask or plastic bottle to have throughout the school day.

We are a nut free school - Please do not include any nut products in your child's packed lunch as several children in our school suffer from severe nut allergies.

Playtimes

- Snacks – your child will be offered a piece of fruit or plain biscuit to eat at playtime, as part of the governments scheme providing free fruit to Primary Schools.
- Minor injuries – if your child has a fall resulting in a minor cut or graze, they will be given first aid by a trained member of staff and kept in school.
- If your child receives a bump to the head they will receive first aid by a trained member of staff and given a wrist band to inform others of their head injury.
- You will be notified of any serious injuries by telephone so that your child can be collected and given any necessary medical treatment.

Please ensure that we have up to date emergency telephone numbers for contacting you in the event of your child being ill or having an accident.

Clothing

- Uniform – all clothing must be clearly named. Please practise doing up shoes, buttons and zips with your child at home so that they can become independent at dressing/undressing in school. Velcro fastenings on shoes aid independence.
- Physical Education – You will be notified of your child's PE day and children are asked to wear their PE kit to school.
- Toileting –If children wet themselves in school they are given spare clothes to change into. We appreciate it if these clothes are washed and returned to school within the following few days.

Home Learning

Your child's learning and progress is achieved most effectively when supported at home as well as in school.

Outside Learning Area & Forest School

As part of the Foundation Stage Curriculum, children will usually spend part of the day experiencing a supervised teaching and learning session outside to develop gross motor skills and to be involved in a wide range of activities, including role play. For these sessions they will need:

- a pair of Wellington boots
- a waterproof coverall
- a sun-hat in the summer.

All should be clearly named.

Communication

In a bid to become as environmentally friendly as possible, the home-school communication is sent via email so please ensure we have your current email address.

Payments to School

We are a cashless school and as such use ParentPay – an online payment system used widely in schools. You may already have an account in which case you will need to add your child, otherwise we can set one up for you.

Extended School Services

Langafel offers both a breakfast club and an after-school club run by school staff.

Breakfast club runs from 07:40 at a cost of £3.00 per child. After School Club runs from 15:00 – 18:00 Mon-Fri, if you collect your child before 16:30 the charge is £6.00, any time after 16:30 will be charged at £12.00. Please ask for registration forms.

There is also a range of school run clubs both at lunchtime and afterschool, these are subject to change on a termly basis. You can sign up to these through ParentPay.

Upcoming dates for your diary

DATE	TIME	EVENT	WHO CAN ATTEND
Tuesday 18/07/23	13:30-14:30	Picnic	Ladybird & Bumblebee
Friday 01/09/23	All Day	Inset Day	No children in school
Monday 04/09/23	09:30-10:30	Part Time	Ladybird & Bumblebee
Tuesday 05/09/23	09:30-11:00	Part Time	Ladybird & Bumblebee
Wednesday 06/09/23	09:30-12:00	Part Time	Ladybird & Bumblebee
Thursday 07/09/23	09:30-12:30	Part Time Inc. Lunch	Ladybird & Bumblebee Inc. Parents
Friday 08/09/23	08:50-13:00	Part Time Inc. Lunch	Ladybird & Bumblebee
Monday 11/09/23	08:30-08:40 15:10-15:20	Drop off Pick up	Ladybird & Bumblebee

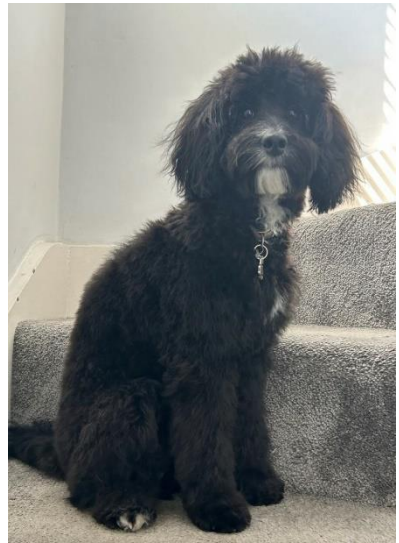
SEN(D) & Inclusion

Inclusion for all runs through the heart of Langafel, through the inclusion of pupils from our autism provision into our mainstream classes and in ensuring that all pupils with additional educational needs and disability have full access to a wide and varied curriculum where they make good progress from their starting points. Our staff, supported by our Additional Educational Needs (AEN) team have a good understanding of a range of special educational needs and disabilities, and seek training and advice whenever needed. We recognise the importance of supporting the child holistically; in order for a child to learn academically we know that they must be fully supported with their communication and language, social interaction, emotional well-being, physical and sensory needs. The strength of our inclusivity derives from the whole school approach; embedding good SEN(D) practice in the classroom via quality first teaching through to effective delivery of evidence based small group and individual interventions.

Dog Mentor Programme

The Dog Mentor programme has built upon the benefits of the human-animal bond by providing children positive experiences with dogs that can help them educationally, developmentally, emotionally and socially.

Over the last five years The Dog Mentor programme has been proven to have a positive impact on children in all areas including self-esteem, behaviour, peer relationships and better engagement skills. These improvements then result in improved academic achievement.



Meet Sally – our Dog Mentor

Improved Communication

Any behaviour is a form of communication. It is essential to understand what the behaviour exhibited is communicating. The key difference in achieving improved communication is not in the message that is being promoted, it's in how the message is promoted.

We apply Sally in school as a tool to impress on people this message. Using a trained dog, we are able to change any environment as a positive distraction. This enables us to work with anybody to enable them to understand the positive skills of communication.

Improved Behaviours

On a practical level, we enable all pupils and staff in the school to: -

- change their mindset into a positive one at all times.
- improve rapport skills within the school environment.
- understand that behaviour is a form of communication.
- realise that mind and body communications affects our behaviour.
- experience life and process it via all five senses.
- improve personal growth and development in a way that affects all aspects of their lives such as in-work, at-home and external relationships outside of school.

Improved Outcomes

The overall target is to improve the personal development for all staff, parents and pupils so that they are more productive in a positive learning environment.

This will lead to greater achievements both at home and in school.

More specifically: -

- raising standards and accelerate progress.
- improve the quality of teaching and learning across the entire school.
- improve the conditions for learning.
- to improve skills such that the impact has a lifelong affect.

We look forward to your child joining us at Langafel Primary School.