



'Let your light shine for all to see' Matthew 5:16 – Curiosity, Connection, Courage

Huby Church of England (VC) Primary School

Information for Parents of New Starters in Early Years



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Welcome to Huby Church of England Primary School

Nursery

We are pleased to say that we offer a governor-led nursery for 3 and 4 year olds. This has been open since September 2023.

Key features of a governor-led nursery are:

- Children are on the early years register and not the school roll
- Delivered by an early years practitioner

Children can start our school nursery the term after they turn 3. They will join Robin Class, which is a combination of (up to) 15 reception children and (up to) 10 nursery children.

Sessions run from 8.45am-3.30pm and parents can use their 15 or 30 free hours (if eligible). Nursery children can also access our breakfast and after school club known as 'Huby Herons' – our breakfast club runs from 7.45am-8.45am and after school club runs from 3.30pm-5.30pm, however funding cannot be used for Huby Herons hours.

The EYFS curriculum is for children aged 3-5 years old (see more details below), therefore nursery and Reception children will take part in the same half-termly topics. There may be times when Reception children will need to be taught separately; however, they will come together during provision and play time. Our staff are highly trained and dedicated and will always ensure that your child reaches their full potential through careful planning, activities and interactions.

If you are interested in a place within our school nursery, please contact the school on admin@huby.n-yorks.sch.uk or call 01347 665100

Please note that a nursery place does not guarantee a place in Reception.

We look forward to welcoming you to Huby School!

Welcome to Huby Church of England (VC) Primary School Reception

Your child will soon be joining Robin Class at Huby School and we are greatly looking forward to them joining our school family. This booklet is intended to help you and your child prepare for this important step and give you the information you will need about the year your child will spend in Reception. It will also give you some ideas as to how you can support your child with learning at home.

At Huby School we aim to:

- create a welcoming and stimulating environment with a positive ethos where children feel safe, secure and have a sense of belonging
- encourage purposeful play with each other
- provide an environment where learning is fun
- enable children to share and care for each other
- work in partnership with parents to ensure that children achieve their potential.

The Curriculum for Children in EYFS

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is a planned programme of learning opportunities to help all children develop individually and make progress across all areas of learning. The curriculum is divided into stages of learning and development, eventually leading to a set of 'Early Learning Goals'. These particular statements incorporate knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes that we hope your child will achieve by the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage.



The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is organised into 7 areas of learning. The 3 prime areas of learning are:

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

The 4 specific areas of learning are:

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

Underpinning the whole curriculum are 4 guiding principles which are:

- Every child is **unique**
- Children form **positive relationships**
- Children learn in **enabling environments**
- Children learn and develop in different ways and at different rates.

The classroom and outdoor area has had extensive renovation over the last 2 years. The outdoor area has been extended and the indoor environment has new flooring, furniture and resources.



Teaching and Learning in Reception

Current research shows that young children learn most effectively through well-planned play activities. There are also times when a specific and direct approach is needed. Your child will experience both play-based learning and direct teaching during their year in Reception. Planned activities available in the classroom environment are appropriate to the different ages and levels of development and are based around the children's interests.

Playing Outdoors

Outdoor play is an important part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. The children in Robin Class have access to an enclosed outdoor play area throughout the year and suitable activities are organised to support all areas of learning in this environment.



School Routines

Full school day:	8.55 – 3.30
Morning	8.55am – 12.00pm
Lunch	12.00 – 1.00pm
Afternoon	1.00 – 3.30pm

Year 6 & Reception ‘Buddies’

Every year we match up the Reception children with a Year 6 ‘buddy’. This will provide your child instantly with a friend who is very familiar with the school routines and should help your child to settle in quickly. The buddies help the Reception children at lunch and play times and they have regular story time together. The ‘buddy’ system has worked very well for several years and your child will meet their buddy when they visit school in the summer term.

Registration

At Huby School, we have a flexible start from 8.40am. Children can arrive between this time and 8.55am when registration begins. Children in Robin Class arrive in school through the EYFS outdoor area. Coats and bags are hung on named pegs in their cloakroom. On arrival to the classroom, children enjoy a mixture of ‘free-flow’ and adult-directed activities in the classroom until 8.55am

Snacks

We provide fresh fruit for the children free of charge, and they have this in the morning. We also provide daily milk which is free up to the age of 5. Children all sit down for a snack together and it is a great opportunity to develop conversation with peers and adults. We encourage children to drink water during the day throughout the year. Children can bring their own named water bottle to school.

Lunch Time

The children in Robin Class eat their lunch every day in the school hall before going to play in the outdoor area. As the Reception children approach Year 1, they begin to have some playtimes with the rest of the school.



School Dinners

Your child is entitled to a free school meal under the government funded Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. Our cook makes delicious hot meals on site. When your child has started school, you will receive a menu each term and you can decide with your child which days they would like to eat a school dinner. We also offer a jacket potato or a sandwich option daily.

Packed Lunches

Although the majority of Reception children take up a free school meal, if you prefer, you can prepare a packed lunch for your child to eat at lunch time. This must be brought to school in a suitable container clearly marked with your child's name. We ask that food in packed lunches is cut into thin slices and batons to help prevent choking. You can find out more on the Food Standards Agency website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-food-standards-resources-for-schools/school-food-standards-practical-guide>

We encourage the children to eat healthy packed lunches and **it is against school policy to include any foods that contain nuts**, as we have children in school with severe nut allergies. Please see our packed lunch policy for more information.

Home-time

Your child will be dismissed from Robin's outdoor area between 3.20pm and 3.30pm. We open the gate slightly earlier than the rest of the school to allow a few minutes for a handover. If you would like a handover of your child's day, it is best to arrive closer to 3.20pm before the playground gets too busy.

Clothing and Belongings

It is important that you **clearly label all your child's clothing and belongings** with their name. Details of our uniform are available to download from the school website. Our PTA will arrange a second-hand uniform sale after school on transition days.

Children need to wear sensible, well-fitting shoes for school, especially as they have access to outdoor play throughout the year, in all weathers.

Dressing and undressing is easier for your child if fasteners are kept simple. Please think of this, especially when deciding on shoes and coats for your child. For health and safety reasons, the school policy is that jewellery is not worn at school.

PE Lessons

Your child will need a plain white t-shirt and a pair of blue shorts for PE lessons. A navy hoodie and joggers can be worn in the colder months. They will also need a pair of pumps or trainers for outdoor games lessons. All clothing needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name. On PE days your child should come to school dressed in their kit. You will be advised of these days in September. Please note this only applies to Reception children not Nursery.



From May our outdoor swimming pool is used to teach swimming.

How You Can Help?

As parents, you are the most important people in your child's life. Children benefit tremendously if you share an interest in their education and support the work we do in school.

You can help your child to settle more easily into school by encouraging early independence. It would be very helpful if you could teach your child to do the following things:

- Go to the toilet alone
- Wash and dry their hands by themselves
- Put on their own coat
- Look after their toys and keep them tidy
- Sit down and listen, even if only for short periods of time

Speaking and Listening

You can help your child to develop their language skills by simply talking together on a regular basis and encouraging them to share ideas and views. This will help your child to develop vocabulary and an understanding of language, which is important in learning to read and write.

Writing



- Encourage your child's early attempts at writing - send notes to each other, leave messages for people you know, make a shopping list. Value the marks they make, even if it doesn't look like conventional writing in the early stages.
- Doing fiddly tasks, such as threading, will help to develop finger control ready for handwriting.
- Drawing pictures is an important stage in your child's writing journey. Encourage drawing simple pictures to perhaps tell a story or record an event.
- Please encourage your child to write the first letter of their name using a capital letter.
- *Encourage your child to do pretend writing and ask them what it says. They will probably be able to tell you!

Reading

- Read together
- Read recipes and other texts in the environment
- Tell each other stories
- Learn Nursery Rhymes and songs
- Help your child to recognise and write their own name
- Do jigsaws and puzzles



Mathematical Skills

- Count out loud with your child
- Count small groups of objects and start to be able to recognise small amounts without counting them.
- Count actions such as 5 stretches, or 6 claps
- Play board games
- Look for numbers in the environment
- Play 'shops' together with real money
- Look at sizes, shapes and colours of objects around them, and begin to recognise patterns



Partnership with Parents

As your child starts in Reception, this is the beginning of a partnership between your family and Huby School.

We will keep you informed and involved in your child's education through:

- Updates through Class Dojo. There is a whole school page and an individual Robin class page.
- Parents' evenings
- Informal meetings

If you have any worries or concerns at any time, please discuss these with the school staff

We are very much looking forward to your child starting school with us and we trust that we will be able to develop a successful partnership with your family.