



## **Frequently Asked Questions at Tweeddale Primary School**

We understand that as a parent with a child starting school for the first time or starting a new school can feel quite overwhelming leaving you with many questions which is perfectly understandable. We have tried to gather some of the more frequently asked questions and provided answers which intend to provide you with ease for this new transition. If your question is not answered, please do get in touch with us. No question is a silly question- we are here to help and look forward to starting this journey together.

### **What is the routine for arrival?**

We open the gates in the playground at 8:45 am and then close the gates at 9:00 am. Children will need to be in their classrooms by 8:55 am so that the teachers can do the morning register.

### **What equipment will my children need to bring to school with them?**

- A book bag
- A coat
- Water bottle with their name clearly on

### **Can my child bring in toys to school?**

We appreciate your child may want to bring in a toy from home, however, to prevent toys getting lost or broken, it is better for personal toys to stay at home. A child will be selected for the weekly 'Show and Tell' to present to their class - a special artifact, photograph, project etc which can fit in the bag provided - we are always happy for this to happen but please pass directly to the teacher so that they can be stored safely until the right time.

### **What should I do if my child is ill?**

Please call the school office by the morning when you know they will not be in. The school has a voicemail service which runs 24.7. If you cannot speak to someone, please leave a message.

### **My child needs to take medicine, what do I need to do?**

We do not accept medicines in the classroom or in the child's bag or lunch boxes. You will need to fill and form in at the office. You will need to go to the office who will talk through this with you. If your child has an inhaler, please provide one which can be kept at school. You will also be asked to fill in a form so we can give this to your child.

### **My child has a medication appointment, I will be coming to collect the child early/dropping my child off later. What should I do?**

You will need to let the office know and provide them with evidence of this. You will need to go to the office to pick up your child or to drop them off and the usual entrance will be locked.

### **I am running late and won't be able to pick up my child on time, what happens?**

We offer wrap around care for Reception children till 4:20 pm which is called 'Late Club'. You can either call the office and let them know you are running late so we can warn your child



they will be going there before they get picked up or they will be taken there at 3:30 pm and play there until you collect them. There is a charge of £4.00 per child.

### **Do you offer a breakfast club?**

We offer a breakfast club for our children. This needs to be booked in advance. Please go to the office to book your child/children a place. There is a charge of £4.00 per child.

### **Do I need to bring my child snacks to school?**

All children will be provided with free daily fruit. In Nursery, children will be offered free milk as well. Reception will be offered free milk until the term before their 5th birthday. After this, there will be a small charge. Please contact the school office for this.

### **Will my child need a packed lunch or will school meals be provided?**

All children in Reception classes are allocated a free hot meal. The menu can be found on the school website

<https://www.tweeddaleprimary.sutton.sch.uk/page/?title=Catering&pid=43>. You can have school dinners everyday or pick and choose depending on what meals your child will like. You can provide your child with a packed lunch if you would prefer. We are a nut and chocolate free school.

### **What will my child be doing at school?**

Whether your child is in Nursery or Reception, they will be having time in their classes learning with their class teacher and then have opportunities to learn through play in the continuous provision.

### **What phonics or maths approach is used?**

For phonics learning, children at Tweeddale all follow the programme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' <https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>. Please have a look at the website to familiarise yourself. For maths, we use XXXXX

### **Will my child go outside?**

During freeflow, children will have the opportunity to play in the other classrooms and play outside as much as they'd like. It is really important that children come to school with suitable clothing and shoes. We recommend that children leave a pair of wellington boots on their pegs. There is nothing better than jumping in muddy puddles in the mud kitchen!

### **I have a child in Nursery and in Reception, will they play together?**

Your children will have their adult learning sessions in their class and then during free flow, they will have the opportunities to play with each other outside and in the classrooms.

### **Who will be working with my child?**

Your child will be registered to their class and they will work closely with their own class teacher and the Early Years Practitioner. Due to the nature of Early Years, your child will also work with the opposite class teachers as well as all the support staff in the setting.



### **What are the homework expectations for my child?**

Children have the opportunity to choose 'Pleasure Books' from their classes' library. Whether your child is in Nursery or Reception, we would like you to share stories each night with your child. In Reception, they will also start taking home books. Please listen to your child read everyday. Reception children may also get sent home letters or words to practise forming. We would like you to have lots of conversations with your child about their day. Perhaps you could make things together, such as a Lego pack or a simple recipe like scrambled eggs for lunch?

### **What is the parent involvement expectation?**

As parents we expect you to listen to your child read, for you to attend parent workshops when they are set and also attend parents evening three times a year to find out your child's progress.