



Navigation Primary School

The Early Years Foundation Stage

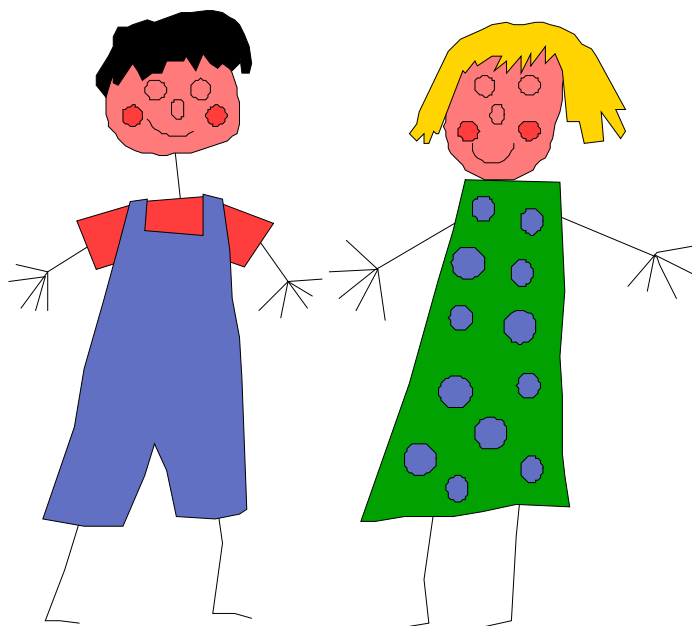
2025 - 2026

Welcome to Reception General Information

Reception RLK: Miss L Kyle
Reception RMD : Miss Dunbavand

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Roberts and Miss Lisa

Contact details: reception@navigationprimary.com



Welcome

Welcome to our school. We hope you find this leaflet helpful to answer some of your questions and make starting Reception a happy event for you and your child. This will be one of the biggest steps in your child's life, therefore we strive to foster a positive partnership between parents/carers and the staff in order to make your child's education a happy and memorable time!

Session Times

Morning: 8.45am-11.30am (autumn) : 8:45 - 8.55am drop-off from January 2026 onwards

Afternoon: 12.30pm-3.25pm

Coming in

The Reception doors are opened at 8.45am. In Reception we encourage children to become independent as quickly as possible; therefore, we are keen for children to be encouraged to come into school 'on their own'. We find that this helps them to separate from parents and settle more quickly.

Going home

At the end of a session, staff will ensure that each child is seen individually to their parent/carer, therefore, if someone different is collecting your child please inform a member of staff of the change. Each classroom has a notice board by the door where you can leave us a message detailing the change in adult.

Clothing

Uniform

Children in the reception class wear school uniform (see New Parent Information Pack and School Prospectus on our website). We ask that you buy shoes with Velcro unless your child is able to tie their own laces. **Please ensure your child's name is clearly marked in both their clothing and shoes.**

P.E

We will have a P.E session once a week. For P.E we ask that each child has black trainers with Velcro fastenings, black shorts and a plain white T-shirt, all clearly named. For the colder months the children will need black or navy joggers and a black or navy hoody. You will be informed of your child's P.E day when they start school in September. They come to school dressed in their P.E kit on this day.

General

We will be making great use of the outdoor environment to enhance our learning. Therefore, we ask children to come to school with a named waterproof coat every day during the winter months with a named hat and gloves, and a named sun hat during the summer months. We also ask that on sunny days, sun cream is applied prior to your child coming to school. We also ask for a named pair of wellies that can be left at school for daily use.

Snacks

Please send a named, filled water bottle with a sports cap rather than a screw top lid, into school every day. This should only be filled with water. As a healthy school, we do not permit juice or flavoured water. Every child can choose to have a drink of water and a piece of fruit throughout the day at school.

Illness

If your child is absent from school, please telephone to let us know. The school number is 0161 912 5937.

Infections are very easily transmitted to other children at this age, so if you suspect that your child is not well; please keep him/her at home. If your child has been sick or suffered with diarrhoea, it is imperative that they do not return to school for **48 hours**. We do have some information in school should you need further advice with this.

Please also notify us of any allergies your child may have.

Foundation Stage Fund

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 a week, which can be paid into the class moneybox found on classroom windowsills. This money is always greatly appreciated as it allows us to carry out additional activities to enhance the children's learning, such as cooking, food tasting and buying 'pets' to watch them grow and develop.

Parent Helpers

All parents are welcomed and encouraged to take part in school life. We ask for parents to help out on special occasions, such as school outings, as your support is very much appreciated. If you would like to help in school, on a regular basis, please see a member of staff for further details. NB all regular parental help in school is subject to a DBS check.

Ways to Help Your Child & their Teacher

- If someone else is collecting your child, please let us know who this will be. For the purpose of safeguarding, we cannot let children go home with anyone else, including another parent, unless it has been pre-arranged by the parent or carer.
- We have a Post-It system at the doors of both reception classes; you can leave us a message on one of these and stick it onto the window. They are checked daily for parental messages of any kind.
- If you are unable to bring your child to school on time, please telephone the school office (912 5937) to let us know.
- If you need to speak to a member of staff, try to arrive early, or see us at the end of the session.
- Inform the staff if anything happens at home which might affect your child at school. Information is always treated in strictest confidentiality.
- If your child seems unhappy at school, or worried about something, please speak to a member or staff so we can help.
- Inform the office staff immediately of any change of address or emergency contact number.
- Never use school or staff as a threat.
- Leave toys at home as they may get lost or broken if brought to school.
- Have your child's name in their coat, hat, gloves, wellies, shoes, P.E kit, school bag and uniform.
- Encourage your child to put on, take off and hang up their own coat.
- Please ensure that your child is fully toilet trained before they start school. If your child is struggling with this, please inform a member of staff.
- Please teach and encourage your child to use a knife and fork.
- Please bring your child's book bag, reading books and reading record to school every day.

What We Will Be Doing to Help

- We will send you a weekly reception newsletter detailing what we have learnt and what we will be learning the following week. This will also detail dates to remember and any other information which we may need to share. There is a space on this for you to feedback to us on what your child has achieved at home.
- Our staff will be helping your child to settle happily into reception.
- We will watch your child to check on friends, interests and any worries/concerns.
- We will be assessing how well your child is coping. Do not be upset if this is not immediate – it will be of greater benefit to your child than trying to rush things.
- We will be working with your child to discover strengths and talents.
- We will be creating a happy reception environment for your child.

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

Foundation Stage Early Learning Goals

Prime areas of learning:

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

Specific areas of learning

- ❖ Literacy
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Understanding the World
- ❖ Expressive Arts and design

At the end of every week, we will let parents know what we will be covering in each of these areas. We will ask for support with practising specific **key skills** at home. Sometimes, simply knowing what is happening at school and talking with your child is of enormous benefit. Please come and ask if you are unsure of anything.

Children's progress is monitored through a programme of continuous, planned observations. Parents will be informed about their children's learning through regular consultation meetings and a written report at the end of the school year.



COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Speaking and Listening

It is very important that young children master the skills of **speaking and listening** as it has a huge impact on all other areas of their learning. At Navigation, we use many strategies to encourage oracy. Show and Tell is a planned focus session which builds self-confidence and provides a platform for speaking and listening.

Children use talk in their imaginative play as a way of expressing themselves and refining their ideas. Talking together helps children make sense of the world around them.

Reading

At Navigation we welcome your involvement in helping your child to read. It is of great value to read stories to your child and to enjoy books together. Once your child is ready, they will begin to bring books home which are closely matched with their phonic ability and will be fully decodable. These will range from Little Blending Books to Oxford Reading Tree. The children will also visit the school library each week and will be able to choose a book to share in class and at home.

Learning to read takes time. The most important thing is that we foster an enjoyment of books and encourage the development of good reading skills.



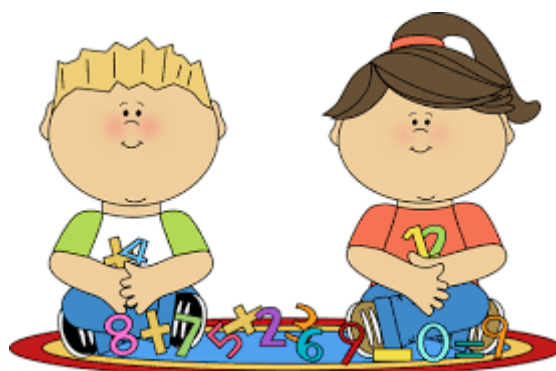
MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Mathematical development is approached through stories, structured play activities e.g. playing shop, singing and counting rhymes as well as a range of practical games and activities.

Across the curriculum, children will have planned opportunities to sort, match, count, classify, measure and compare in order to develop the appropriate language relating to mathematics.

Again, there is much that can be done at home to support progress in Numeracy. Young children love counting and there are many opportunities to do this through their daily routine e.g. counting the stairs up to bed, counting fingers and toes.

Games, such as number snap, snakes and ladders or simply looking for numbers when out and about are all valuable ways of helping children become confident with numbers.



Fine Motor Skills Activities

Below is a selection of activities that will support your child in developing their fine motor skills. It is these skills which will help your child to hold a pencil correctly and to write and draw with ease and accuracy.

Upright working surfaces such as vertical chalk boards, easels for painting, magnetic boards (or fridge), large piece of paper attached to the wall, windows and mirrors or white boards promote fine motor skills.

Play Dough

Moulding and rolling play dough into balls – using the palms of hands facing each other and with fingers curled slightly towards to palm.

Rolling play dough into tiny balls using only the fingertips.

Using pegs or toothpicks to make designs in play dough.

Cutting play dough with a plastic knife or with a pizza wheel.

Scrunching, Squeezing, Tweezing, Picking Up and Lacing

Tearing newspaper into strips and then crumpling them into balls.

Scrunching up one sheet of newspaper in one hand – this is a fantastic strength builder.

Using a plant sprayer to spray plants, (indoors, outdoors) to spray snow (mix food colouring with water so that the snow can be painted), or melt 'monsters'. (On paper draw monster pictures with felt tips, then spray with water and watch the colours run when sprayed.)

Picking up objects with large tweezers (can buy from kitchen department in Asda!), e.g. picking up Cheerios, small cubes etc in counting games.

Shaking dice by cupping the hands together, forming an empty air space between the palms.

Using small sized screw drivers.

Lacing and sewing activities such as stringing beads, Cheerios, macaroni etc.

Using eye droppers to 'pick up' coloured water for colour mixing or to make artistic designs on paper.

Rolling small balls out of tissue paper, then gluing the balls onto construction paper to form pictures or designs.

Turning over cards, coins, checkers, or buttons without bringing them to the edge of the table.

Making pictures using stickers or self-sticking paper reinforcements.

Self – Care Skills

Buttoning, lacing, tying, fastening zips, carrying, locking/unlocking a door, winding a clock, opening and closing jars, sweeping the floor.

Scissor Activities

When scissors are held correctly, and when they fit in a child's hand well, cutting activities will exercise the very same muscles which are needed to manipulate a pencil in a mature tripod grasp. The correct scissor position is with the thumb and middle finger in the handles of the scissors, the index finger on the outside of the handle to stabilise, with fingers four and five curled into the palm.

Cutting junk mail

Making a fringe on the edge of a piece paper.

Cutting play dough or clay with scissors.

Cutting straws or shredded paper.

Use a thick black line to guide the following:

Cut off corners of a piece of paper

Cut along curved lines

Cut lines with a variety of angles

Cut figures with curves and angles