

Beech Hill Community Primary School



Nursery Parents Information Pack

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Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child in to the nursery class at Beech Hill Community Primary School in September.

We want this to be the beginning of a happy and successful time for your child and a supportive partnership with you. However, we recognise that starting nursery can be a bit of a nervous time for both children and parents. The aim of this booklet is to provide you with practical information and some useful advice to help make your child's transition into tnursery as smooth as possible. This is a journey we will make together, we look forward to it.

You will find various top tips which are things other parents have found helpful to know and wanted to share. Top tips are easy to spot and look like this:



If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Mrs Sharon Hobin Early Years Lead

Meet the staff

Nursery



Mrs Sharon Hobin
Early Years Leader
Nursery Teacher



Miss Claire Lyon
Teaching Assistant

TBC
Teaching Assistant

Reception



Miss Katie Ashurst
Reception Teacher



Miss Nicola Sudell
Teaching Assistant



Miss Jeena Bainbridge
Teaching Assistant

What to bring to school

Your child will be learning in both our indoor and outdoor environment so, with that in mind, they will need:



- A warm waterproof coat with your child's name in (nothing expensive as it could get sandy/muddy/wet).
- If necessary, a drawstring bag containing nappies, wipes and a change of clothes.

What not to bring

Toys from home – we do not want to be responsible for any losses or breakages.

Snacks (we provide snack for the children).

Bags other than a drawstring bag of nappies and clothes if necessary (there is no room on the coat pegs for back packs).

Helping your child to learn

When your child begins their school life at Beech Hill, it is our expectation that you support them with their learning at home.

The easiest way to do this is by talking to your child. Children need to hear about 21,000 words and learn 9 new words everyday to develop strong language skills. This is crucial for their overall language development, literacy skills, and academic success. Research shows that children with well-developed vocabularies tend to have higher academic achievement throughout their lives.



- Talk about what you are doing or what you can see around you. This is much easier and more effective than asking lots of questions.
- If you do ask questions, use questions like:
 - I wonder why...
 - What did you see/notice?

Helping your child to learn

We will share our learning with you through our online Class Dojo account. Details of how to sign up to the class account will be sent by email in the next few weeks.

You can then use Class Dojo to see what your child has been learning in school each week and to add your own photos and observations of things that you have been doing together at home. This could be the completion of an activity suggested by the class teacher, an activity such as dancing or swimming, etc. that your child attends or even the celebration of a family event or outing.

By using Class Dojo in this way the class teachers and you as parents can get an all-round view of what the children are learning as well as what their next steps might be.



Developing Independence

Toileting

We expect that children will be increasingly independent to use the toilet when they come to nursery. However, there are bound to be occasional accidents, often because children have become engrossed in an activity. When accidents happen these are dealt with sensitively and discreetly, with the minimum of fuss.

If your child is still in nappies, we will support you with toilet training. Look out for the email with advice for the summer holidays.

If your child is in nappies or has regular accidents, you are welcome to put spare nappies, wipes and clothes in a drawstring bag.



- Practice the 'Independent Toilet Routine' over summer. Encourage your child to pull their own clothes up and down, wipe independently, flush and wash their hands with soap.
- Clothing: Jogging pants or leggings are much easier than fiddly buttons and belts.

Developing Independence

Own Belongings

We will be encouraging the children to be independent and take responsibility for hanging up their coat and bags on their pegs and for looking after them. However, inevitably things can go astray, so it is VERY important that all your child's things (including coats, shoes, bags and lunchboxes) are clearly named. You can buy labels or write their name on labels in their clothing.



- Put your child's name in all of the clothes that they wear to school including shoes and coats.
- These ink stamps are amazing for labelling clothes and belongings and cost about £5.



Food and Drink

Drinks

Children will have access to milk and water throughout the day. They are encouraged to pour their own drinks whilst sat at the table.

Snack

Children will have a snack of fruit or vegetable daily. At any time when children are eating, a paediatric first aid (PFA) trained member of staff will be present.



- Encourage your child to practice serving themselves and clearing away once they have finished at home.
- Encourage your child to try a range of new and unfamiliar foods.

Food and Drink

Lunch

Hot school lunch

Our school cook, prepares healthy hot meals for us every day in our school kitchen. These meals are free for nursery children if you are entitled to Early Years Pupil Premium.

Packed Lunch

You can choose to give your child a packed lunch but these must not contain any nut based products. We encourage healthy food choices and ask that no sweets or chocolate should be put in packed lunch boxes. The packed lunch should include a drink that is in a plastic bottle or carton (no glass).



- Check if you are entitled to Early Years Pupil Premium.
- No sweets, chocolate or nut based products allowed.
- Name all packed lunch bags on the outside.

What to wear

We often get asked what children should wear for nursery. While wearing a school uniform is not compulsory in our nursery class, most families do choose to wear it.

Here is why we recommend it:

Freedom to Get Messy: Nursery is all about hands-on, active learning. Our days are filled with messy play, outdoor exploration, painting, and water activities. Wearing a simple school uniform, or dedicated nursery clothes, means your child can enjoy these activities without fear of spoiling their everyday clothes.

Dress for Independence: When it comes to using the toilet independently, speed and ease are key for small hands. We strongly recommend dressing your child in elasticated bottoms, such as jogging trousers or leggings to help your child successfully manage the toilet by themselves, boosting their confidence.

School Uniform

If you choose for your child to wear school uniform, the required items are listed below.

Item of clothing	School expectations Reception
Shirt	White polo shirt or white shirt
Bottoms	Dark grey trousers / skirt / pinafore dress Summer options: grey shorts / light blue checked summer dress
Jumper/ Cardigan	Beech Hill sweatshirt or cardigan with school badge on
Shoes	Sensible black flat school shoes with no other colour/logo
Socks	White/grey/grey tights



Top Tip

- Whether you choose uniform or own clothes, ensure they are practical, easy to wash, and ready for messy play.
- Basic uniform can be purchased from most supermarkets.
- Badged items can be purchased from Topmarks or Slaters.

Staying in Touch

In Person

Staff are always available on the door before and after school for quick messages or questions. If you need longer to discuss an issue please ask the staff to make an appointment at a convenient time.

ClassDojo

Please turn on notifications on Class Dojo so that you get our regular updates and any reminders about special events that might be happening. Please note that messages are not monitored on Class Dojo so please do not use the messaging feature to contact staff.

Urgent Matters: For same day changes to pick up or emergencies, please call the school office directly on [01942 243582].



- Never hesitate to tell us about the 'little things'. If your child had a poor night's sleep or is feeling a bit anxious about something, let us know at the door. Knowing these small details helps us understand your child's mood and lets us give them the extra comfort needed.

Staying in Touch

Arbor App

The Arbor App is like a mobile dashboard for your child's school life. Once you download the app, you will be able to:

- Stay Informed: Receive all important school messages, letters, and reminders directly to your phone.
- Manage Logistics: Easily sign up and pay for school lunches, trips, etc.

School Website Here is the school website address:

www.beechhillwigan.co.uk. You can find lots of useful information on here.

School Newsletter

There is a weekly newsletter that will be sent to you via School Arbor App on a Friday. Please make sure that you read it, as it tells you about school developments and events. Newsletters are also uploaded to our website.



- Keep an eye out for a welcome email from Arbor over the coming weeks, which will contain your login details and instructions to get you started.

School Attendance

Good attendance helps your child learn, make friends, and succeed.

Illness

In the case of illness please telephone or email the school office to let us know. We operate a 'first day phone call' system. If we have not heard from a parent about their child's absence by 9.00am we will contact them by telephone to find out the reason. Try to book any medical appointments outside school hours. If this is not possible, please let us know in advance where possible.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, this must be followed by a 48 hour absence.



- Contact school before 9am if your child is absent.
- Your child **MUST** stay at home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

School Attendance

Administering medicine

Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) will only be administered if they have been prescribed for the child by a medical practitioner and where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent and/or carer.

Holiday

The government expects schools to promote good attendance and act early to address patterns of absence.

Term time leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. If you believe this to be the case, please speak to a member of staff for further guidance. Otherwise, please do not request permission for holidays during term time as this will not be granted.



- Regular attendance keeps your child safe, supported, and learning.
- Holidays in term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.