

**Oakfield Primary School**  
**Opportunity to Achieve**

# Welcome Booklet



# Reception





The Governors and Staff would like to welcome your child and your family to our Reception classes.

We hope you find the welcome booklet a useful guide for your child as they begin their learning journey in Reception.

**Oakfield Primary School**  
**Ferntree Drive, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0AA**

**Head Teacher: Mr D Harris**

Telephone: 029 2079 9396

Fax: 029 2079 9414

Website: [www.oakfieldprimary.com](http://www.oakfieldprimary.com)

### **Reception Opening Times**

Subject to change (please see attached slip for beginning of term)

**8:45am/9am – 2:30pm/2:45pm**

Twitter Handle: @OakfieldCardiff  
Class Dojo – Please see attached invite

## Our Aims

We strive to:

- Provide a happy, safe and secure environment full of love, care and respect for each other.
  - Create a stimulating and fun environment with child-centred and adult initiated play which promotes children's learning and fosters enquiring minds and happy learners.
- Deliver a broad and balanced Early Years Curriculum based on the 6 Areas of Learning outlined in the New Curriculum for Wales.
- Work in partnership with parents and value the help and guidance they give to their children.
- Help children to make sense of the world they live in and help them to take a positive role in it.
- Encourage children to make their own decisions and choices.
  - Provide an environment rich in language to encourage communication skills.

- Form positive relationships built on mutual trust and respect.
- To develop their basic literacy and numeracy skills to support learning across the curriculum.

## Reception Staff 2021-2022



**Miss Rafferty**



**Miss Frayling**



**Miss Gow**



**Miss Frayling**





# Curriculum



Teaching and learning in Reception class will follow 'The New Curriculum for Wales' 6 Areas of learning.

New Curriculum for Wales aims to develop pupils who will be:

- ambitious capable learners
- healthy confident individuals
- enterprising, creative contributors
- ethically informed citizens.

**The Six Areas of Learning are:**

- **Language, Literacy and Communication (English and Welsh)**
  - **Mathematics and Numeracy**
  - **Humanities**
  - **Science and Technology**
  - **Expressive Arts**
  - **Health and Well Being**

*Young children learn most effectively through structured play and this is what underpins learning within the Early Years environment.*

## **Language, Literacy and Communication (English and Welsh)**

Developing communication and language skills both English and Welsh is at the core of Reception learning.

### **English**

**Children will be given opportunities to:**

- Take part in class discussions – sharing their own experiences and news from home during our 'Daily Message' time.
- Listen to and enjoy a wide range of stories during our daily 'Story Tree' time – fostering an interest in reading.
- Begin to develop their letter sounds through daily SFA phonics sessions.



- To apply these learnt phonic skills in their reading and writing.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to access a range of simple reading materials – fiction/non-fiction.
- Experiment with range of mark-making materials and develop early writing skills.
- To develop correct letter formation through directed and independent learning opportunities.
- Develop their speaking and listening skills through imaginative play activities.



### **Welsh Language Development**

*Children will be given the opportunity to develop their Welsh Language skills by:*

- Learning to understand and respond to simple instructions and questions in Welsh.
- Listening to and joining in with Welsh nursery rhymes.
- Being encouraged to communicate their needs in Welsh.
- Being encouraged to choose and use Welsh reading materials.
- Listening to a wide range of stimuli, including audio-visual material and ICT interactive software in Welsh.
- To take part in daily 'Helpwr Heddiw' sessions to develop Welsh language skills.
- Take part in Welsh cultural celebrations e.g. St David's Day, Eisteddfod and Welsh week.

### **Mathematics and Numeracy**

We use a range of practical, independent and directed activities to develop mathematical skills and language.

*Children will be the given opportunities to:*

- Gain experience and confidence in counting, matching, sorting, ordering and comparing.
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of reading and writing numbers.
- Learn about shape and pattern.
- Explore ways of measuring time, volume, weight, length and capacity.
- Take part in daily 'Big Maths' sessions to develop their skills knowledge and understanding of numeracy.



- Enjoy using and applying mathematics in practical tasks and real-life problems.
- Use ICT resources as tools for exploring number, reading and recording data and matching and sorting.



## Humanities

History, Geography and Religious Education

*They will be given experiences which will help them to:*

- Increase their curiosity about the world around them.
- Learn and explore their local area through first hand experiences.
- Learn about the wider community and the country they live in.
- Explore the work people do within our community, focusing on the jobs of people who help us.
  - Begin to understand past events, people and places.
- Understand the passing of time in relation to themselves. Looking at the things we have learnt and are going to learn.
  - Understand religious events and people. To take part festivals and celebrations.
- Become increasingly aware of traditions and celebrations that are important aspects of the cultures within Wales.
  - Develop the skill to communicate using a range of appropriate vocabulary.
  - Express their own ideas, opinions and feelings with imagination, creativity and sensitivity.
- Learn through participation in experiential learning activities and through the use of sources such as stories, photographs, maps, models and ICT.

## Science and Technology

Science, D.T and ICT

Our SFA topics promote experiential learning to allow children to make sense of themselves and the world around them. Children will experience the familiar world through enquiry, investigating the indoor and outdoor environment in a safe and systematic way

## Science

*Children will be given the opportunity to:*





- Enjoy learning through exploration, enquiry, experimentation and asking questions and trying to find answers.
  - Use all their senses.
- Learn to demonstrate care, responsibility, concern and respect for all living things and the environment.
  - Experiment with a range of tools and equipment.
- Investigate the characteristics of the different seasons.
  - To explore a range of activities that develop scientific thinking.

**We also develop children's Digital Competency (ICT) skills through all areas of our curriculum.**

**In Reception, children begin to:**

- Understand the uses of ICT.
- Use iPads to take photographs and record sound/videos.
- Access computers and iPads to practise their number and letter formation as well as count, match and sort objects.
  - Begin to develop simple programming skills using our 'Beet-Bots'.
- Explore keyboards/mouse to create pieces of written/drawn work.
- Understand that technology can be used to communicate.
- Begin to understand 'Internet Safety' procedures at home and in school.



### **Expressive Arts**

Art, Music and Drama

*Children will be given the opportunity to:*

- Sing and use simple musical instruments.
  - Explore different sound sources.
  - Join in with music and singing sessions.
- Investigate a range of musical instruments and the families of the orchestra.
  - Listen to a range of musical genres.
- Use a variety of art materials such as dough, clay, paint, chalk, gloop and foam.
  - Explore colour and texture.
- Demonstrate an awareness of roles through imaginative play.





- Act out stories and perform for a range of audiences.
  - Make varied body shapes and move creatively.
  - Investigate different artists and their work.



## Health and Well-Being

Personal, Social and Physical Development

*Children will be given the opportunities to:*

- Learn about themselves, their relationships with others both within and beyond the family.
- Develop self-esteem, their personal beliefs and moral values.
- Develop an understanding that others have differing needs, abilities, beliefs and views.
  - To celebrate different cultures and develop a positive awareness of their own and others cultures, recognising the value of living in a multicultural Wales.
  - Develop a positive attitude to learning.
- Become confident, competent and independent thinkers and learners.
- Develop an awareness of their environment and learn about the diversity of people who live and work there.
  - Develop positive attitudes towards caring for the environment.
  - Express their feelings and empathise with others.
- Develop their self-care skills to become more independent.
- Take part in a range of physical activities to develop their fine and gross motor skills.
- Develop their awareness of health, hygiene and safety and the importance of diet, rest, sleep and exercise.



## Outdoor Learning

Children in Reception have open access to the outdoor garden area and take part in weekly 'Muddy Monday' session in the forest area. We consider our outdoor area as an 'outside classroom', as we greatly value the learning opportunities that the outdoor environment offers to young children.

We hope that you appreciate that there can be times when the children's trousers, socks or tights may get dirty!







# What you need to know about Reception



## Does my child need to wear school uniform?

Yes. Each child will be expected to wear full school uniform. This will assist us in helping the children establish the strong ethos and identity of our Oakfield team

Ensure that your child's coat, hat, lunch bag and any other items are labelled with their name.

We discourage jewellery as it should not be worn for safety reasons.

## Snack

In Reception, we have a snack time when the children are provided with milk and a healthy snack. Please tell us if your child does not drink milk as water will be provided.

During this time, we talk about healthy food and where food comes from. Please let us know if your child has any allergies or shouldn't eat certain types of food.



## Tuck Fund

We ask for a payment of £1 per week to provide your child with their healthy snack. This can be paid weekly or half termly.

### Classroom Water Bottle

All children need to bring refillable bottle of water to drink throughout the day. This may be in addition to their lunch time drink.

### Lunch Provision

At present school lunches are eaten in classrooms due to COVID-19. The school kitchen provides lunches, although at present the choice of meals is limited.

If your child is not having a school meal you will need to provide them with a packed lunch.

As we are a healthy eating school we would encourage all parents and carers to provide a well-balanced lunch each day.

## Red Reading Bag

If you wish to purchase an Oakfield reading bag the cost will be £4. These will need to be brought to school every day.

Inside we will put information and guidance for home learning of their phonic sounds.





### P.E day will be... (TBC)

To begin with your child will not be expected to bring PE kit.

Children will begin with taking socks and shoes off.

Please practice with your child dressing and undressing themselves in preparation for PE sessions. Your child's house colour will be sent out on a future newsletter, if you then wish to purchase PE kit in their corresponding colour.

### Absences and Illness

Expect good attendance and your child should be in school every day. Punctuality is important as lateness results in pupils missing lessons and can also be upsetting for the child. If your child is late you will need to enter the school via the main gate. If your child is ill or absent for any reason it is very important you contact the school directly on 02920 799396 as early as possible.

Please help us continue to improve attendance.



### Bringing and Collecting Children

Children must be brought and collected by a person over the **age of 16 years**.

Please let us know if someone different will be collecting your child that has not been added to your child's collection list. Alternatively, if you are running late for any reason please let us know.



## Start and End of Day



### Entry and Exit into Oakfield

Due to COVID-19 a one-way system operates around the school site.

**Entry points** via Meadowlark Close or Willowbrook Way

**Exit points** are via Ferntree Drive or Llaneirwg Way (via the alleyway at the side of Nursery & Reception classes)



We understand that families may have children in different classes across the school, so we ask that everyone gives themselves plenty of time for both start and end of day routines. Families can use either entrance or exit point.

**Please don't worry** as we will have lots of signposts and staff available to help each day. The next pages give the days and times each class will start.



## Partnerships with Parents

### Drop off and Collection

- Enter the school using the double gates on Meadowlark Close or Willowbrook Way.
- Follow the signage ensuring that you stay 2m apart from other parents. Staff will be able to help direct you to the Reception Classes.
- Once you have dropped your child off please leave the site using either the Ferntree Drive or Llaneirwg Way exits.

**Until Children are in school full time we ask that all Reception parents drop off and collect from the Willowbrook Drive entrance/exit point.**

### Updates and News

We want to inform you about the activities and learning experiences that your child will be taking part in. We update



parents using the following:

- Weekly Newsletter (also accessible via our Class Page)
- Our Class Page – accessible via Oakfield Primary School Website  
**[www.oakfieldprimary.com](http://www.oakfieldprimary.com)**
- Weekly updates showcasing the wonderful things we have been doing via Twitter/Class Dojo  
**[@OakfieldCardiff](https://twitter.com/OakfieldCardiff)**

### **Consultations**

We hold two Parents' Evenings each year when you will be invited to discuss your child's progress. However, there is no need to wait for these if you have questions or concerns. We want you to feel welcome within the school and Reception staff will always have time to speak to you.

### **Oakfield Parent, Friend & Teacher Association (PTA)**

We have an active PTA who organise events throughout the academic year with the whole purpose of raising money for the school and children. We are always looking for new members so if you would like to be involved then please speak to a member of staff.

**We also use the below to keep in touch with out Oakfield families.**

**Primary Site App** – Enables the school to contact you about important events, notifications and information about school life.

## **Staying in Touch**

*To receive regular push notifications, please download the apps using these QR codes.*





**Parent Pay system** (for school dinners) – Log in details will be given out on your child's start in September.

**School notice boards** – These are displayed around the school with important news and updates. These are also sent out digitally on Twitter, Class Dojo and the school website.





There are a number of annual events that your child will be involved in and we value your support and contribution to these events.

These include:

- Christmas Concert and Party
- St David's Day, Easter and Mothering Sunday Celebrations
- Multicultural Celebrations – Diwali and Chinese New Year
  - Sports Day
  - World Book Day
  - Summer Picnics/BBQs
- Community Visits – Garden Centre, Shops, Post Office, Library etc.
  - School Trips
- End of year Celebration Assembly

These are just some of the activities that we plan for the children in order to broaden their experiential learning.

We also invite visitors into Reception to talk and work with the children. For example, Zoo Lab and Vets/Police.



## Reception Classrooms



We love learning in our Reception garden.



# Keeping in Touch

**Facebook:**



ClassDojo

## School Website:

**HYPERLINK**

["https://www.oakfieldprimary.com/"](https://www.oakfieldprimary.com/)

<https://www.oakfieldprimary.com/>

## Staying in Touch

*To receive regular push notifications, please download the apps using these QR codes.*



Android



Apple IOS



[www.oakfieldprimary.com](http://www.oakfieldprimary.com)

## Oakfield Contact Details:

**Telephone: 02920 799396**

**Email: [oakfieldprm@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:oakfieldprm@cardiff.gov.uk)**