

## A Parent's guide to Key Stage 1 (Year 1/2)

Welcome to Y1/2. We are delighted to warmly welcome you and your child to life in Year 1/2. We have loved hearing about their learning adventures in Year R and we are looking forward to working with them as they develop over the next few years.

### **When do we come back to school? Where do we go on the first morning?**

The new term begins on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September. On the first morning please bring your child to the little playground. The doors will be open from 8:40am where your child's class teacher will greet them. Owls classroom is the first class at the top of the steps, Rabbits in the middle, Hedgehogs is the far-right classroom.

### **Where can I drop off and pick up my child? What times?**

Please bring your child onto the small playground – the gates open at 8:30am. Classroom doors open at 8:40am and we would like your child in school by 8:55am when the registers close. We finish school at **3:20pm** and you can pick your child up from the small playground.

### **Can I bring my child into the classroom?**

We want our children to be equipped as happy, independent problem solvers and so we promote independence at every step in Year 1/2. We would love to see the children coming in independently, carrying their own bag and water bottle and settling themselves to their start of the day activities. When your child arrives in school, please support us by saying goodbye to your child at the bottom of the steps on the playground. We value our open door policy and please do not hesitate to come and speak to a member of staff if you have any queries. Quick requests can usually be addressed before school, but please be aware that this is a busy time of day for teachers and it may be more appropriate to make an appointment for after school. We welcome handwritten messages that your child can hand to us to enable them to develop their confidence and independence.

### **What days does my child need a PE kit? What do they need in their kit?**

In Year 1/2 we do PE twice a week– this includes an indoor PE session and an outdoor PE session. Your child needs a white t-shirt and navy or blue shorts, socks and a pair of plimsolls or trainers. If they need an additional layer in the colder months, your child can wear their school jumper or cardigan and some tracksuit bottoms. *We still do Outdoor PE when it is cold!* At Uplands, we come to school "PE Ready" which means your child comes to school in their PE kits, and will remain in their kits all day. Please refer to our uniform policy to confirm your child's uniform needs. We will confirm PE days for your child in September.

### **Is the uniform changing and where can I buy new uniform from?**

A copy of our uniform expectations, including hairstyles, jewellery and shoes, can be found on our website. We are not changing the uniform. There is no expectation to have logoed uniform however you are able to purchase logoed items (including PE kit) from Skoolkit in Fareham. We encourage you to make use of our regular second hand uniform sales, as well as purchasing lower cost items from supermarkets.

### **What equipment will my child need? Will they need it on the first day?**

In KS1, we would like the children to bring a **small** pencil case with their own belongings in. Please bring these in on the first day. These pencil cases will remain in school and be kept in the child's tray. Please ensure that the contents of the pencil case and the pencil case itself is named.

Please do not send your child in with a "Smiggle" or bulky pencil case as these are too big to fit in trays and they are a distraction.

In their pencil case, they will need:

- 2 writing pencils
- A glue stick
- Colouring pencils
- A pencil sharpener.



Please **do not** send scissors, colouring pens, writing pens, gel pens etc, or a rubber. The children will not be able to use these items.

The school will have a small supply of the items listed above – if you would like us to provide these, please let us know.

### **What kind of bag will my child need?**

Your child should bring a book bag or small backpack to school, where they can carry their reading book, water bottle and a small snack pot.

### **Will my child be given a reading book?**

During the first two weeks of the new term, we will carry out our reading assessments and choose an appropriate reading book for you to share with your child. We will show them where our sharing books are and how to change their books independently. Please encourage your children to change their reading book when you have completed a book at home; they will have the opportunity to change their books daily. We expect children to change these themselves – they will of course be supported with this during the first half term. These books are 'sharing books' and are designed to be shared together at home – your child may need some support reading these books which is why we recommend reading them together. In our Guided Reading sessions, we will use a different book each week, that is matched to your child's developing Phonic level. This is a book that your child should be able to read independently. We will send a copy of this text home with your child each week. Please note that these books must be returned each week, otherwise we are unable to issue the next Phonics book for your child. We will hear your child read through Phonics and Guided Reading sessions as well at other times during the week. We encourage your child to read with you at least four times a week.

### **Will I need to provide a water bottle?**

Yes please, a clearly named water bottle is an essential item the children must have.

### **Do I have to pay for school dinners? What is the cost and how do I pay?**

In years R to 2, the dinners are free for all children. There is a red, blue and a green option each day.

### **Can my child bring in a packed lunch?**

Yes. Please make sure that the lunchbox is clearly labelled with the children's name and class. All lunchboxes are put on a trolley outside the classroom and wheeled to the hall. Occasionally, lunchboxes are placed on the wrong trolley so a clearly labelled box helps us to return the lunchbox to the correct owner. Please note that we are unable to reheat any packed lunches and children should not be bringing in hot food in Thermos type containers. Unfortunately we are unable to ensure this meets food hygiene and safety standards. An ice pack is advisable in hotter weather. Healthy lunch boxes are recommended.

### **What snacks can my child bring in? Can they still buy a snack and/or have milk?**

Children in years R to 2 have free fruit each day. In Year 1/2 we have this fruit snack in the morning. For the afternoon, all pupils are allowed to bring in **one** healthy snack in a labelled container or bag with their name on. Examples of healthy snacks include fruit, vegetables or crackers. We also sell snacks from the kitchen **on a Friday**. Please put money in a named purse or wallet. If you would like your child to continue receiving milk this year, please speak to a member of the office staff.

### **What will my child be learning in the first few weeks?**

Please check our Curriculum Newsletter for lots of information about our learning in the Autumn Term.

### **What days will homework be set and when does it need to be in?**

Homework will be set on a Friday and the children will have a week to complete it. Children are given a homework book with a spelling task and maths task. We also expect children to read with an adult at least 4 times a week, which can be recorded in their reading records.

Your child will be issued with 2 books to read at home (within the first 2 weeks). These books must be returned on a Friday along with their reading record. In order for other children to access books it is very important that these books are returned to school every Friday.

### **Who are the staff in the team?**

There are 3 year 1/2 classes. Mrs Beale in Rabbits, Mrs King and Mrs Cripps in Owls and Miss Towns in Rabbits. We have a brilliant support team that work across the school which your child will work with.

### **Will Mrs Vincent still be available?**

Mrs Vincent's role as our Pupil and Family Support Worker is not changing. She will still be available to all children and will be on the main gate most mornings.

### **How can I help my child to be ready for the change of class?**

Talk to your child about the positive things they are looking forward to about their new class – new people, friends, new activities and learning etc. We are proud of our staff at Uplands and the high quality teaching and nurture that each teacher provides; give the children chance to talk about their new teacher and class at home and reassure them that their teacher will help them to be the best they can be. Consider play dates over the summer holidays with some of the new faces that may be in your child's new class so that children begin to form new relationships even before the term has started!

### **Who do I speak to if I have a concern?**

Please speak to the Classteacher in the first instance. You can contact the school via e-mail, letter, phone call or by making an appointment through the office. Mrs Vincent and a member of the leadership team are usually on the gate in the mornings and can pass messages on or clear up any quick queries.

### **When will I have the chance to meet the new teacher?**

We always hold a Meet the Teacher Evening at the start of term and you will receive further information about this at the start of the new term.

### **Will breakfast club and after school club be available during the first week?**

Breakfast club will be running from the first day back (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September). The cost from September will be £5.50 per child per session. You will be able to book online via SCOPAY.

In September, we are delighted to be working with a new after school provider – Sprouts! Sprouts will begin on the first day back and more information regarding the provider and how to book can be found on the [website](#).

### **My child is on the SEN register. Will they still receive support?**

Teachers will ensure that they have passed all key information on about the children in their class. Any child on the SEN register will continue to have the same support as this year. If you are concerned in any way you can ask to speak to Mrs Bagley, our SENDco or raise your concerns with the new teacher when you meet them in September.

### **Can I be involved in any way?**

We are always grateful for help, especially as we work hard to ensure all children have the chance to catch up following the closure. You can support us by coming in to read with our children if you have any spare time! Please pick up a pack from the office to support us with our safer recruitment procedures.

### **Where can I find key dates about next year?**

Our INSET days are as follows – they can also be found on our school calendar on the website.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

### **I have had a change of circumstances, what do I do?**

Please inform the office if your contact details have changed in any way. If you become in receipt of any benefits, please let us know as the school may be able to claim extra money to support your child in school. If you feel that your child may be in need of additional pastoral care then please contact Mrs Vincent or the Classteacher. You can also contact Miss Dalingwater if there is a safeguarding concern or an issue you would like to keep confidential.

### **How can I support my child over the holidays so that they are ready to learn?**

Ensure that your child is able to confidently form their letters correctly and can recognise all of their letters and numbers to 20. Talk to your child about using the toilets and the correct, hygienic way to do this in school. Please work with your child so that they are able to recognise, read and write **both parts of their name**.

For children moving from Year 1 to Year 2, please focus on securing their number bonds to 10 and 20, as well as number patterns counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Practise reading and spelling the Year 1 and 2 common exception words and forming letters correctly.

### **Keeping safe**

Keeping all our pupils safe is at the heart of what we do. To help us with this you could:

- Enter the school through the main entrance so we know how many adults we have on site at any one time. Please do not enter the school building through classroom doors or side doors at pick up and drop off times.
- Send your child to re-enter the building at the end of the day if they have forgotten items.
- Wait outside the main entrance if you are picking your child up from after school clubs.
- Ensure that your child knows how they are getting home and be on time to collect them at the end of the day.
- Sign in at the office if you are entering the school to help or for a meeting.

It is not that we do not want to engage with you but we don't always know all the adults who may be picking up or dropping off. As we have pupils on site from 7:30 am to 6pm every day, we need to ensure that we are aware about who is in the building at all times.

### **Other key information you will need to know:**

- We will not be authorising any holidays during term time
- If you need to contact the school during the holiday for really urgent issues for example, notifying us about a bereavement, you can e-mail the school office but please note we might be away and will deal with your e-mail as soon as possible.
- Music lessons are organised by Hampshire Music Service and if your child is having music lessons a letter will come home informing you of this.
- Information regarding Rocksteady will be released separately once we have had our dates confirmed.
- A copy of our Behaviour Policy is available on our school website for you to view.

We are very much looking forward to working with you all next year and we believe strongly that an excellent parent-school relationship leads to our children being most successful. We value our open-door policy and welcome your comments and check-ins if you have any concerns.

Please do not hesitate to contact us over the last few weeks of term if you have anything you wish to discuss with a member of the team.

Have a super summer break!