

A day in the life of a Reception child



Hillside First School

'where children are at the heart of everything we do'



We have two Reception classes that offer full time places for up to 60 children.

Each class is staffed by an Early Years teacher and supported by teaching assistants. The Reception year is the final year of the Foundation Stage where children will work towards achieving their early learning goals. Reception is a gradual transition between Nursery and the more structured approach in Key Stage 1.

Children will have opportunities to access play-based learning experiences but will also have more formal lessons. Each day lessons will include reading, writing, phonics and numeracy.

08:30 - Little Owls Doors Open

Parents are invited to bring their child to the gate by Little Owls playground. A teacher opens the gate at 8.30am. We encourage the children to come into class independently, putting their coat on their peg, their book bag away and completing self-registration. Teaching Assistants will be in the cloakroom and classroom to help your child every step of the way.

This is a time for you to pass on any messages to the class teacher or make an appointment to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.



08:45 - Registration

During this time we welcome the children, talk about the day ahead and complete the calendar. The children learn about the days of the week, months of the year and the seasons. We also look at how many children are in school today.

09:00 - Phonics

The children are taught letters and sounds. This starts with whole class sessions learning to match letter names and sounds, play rhyming games, learning to write letters and are introduced to the first key words. The sessions include phonics, handwriting, reading and writing activities.



09:30 - Plan Do Review Activities

This is where children plan their work, do their work and then learn to review their work. They can choose from carefully planned indoor and outdoor activities.

While at play the children continually learn new social skills, this may be learning how to be part of a group.



10:30 - Snack time

Snack time is an important part of the curriculum when children can practice their social conversation and listening skills.

Snack time always includes a piece of fruit and a drink of either milk or water.



11:00 - Storycise

Storycise is a fun, imaginative and enjoyable progressive programme of physical skills presented in a story format.

Children benefit from improved listening skills, confidence, accuracy of movement, stamina and strength.



11:20 - Literacy

Stories form a major part of curriculum and sharing them together helps develop a love of reading and storytelling.

Texts are carefully chosen around the term's topic or to encourage certain skills highlighted by the class teachers.

These then form the 'adult focus' activity for the week, which the children complete in small groups supported by the class teacher.



11:45 - Lunchtime

The children eat their lunch in the hall, and have an earlier lunch than the rest of the school, to allow for a calm environment. We have a cook on site who prepares nutritionally well balanced meals daily. There is a meat, vegetarian or jacket potato option. They also have a choice of pudding or fresh fruit.

Some families choose to send their children with a packed lunch.



Once the children have eaten their lunch they are then taken to the Early Years' playground for lunchtime play.



Throughout the day children have access to their water bottle in class.

12:55 - Numeracy

The second carpet session will have a numeracy focus with the children learning key counting skills.

We introduce new concepts of learning as a whole class then set up activities that support this learning, which the children are encouraged to complete at their own level.



Observations of the children at play help us to plan next steps for individual children in order for each child to make progress at their own rate.



13:20 - Plan Do Review Activities

During Plan Do Review, adults will support groups of children in their learning.

There will be some adult led activities planned that all children will access.

Other adults will observe and engage with the children at play, recording significant learning and WOW moments.



14.30 - Playtime/storytime

Stories form a major part of the curriculum and sharing them together helps develop a love of reading and storytelling.

The children enjoy exploring the outdoor areas during their afternoon playtime.



15:00 - Home time

The school day ends for Little Owls.

The children get ready to say goodbye. They collect their belongings and put on their coat and are all set to be greeted by their grown up and tell them about their day.

The weekly timetable in Little Owls also includes PE lessons in the school hall and daily access to the Ipads in the classroom.

**We look forward to welcoming your child to
Little Owls at Hillside First School**

www.hillsidefirstschool.org