

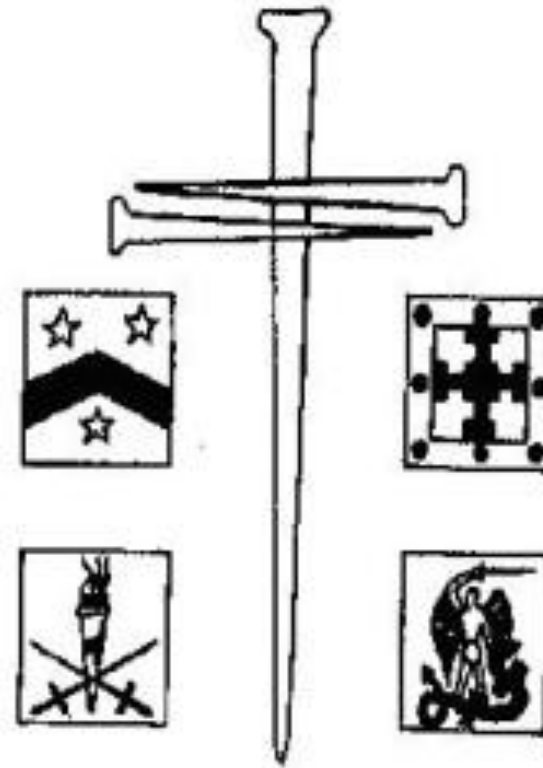
Early Years Foundation Stage

Autumn 2026

<https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/welcome-to-eyfs/>



St Paul's C. of E. Primary School
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Our School Values

We are a Christian school and value being:

- encouraging and challenging;
- brave and kind;
- thoughtful and thankful.

St Paul's Church of England Primary School vision:

Jesus said, '**Let the little children come to me**' Matthew 19:14.

We are all equally important, listened to and and loved by God

EYFS Staff

EYFS Teachers:

Mrs Cooper, Miss Wheatcroft

Mrs Wollaston

Senior Early Years Educator:

Mrs Saunders

EYFS Unit

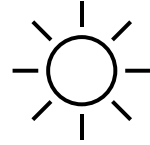
Our EYFS unit is consists of a mixed Nursery and Reception class and a Reception class. Each class is overseen by a class teacher. Teaching and learning takes place in smaller groups made up of either Reception or Nursery aged children and continuous provision where children access their learning across the whole EYFS environment.

Our teachers from September 2026 are:

Mrs. Wollaston EYFS 2 (Reception)

Miss Wheatcroft, Mrs. Cooper EYFS 1
(Nursery and Reception)

Induction



Personal Introductory Meet and Greet - Reception

For all **Reception** children that have not attended our Nursery, and their parent.

Monday 8th or Wednesday 10th June

(Times have been allocated due to teacher commitments.)

This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and to share information. **Please bring your completed paperwork and child to this meeting!**

The meeting will last no more than 25 minutes.

Summer Taster Session - Reception

- **Wednesday 8th July**
- **Reception** - Either 9.15 to 10.15 or 10.30 to 11.30 (times will be allocated).
- **Parents/ carers drop off children.**

Personal Introductory Visits - Nursery

For all **new Nursery** children and their parents.

Wednesday 15th July 10.00 to 10.30 am for Nursery story time

Wednesday 2nd or Thursday 3rd September 1-1 slots

Times have been allocated due to teacher commitments.

This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and to share information. **Please bring your completed paperwork and child to this meeting!**

The visit should last no longer than 25 minutes.

September Taster Session - Nursery

- **Friday 4th September**
- Either 8.45 to 11 am or 12.45 to 3pm (times will be allocated)
- **Parents/ carers to remain on site if needed**

A Gradual Start - see times on the letter in your starter pack.

- Ensures that your child settles well and forms a bond with those caring for them.
- A gradual start helps us to become familiar with all the children's needs.

Your child will need

Clothing Tips

Please try to make sure your child wears **clothes that they can manage themselves** as much as possible (such as trousers with an elasticated waist, shoes with Velcro fastenings)

All children MUST keep a change of clothes in school this is especially incase of milk or dairy spillages. We will be supporting children to get changed.

For health and safety reasons, please note that children should not wear jewellery in school (even play jewellery can be a hazard).

Uniform

Nursery

School uniform **is optional.**

Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing that they can manage when using the toilet and that is suitable for messy and outdoor play.

Reception

We expect **all Reception children to wear the St. Paul's school uniform** including **appropriate school shoes.**

Details can be found in the uniform policy on our website.

<https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/policies/>



P.E. Kit

ALL children will need a named P.E. kit (black shoes, black shorts and **a plain PE top that is the same colour as their House Group colour.** We will notify you of their house grouping and the house colour top needed by the end of September.

Additional Items

- **Named, outdoor clothing** suitable for active learning outdoors every day.
- **Named change of clothes** in a named bag to be left in school.
- **Named bottle** of fresh drinking water (in addition to their lunch bottle if they have a packed lunch.)
- **A named bookbag.**

Talk to your child about what's going to happen so that they are expecting the change and it's not a shock when September arrives. This will also help you to know if they are anxious and have any questions. You can discuss these things before school so that they are looking forward to it.

Let us know your child's level of child's skills—we will work with your them to develop independent toileting etc

What does being 'school ready' mean?

- ❖ having strong social skills
- ❖ can cope emotionally with being separated from parents
- ❖ are relatively independent in their own personal care
- ❖ have a curiosity about the world and a desire to learn.

Let our EYFS team know how your child communicates - do they use words, are they speaking in sentences or do they use lots of gestures and signs? Do they speak different languages at home? If so know which languages and how your child is doing speaking and understanding these?

If a child has any speech, language or communication needs let our team know as soon as possible so that they are prepared to help your child.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwv7jsdaF2o>

FLIP TRICK

Have you heard of the 'flip trick' for putting a coat on?

Put your child's coat upside down on a table in front of them.

They can then put their hands in the armholes and flip the coat over their head – a handy way for your child to put their coat on by themselves!

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

It's quite common for children's behaviour at home to change when they first start school. Don't be surprised if your little one becomes more clingy, argumentative, lethargic, excitable or prone to tantrums for a while.

Transition into Early Years

GOING TO THE TOILET

Support your child to be confident about getting to the loo in time and wiping properly, using toilet paper rather than moist wipes.

Do you have a different phrase for going to the toilet at home? Letting the class teacher know what this is will ensure they understand what your child is trying to ask.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-send/transitions-reception-primary-school/4>

TEACH THEM SOME USEFUL PHRASES SUCH AS "CAN I JOIN IN?" OR "DO YOU WANT TO SHARE?"

TIDYING UP

Get your child into the habit of hanging their coat up, putting their toys away, clearing the table, and so on, to prepare them for doing these things at school. Why not turn it into a game? Many schools use a piece of music to indicate tidy up time and motivate children to help. Try this at home and ask which song your child would like. 'Mission Impossible' is a popular one!

CAN DO ATTITUDE

Help to develop your child's independence and a 'can do' attitude by giving them a few everyday responsibilities as they get closer to school age. Perhaps they could lay the table, feed a pet or put their own laundry away.

Top Tips

LISTENING GAMES

Play some fun listening and doing games to help with following instructions. 'Simon says' or 'Can you find?' games are great for this.

The EYFS Day

Reception

School starts at 8.55 am
School finishes at 3.10pm
Gates open at 8.45am

Nursery

Nursery morning sessions:
8.45– 11.45 noon
Nursery afternoon sessions
12.noon - 3 pm

Please make sure we have up to date contact details including names of who is collecting your child. They will not be sent home with someone who is not on our list.

Please arrive at school in plenty of time in the morning and be prompt to collect your child. Children can often become stressed when they are late to arrive to the last to leave.



On arrival with your child please **wait by the wooden fence**; a member of the team will greet you and your child, support them to say 'goodbye' and come into EYFS as independently as they can. Anything urgent can be mentioned to the member of the team at the gate as appropriate.

Attendance Policy

Please make yourself familiar with the staged approach we will be taking to attendance from September. Attendance features in our weekly staff meetings and individual percentages are discussed in order for us to support our families.

<https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/policies/>

If your child is absent – let school know. This includes children in Nursery also.

The EYFS Day

Supporting Your child

There are several different adults who work in Early Years at St. Paul's. and while your child is with us in EYFS they will be supported by all of the adults.

Reception children will also be taught Phonics in a Phonics group and will read in smaller Reading Practice Groups of up to eight children with a range of adults on a cycle.

Nursery children will take part in Foundation for Phonics activities in small groups with a familiar adult also.

Getting to know your child

Our staggered start enables us to get to know all children and for them to get to know one another.

Children who have previously attended our nursery provision are also part of this arrangement to allow for new children to settle.

Lots of the children will be new and won't know anyone else – we plan lots of activities to develop their communication with each other and support them in developing friendships.

Baseline

When settled class teachers and adults working with your child will observe them to see how they learn and what the next steps for development will be.

In Reception we will carry out the statutory Reception Baseline Assessment

[Reception baseline assessment: information for parents - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reception-baseline-assessment-2019)

The EYFS Day

Early Morning Activities

The EYFS day begins with self-registration, 'Wake and Shake' or fine motor skills or other morning activities.

Collective Worship

As we are a church school, we share a quiet, reflective time each day for worship and a prayer. A discussion or a story may be included as well as a suitable song. We celebrate all Christian festivals and visit St. Paul's Church.

Achievement Collective Worship

Once the Reception children are settled, they will attend our Friday celebration Collective Worship. Each week a child from every class receives a school value award that relates to how they have shown one of our school values during that week. Additionally, in each phase a Headteacher award is also presented. Nursery continue to have their daily quiet times throughout the year.

During their day your child will take part in short adult led group sessions covering maths, phonics and literacy activities. These are planned according to children's needs and their stage of development.

Snack Time

All children have a daily snack. Fruit is provided every day for the snack. **Please do not send food for your child's snack.**

Milk is provided through the Cool Milk scheme. We will register all children for the scheme however once your child has their fifth birthday you will need to pay for milk via the Cool Milk scheme:

<https://www.coolmilk.com>

If your child is unable to drink cow's milk and needs to bring in a dairy alternative , please speak to a member of the team as soon as possible.

Please send your child with a bottle of **fresh water** to drink during the day (in addition to a lunchtime drink if they are bringing their own packed lunch). **This needs to be in a named bottle.**

Imagination Area

These areas contain role-play, book corner, mark making areas and 'Finger Gym' activities as well the sensory play, music and small world.



Creative Area

In this area we have continuous access to model making and painting resources, sand and water as well as our malleable resources.



Our EYFS Environment

The unit has four main areas.

Within each of these spaces we provide a wide range of continuous provision resources which your child will be encouraged to access in order to grow their learning across the EYFS curriculum.



Discovery Area

This area contains our mathematics, construction, small world, and investigation areas.



Outside Area

We use the outside area for a large part of the day and have a large sand pit, water play, planting areas, mud kitchen as well resources to support gross motor skills.



Please keep checking back on our website for updated photographs during the summer <https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/welcome-to-eyfs/>

The EYFS Day – lunch

Reception children have the option of a Universal Free School Meal or bringing their own packed lunch. To find out more information about the choices please click on the link:

<https://educaterers.co.uk>

Please take the time to help your child think about what they would like to eat before they arrive at school.

Nursery children who stay all day will need to bring a packed lunch and drink in a **named lunch box**.



If you are sending a packed lunch in with your child, please ensure that it **does not contain nuts or products containing nuts**.

If your child is bringing a packed lunch – please ensure fruit is cut into manageable pieces to reduce the risk of choking (E.g. grapes must be cut in half lengthways)

[See link to Early years food choking hazards from the Food Standards Agency PowerPoint Presentation](#)

Teaching and Learning in EYFS

Our EYFS provision complies with the revised Statutory EYFS framework (2021) with support from Development Matters and Birth to Five 2021. This includes statutory baseline at the start of Reception and the completion of the EYFS Profile (assessment of the Early Learning Goals at the end of Reception.)

- Please click on the link below to access further information via our website:
 - <https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/eyfs-curriculum-intent/>
 - <https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/eyfs-policy/>
- **Our Key Outcomes for our EYFS children, alongside the Early Learning Goals are:**
 - I am independent in my learning and in my self-care.
 - I am a curious and active learner, engaging with the natural world with awe and wonder
 - I can collaborate and cooperate with others, showing kindness and thoughtfulness.
 - I can encourage and can communicate with them with confidence.
 - I am resilient and rise to a range of challenges.
 - I can manage risks appropriately and bravely.

Teaching and Learning in EYFS

Messy Play and Being Outside in All Weathers!

We do get messy in EYFS and all children have access to our outside provision whatever the weather.

You can help by ensuring they have appropriate footwear and a coat.

Forest School

Reception children take part in Forest School Sessions This is a valuable part of the curriculum. You will be given more details about arrangements for this once the children have settled in.

Little Wandle – Phonics Scheme

Phonics starts in EYFS early in the Autumn term for Reception and after half term for Nursery

Look out for more information through letters and an information meeting in September.

Reception begins with Phase 2 Lessons
Nursery have very short 'Foundations for Phonics', 'Love of Reading sessions' and Rhyme Time activities.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

You will be invited to information meetings to help support your child with their reading development in September.

P.E.

Our P.E. sessions are led by Mr. Barnes. All Reception children along with Nursery children present on that day will take part in a range of activities either inside or outside on the field. We will let you know in September when PE will take place and the colour top your child needs.

Religious Education (R.E.)

We have a weekly R.E lesson where children learn about a range of faiths in a way that is appropriate to their understanding and stage of development. We follow the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus and the Understanding Christianity units of work.

St Paul's Houses

- St Andrew (Blue)
- St David (Yellow)
- St Patrick (Green)
- St George (Red)

Your child will be allocated a house early in September and will need a plain house colour top for House days and PE.
Please do not purchase a PE top until we have placed your child in a 'house' team.

House Competitions

Work in house teams.

Wear a top in house colours.

Earn house points.

*Siblings will be placed in the same houses.
If your child was with us in Nursery they will continue to be in the same house.

Parental Partnerships in EYFS

Homework

Homework in EYFS consists of regular reading and sharing books at home with an adult both for Nursery and Reception aged children.

Reception children will also be given a weekly phonics worksheet linked to their current stage of phonics development.

Please read the Homework Policy

<https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/policies/>

Reading Books

Reception:

- **Need a named book bag.**
- Two story books initially then two phonics books each week.
- Books to be returned on **Monday** and sent back out on **Wednesday**.
- Please write in the Reading Diary to tell us about their reading at home.

Nursery:

- **Need a named book bag.**
- Once library book for you to share with your child
- Please comment in the diary each week to tell us about their reading experiences.

Coming into School

During the year we will invite you in to share in some of the children's themed learning in themes events and workshops including:

- Values Week
- Phonics and Reading information
- Nativity Play
- Harvest
- Parent's Evenings and Open Evening

Sharing Learning at Home

- Learning at home can be shared with teachers via email, by sending the information in with your child or by letting us know on the gate.
- Reading comments need to be made each week in the yellow reading book.
- When there are opportunities for you to come into school you will also be able to see shared floor books and shared wall learning journey display.

You will also be able to check out updates on our EYFS class page on the school website:

<https://www.saintpaulsschool.org.uk/topic/children>

Health and Safety

Illness

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and let us know why s/he will be absent by calling the school office. (01926 425361). **A child who needs Calpol is not well enough to be in school. We cannot administer medication unless it has been prescribed.**

Please do not return children if they have had sickness and/or diarrhea until **48 hours** after the last symptoms.

Handwashing and Toileting

We support all children to wash their hands after messy activities, before and after snack and after lunch. **This enables us to be as safe as possible for those children with severe dairy allergies.**

We encourage children to be as independent as possible using the toilet. Please speak to staff if you are concerned or need support..

Please complete intimate care paperwork.

Allergies

Let us know of any allergies or dietary needs. **For health and safety reasons, food, drink, creams and lotions of any kind should not be left with children or in bags in the EYFS, as they may pose a risk to other children.** On sunny days, we ask that you apply sun cream as appropriate **before** bringing your child to school and supply a named sun hat.

Dairy Allergy Advice

All children MUST have a change of clothes incase of dairy spillages.

We request that no snacks are eaten in our playground before and after school due to high risk of contact with food containing dairy.

All children will need to wash hands on entry to school.

NO NUTS

Please ensure that any food sent in does not contain nuts or traces of nut.

Medication

All children who are prescribed inhalers or epi-pens must have spares to be kept in school.

All medication must be handed to school office with completed forms

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- *Please do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have; we look forward to getting to know you and your child very soon!*

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