

St Denys CE Infant School

Welcome meeting for new parents and carers:
June 2026





Welcome
to St Denys

Welcome to EYFS



Starting school can be a very exciting time but it can also be challenging for some children. Families can help to prepare their child for school.

Make time to play, have fun together and show an interest in their talk and ideas.



Build their confidence and praise them for their efforts and achievements.

"You kept on trying even when it was difficult."

"You're getting so much better at building things."



Let them play with other children and encourage sharing and taking turns.

"It's time to let your friend have a go now."

Encourage them to chat about their feelings, interests and ideas.

"What was the best thing about your day?"



Give them time to say what they need, make simple choices and follow simple instructions.

Find time to relax and read together. Look at the pictures and talk about what's happening.

"I wonder what's going to happen next?"

Sing favourite songs and rhymes and use new words as you chat throughout the day.

Get active together, play outside, walk, run, climb and have fun.

Remember you can access up to 15 hours a week of free early education to help your child be ready for school.

Try and plan healthy meals, have regular routines and make sure they get enough sleep.

Encourage them to have a go at dressing themselves and using the toilet independently.

It's very normal to struggle at first. Give them time to practice at home.



Talk positively about going to school. Meet the staff to chat about your child and try and become familiar with school life.

Please feel reassured that we are aware that some children will not have had the same pre-school experience as others.

We will get to know your children and ensure they have the support they need to settle quickly and enjoy being at school.

Welcome to EYFS

In EYFS we have areas in our classroom which provide children with opportunities to learn through play.

The children also complete a range of focused group activities throughout the week with their teacher.



The EYFS Curriculum

**Personal, Social and Emotional
Development**

Physical Development

Communication and Language

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

These areas of learning are covered throughout
the EYFS provision.



Curriculum Meeting

We will be holding a curriculum meeting for our new parents/carers to share the EYFS curriculum with you in more detail.

Date TBC in the Autumn term.



What does a typical school day look like in EYFS?

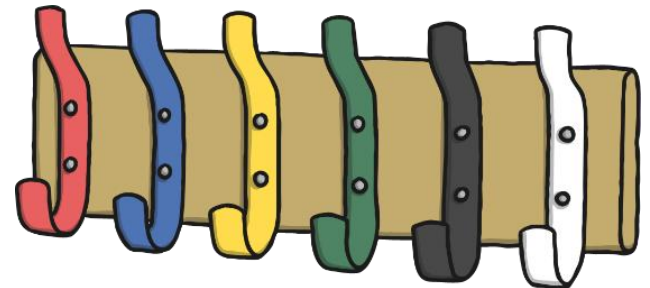
	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	8:45-9:10am
	Maths	Literacy	Phonics	Maths	Literacy	9:10-9:30am
	CP	CP	Maple Class PE Ash Class Guided Reading	CP	CP	9:30-10:15
	Snack & Author	Snack & Author	Ash Class PE Maple Class Guided Reading		Phonics	10:20-10:35
	Phonics	Phonics		CP	CP	10:35-11:05
	CP	CP		Maths	Maths	11:05-11:40
	Recommended Read	Maths				11:40-11:55
						12-1:00
	Jigsaw	RE	Shared read	UTW	EAD	1:05-1:25pm
	CP	CP	CP Guided reading/ Library	CP	CP	1:25-2:20pm
			Tricky Words			2:20-2:35
			Classroom reset and home things			2:35-2:40
			Collective worship			2:40-3:10
			Home time			3:10-3:15pm

Pegs & Objects from home

Pegs: Your child will have their own peg. This is where they will put their coat and book bag.

Objects from home: We ask that children do not bring toys and comforters in to school.

However, if they have something relating to our topic, please check with the class teacher if it would be suitable to share with the class.



What will my child need?

- Clearly named water bottle
- Packed lunch (if they are not having a school dinner)
- Clearly named school book bag (please do not send ruck sacks)
- Clearly named waterproof and warm coat, as children learn outside everyday



School Uniform

Uniform:

- White or blue polo shirt
- Red cardigan/jumper
- Black/grey skirt/pinafore or trousers
- Black school shoes, no laces please
- Coat- warm and waterproof



Please ensure that all clothing that your child wears or brings into school, is clearly named.

School Uniform

PE Kits:

- Children will also require clothes and shoes to be worn during Physical Education lessons and activities. Your class teacher will let you know which days your child will have PE.
- Black/Navy/Grey leggings or jogging bottoms
- Black/Navy/Grey shorts (warmer weather only)
- A plain t-shirt (no crop tops)
- A school red hoody
- Trainers
- Long hair should be tied back
- No football kits
- No earrings or jewellery to be worn



Please ensure that all clothing that your child wears or brings into school, is clearly named.

Communication with home

We send topic overviews, newsletters, homework (Reading & Numbots) and general updates to keep you informed of what we are learning about and any important dates via our communication app.

So please ensure you check both email and our app.



Starting Reception

Your child's journey to school starts at home.



What does
being
'school ready'
mean?

Learning Can Be Messy

Playing outside is so important. I run and jump and get lots of fresh air. Sometimes I might get grass or mud on my clothes.



Using a knife and fork at lunchtime is tricky! Sometimes I get food on my clothes!

I sometimes get pen and paint on my clothes! This is because I am developing creative skills and exploring lots of different ways of making amazing art!



Our mud kitchen is so much fun! I use all my senses, which is so important for my development. It also helps me use my imagination and practise playing with my friends nicely!

Exploring in the water tray is giving me lots of maths and scientific skills! I love pouring, filling and emptying! I usually wear an apron but sometimes my clothes get wet!



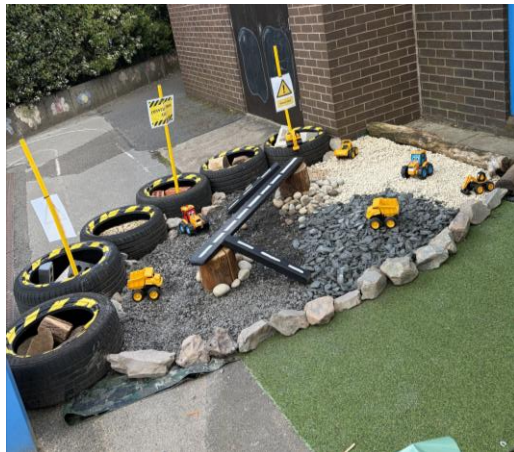
Be prepared!



Exploring with playdough and other messy play resources like foam or food, helps me to develop fine motor control and build up muscles and coordination in my hands and fingers. I will need these when I learn to write.



When I get messy, I have been showing curiosity, determination, persistence, imagination and confidence!



Growing independence

Taking care of themselves

- Putting on/taking off their coat and shoes
- Using the toilet and washing their hands
- Getting dressed with little help, e.g. after using the toilet or doing PE
- Using cutlery (e.g. fork and spoon, chopsticks) and drinking from an open cup
- Spending time away from you, learning they can be looked after by caring adults



Play, creativity and curiosity

- Taking part in imaginative play (e.g. role play)
- Drawing, painting, colouring and sticking
- Sharing story books with caregivers, looking at pictures and talking about the characters
- Exploring the world around them (e.g. looking closely at the natural world or playing safely with objects at home)

Building relationships and communicating

Being with others

- Practising sharing and taking turns with toys
- Talking to them about how they are feeling and why
- Looking at story books together and speaking about what characters are feeling is a good way to do this
- Beginning to recognise what others are feeling, e.g. understanding if a friend is sad
- Encouraging them to set boundaries for themselves and others (e.g. knowing how to say 'no')

Communication and language

- Singing along with songs and nursery rhymes
- Talking happily to others about activities, experiences and the world around them
- Showing they need help by speaking clearly (in basic English or sign language)
- Recognising the pattern of their name (so they can find it on their coat peg or jacket)

Listening and engaging

- Paying attention for short periods of time
- Listening to and following simple instructions
- Carrying on with a task even when it's difficult and bouncing back if things go wrong



Physical development

Getting moving for at least three hours a day

- Walking up and down steps (one foot at a time, using the wall for support)
- Climbing, running, jumping and playing
- Catching a large ball (most of the time)
- Doing simple puzzles and craft activities, strengthening their grip with cutting and sticking



Healthy routines

- Going to bed around the same time each night, waking up in time to get ready for school
- Limiting screen time to the recommended daily amounts (see advice)
- Eating a healthy diet and trying new foods
- Brushing their teeth with fluoride toothpaste twice a day (you'll need to supervise this until they are at least 7)



Health & Medical Needs



Staff need to be aware of your child's medical background, in particular any allergies (e.g. bee stings, dairy food), any dietary restrictions (e.g. vegetarian or Halal) and any medical conditions that are important for us to know (e.g. asthma or eczema).

Children can suddenly become ill and therefore it is important that we know we can contact you or another adult relative/friend at all times.

Please ensure that the school is kept up to date with your contact details. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please telephone the school office to let us know.

School Nurse

School nurse – unfortunately they are unable to do drop-in sessions in school however we can pass on their contact details if you have any questions.

Please see the video below about what services and support they can offer.

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/463343675>



Special Educational Needs

As part of our whole school graduated approach to identifying children with additional needs or those who may need extra support, we would like to request that you share any current information about your child with us as early as possible.

This could be concerns you may have, any information from medical practitioners and any speech and language programmes. This enables us to support your child to have the best start at St Denys.





School Dinners at St Denys

From August 2014, all infant aged children have the option of a free school meal, this is called Universal Free School Meals.

St Denys is very fortunate to have a well-equipped kitchen, and our school cook prepares delicious two course meals with the help of her assistants. All meals are cooked fresh on site daily. The children are offered four choices of dinner each day.

The school kitchen can cater for many dietary needs and allergies.



As part of our Healthy Eating programme, the children are encouraged to choose from the free fruit provided at morning break.

Parents & Friends Association

A school's parents, teachers and friends' association (PFA) is a great way to bring together parents, teachers and the local community to raise funds and to support our school.

Any parents/ carers or members of the local community that would like to be part of St Denys PFA please express an interest with the school.

Indeed, if you have previously been part of the PFA and wish to continue being part of the 'team' please let us know. Drop an email to:

office@stdenysininfantschool.org



Parent Governors

Parent Governor Vacancies



St Denys CofE Infant School has vacancies for Parent Governors to join the Governing Body. The Governing Body is made up of Governors from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the school and are the link between the school and the community it serves.

We are currently looking for new Parent Governors and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- an interest in the performance of the school;
- a desire to contribute to, and represent, the community;
- an open and enquiring mind;
- the ability to look at issues objectively;
- the confidence to ask questions and join in debate;
- a willingness to listen and make informed judgements and
- the ability to work well with others.



Everyone has something to offer and we want people from as many backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible. We can offer you:

- a chance to develop skills in strategic management;
- the opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our school;
- a sense of achievement in making a difference to our school and
- the pleasure of helping pupils reach their potential.



You do not need to have any experience or prior knowledge, as training will be offered. If you are interested in finding out more information, please contact the school office for an information pack.

Telephone: 01530 260004

Email: office@stdenysinfantschool.org

Pupil Premium



Pupil Premium is extra government money paid to school to support children's learning and development

If your child received EYPP at pre-school, it does not automatically transfer to school.



Any questions?



Grow in wisdom. Live well. Love God. Love Others.

Thank you for listening

Staff will be on hand to answer any questions



