



STARTING SCHOOL BOOKLET

Information for Parents



Welcome to Curdridge Primary School. The information in this booklet will help prepare your child for their first year at school. Our aim is to work together in partnership to make this transition to school a smooth, pleasant and happy experience for you and your child.

Your child will be starting at
Curdridge Primary School

in Class 1 (YR)

The class teachers will be Mrs Harmer (Monday - Tuesday)
Mrs Lambert, (Wednesday - Friday)
Mrs Leach is the Learning Support Assistant (LSA) in the class
(Monday – Friday)

School re-opens on Thursday 4th September and your child's first day at school will be Wednesday 10th September following a home visit.

All children are offered a full-time place from Wednesday 10th September.

For spring and summer births, if parents specifically request, a child can do full-time or part-time to start with. Part-time could be a morning and over lunchtime or it could be occasional full-time days.

Visiting CPS

You will have been invited into school to take part in 2 accompanied 'Make and Do' sessions during school time. These take place on:

Tuesday 17th June 2.15-3.00pm
Tuesday 24th June 2.15-3.00pm

These are a great opportunity for you and your child to become a little more familiar with the school and with key staff. By taking part in these sessions, you will also get to know some of the parents whose children will be starting school at the same time.

Your child is also invited to join us for 2 unaccompanied sessions during school time. These take place on:

Wednesday 2nd July 1.30pm – 3.00pm
Wednesday 9th July 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Home Visits

Before your child starts school, you will have the opportunity for staff to visit you and your child. The class teacher and LSA will visit you and your child at home to get to know you both better and discuss any issues or any individual needs that may be a concern for you.

These will take place on:

Wednesday 3rd September
Thursday 4th September
Friday 5th September

Beginning of school day

The school day starts at 8.50am; we meet parents and children on the front playground.

End of school day

The children will be brought out to parents on the front playground at 3.20pm.



Lunchtime

Lunchtime is 12.00-1.15pm

School Meals



As part of the 'Universal Free School Meal' initiative, your child is entitled to a free school meal for every day that he/she is an infant child. Each day there are 3 choices: a meat option (red meal), a vegetarian option (green meal) and a jacket potato with filling (blue meal). Menu choices can be viewed via a link on the school website.

If your child has a food allergy of any sort, do not worry as it can be catered for!

We have a new catering company starting in September so more information will be given as soon as possible.

Packed Lunches (instead of a school meal)

At Curdridge Primary School, we promote healthy eating. Throughout the day we encourage your child to drink water but if you choose for your child to have a packed lunch, they may bring in a carton of juice or squash as well as their water bottle. We ask for your support in not providing your child with sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks. We encourage your child to return all uneaten food in their lunch box, so you can monitor what they have eaten.

School Times

The school day starts at 8.50am. The teacher or teaching assistant will come and meet your child on the front playground. The teacher and the teaching assistant will bring your child in and help them to put their belongings in their lockers and then choose their lunch. The class teacher starts the day with the register.

Please try and help your child at the beginning of the day by arriving in plenty of time so that there is a smooth, anxiety-free start to the day.

Similarly, when collecting your child from school at the end of the day at 3.20pm (in the front playground) please let your child and class teacher know:

- who is meeting them (if it is different from the person who brought them to school). When there is a change, please inform the classteacher or the school office.
- to wait with the class teacher if, for some unfortunate reason, you are not there.

We encourage all parents to arrive at school on time each day but if for some reason you are late, please take your child to the school office, so they can be registered and lunch can be ordered. If your child is ill, please telephone or email the school office first thing in the morning.

School Uniform

Children should wear school uniform and shoes that they can take off and fasten themselves. We like to see our pupils wearing school uniform that has a clear Curdridge Primary School identity i.e. a CPS sweatshirt with the school logo. Uniform items with the school logo are available from Skoolkit; all other uniform items can be sourced from a retailer of your choosing.

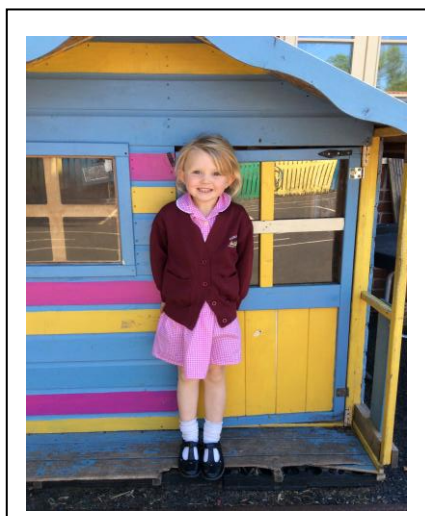
PE Uniform

On the days when your child has PE (indoor and outdoor) they will need to come to school wearing their PE uniform. This is black plimsolls, maroon or black shorts (not football shorts) and a Curdridge Primary School t-shirt. In colder weather children need to wear their school sweatshirt and plain black tracksuit bottoms or leggings instead of shorts.



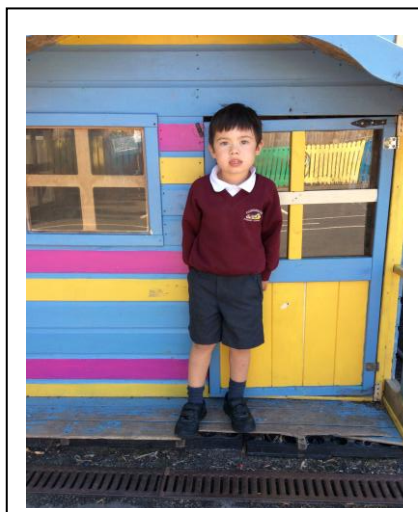
Girls' Uniform

Grey pinafore, grey skirt or grey trousers; white blouse or white polo shirt; burgundy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan; pink/white check dress(summer); burgundy fleece (optional).



Boys' Uniform

Grey shorts or long trousers; white shirt or polo shirt;
burgundy
sweatshirt or jumper; burgundy fleece (optional).



*We also have pre-loved uniform items for sale via our
CSA (Curdridge School Association).*

Clothing to suit the weather

We will go outside no matter what the weather. On cold or wet days please make sure that your child has a warm/waterproof coat in school.

Please label all items of clothing with your child's name- it is helpful to put their name on the hanging label (especially coats) as this helps children/adults to identify items of clothing quickly.

Things your child needs

to bring to school on a daily basis:

- Book bag (for reading books, newsletters, key words etc.). Please encourage your child to bring this every day.
- Water bottle.
- Lunchbox (if required).

Useful hints

It is useful if your child wears clothes that are easy for them to put on and take off, and shoes that do not have laces. **Please label all items of clothing with your child's full name, and show your child where their name is on their clothes.** There will be many other maroon sweatshirts/cardigans and white polo shirts that will all look very similar!

It is also helpful if your child can:

- dress and undress him/herself
- use a tissue or handkerchief
- use a knife and fork
- wash hands and dry carefully
- tidy toys
- share toys and take turns
- use the toilet independently (including flushing!)



Settling into School

Remember all children respond differently to starting school. In working with your children, we endeavour to make their experience of school fun, familiar and secure. As a parent/carer you can help us by reassuring your child, being positive about school and being careful that your own anxieties do not influence your child. Remember also,

that some children will tell you every detail of their school day and others will tell you they did nothing!

If you or your child has particular worries or concerns, just have a chat with the teacher (out of earshot of your child may be more appropriate).

It is important to remember that your child is only four and may have 'misread' situations. If you have any concerns then please have a chat with the class teacher as soon as possible to set your mind at rest. On the other hand you'll be surprised how independent four year olds become in a very short time!



Learning Through Play

In YR at Curdridge Primary School your child will be in the final year of the Early Years Foundation (EYFS - birth to age 5). This very special time for your child at CPS continues the journey from home and preschool and is the foundation of future learning and success.

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development. Your child will be learning

through play and learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

There are 3 **prime areas**, these are:

- Communication and Language (*Listening and Attention, Understanding, Speaking*)
- Physical Development (*Moving and Handling, Health and Self-care*)
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (*Making Relationships, Self-Confidence and Self-Awareness, Managing Feelings and Behaviour*)

As children develop, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 **specific areas**:

- Literacy (*Reading, Writing*)
- Mathematics (*Number, Shape, Space and Measures*)
- Understanding the World (*People and Communities, The World, Technology*)
- Expressive Arts and Design (*Exploring and using Media and Material, Being Imaginative*)

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. At Curdridge Primary School the class teachers and learning support assistant work with your child to ensure the activities are suited to your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creating and thinking critically. Their learning and experiences take place both indoors and outdoors.

In the summer term of the Reception year, staff will complete an assessment known as the EYFS Profile. This assessment is carried out by the staff that work within your child's class and is based on what they have observed over a long period of time. Alongside this will be

any of your observations of your child's learning or achievements at home that you would like to share with us.



Helping Your Child at Home

Play and communication are key ways in which children learn with enjoyment and challenge. At home with your child, you can provide opportunities both indoors and outdoors for learning through play. As a parent/carer you can encourage your child by switching off the TV and providing:

- Dressing up clothes (pieces of material for a range of characters) and props for imaginary games and role play
- Cartons and boxes to build and make models and instruments with
- Large boxes to make vehicles, dens, whatever they imagine!
- Playdough to manipulate
- Small world play e.g. Duplo, Lego, Brio, cars, trains, farm animals etc.
- Puppets, soft toys, dolls, different size clothes
- Pencils, pens, crayons, paints, chinks, different sized paper
- Mark making tools - to encourage children's own attempts at writing
- Greetings cards, magazines, catalogues for your child to cut up, stick, sort, discuss
- Natural materials, e.g. cones, leaves, pebbles, shells to sort, compare
- Water and sand play with different size buckets, containers etc.
- Wheeled toys, balls, bats for physical activity
- Cooking together
- Toys in the bath

Encourage your child to talk about what they are doing and play with them.