

Coming to School at Sutton CP School



Our Vision

In the Early Years at Sutton CP, we are an aspirational place where learners grow.

Our school is kind and happy and we respect and celebrate the differences in ourselves, our community and our world.

Our children become responsible, determined and independent citizens.

Preparing Your Child for School



A very warm welcome to Early Years at Sutton CP School! We are often asked how parents can best prepare their children for school, so here are some suggestions. Many of the children in our Early Years classes have been to a pre-school setting, so they are familiar with taking part in activities with a group of children and other adults. They will be familiar with routines so hopefully their transition to school will be straightforward. However, we feel it is important to familiarise your child with the idea of moving on and meeting new children and adults. This should be communicated to your child as an exciting experience with many new and interesting activities. Many of the activities at school will be similar to home, nursery and playgroup, but there will be new and different ones too! To help your child transition to school we will:

- Invite your child to school for three transition visits during June and July. During these visits you will bring your child to school where they will come for a short play with Early Years staff and will meet their peers. This allows your child a taste of coming to school independently!
- Visit you and your child at home or a preschool setting where possible.
- Communicate with you whenever necessary. Communication between home and school is fundamental to your child's well-being. Children feel positive about school knowing there is contact between parents and staff.
- Talk to you about any aspect of your child's learning, please ask to talk to us if you need to. You can phone or email the school office at administrator@suttoncp.uk and we will contact you as soon as possible.
- Use Tapestry to communicate with you over the summer holidays. There will be short videos and little challenges that will help support transition. You can also use Tapestry to communicate with us.
- Invite you to a parent consultation in the autumn term to help you find out how your child has settled into school and find out what they enjoy playing and learning. We will also invite you to a phonics event that will help you support your child's early reading.

Useful Dates and Information

School Transition Visits

Bring your child to school for the afternoon. They can meet their teacher and get used to their surroundings.



Monday 19th June– Group A

The first days of school will be staggered to ensure transition is managed sensitively.

Wednesday 21st June—Group B

Monday 26th June– Group B

Day 1 -Wednesday 6th Sept: whole class 8.55am-12.30pm

Wednesday 28th June- Group A

Day 2 - Thursday 7th Sept: whole class in full time

Monday 3rd July– Group A & B

If we feel that your child would benefit from an additional transition session on Tuesday 5th Sept 8.55am—11.45 am then we will contact you directly to let you know.

What to bring to school

- **Bookbag– please make sure they are labelled**
- **Water bottle with fresh water in each day**
- **PE Kit– Not needed until spring term**
- **Change of clothes and underwear, this does not need to be school uniform**
- **Wellies to be left in school**
- **Coat - even on a dry day!**
- **Weather dependent – Sun hat, gloves, scarf, sun cream.**
- **PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME!**

Preparing Your Child For School

In readiness for school, please try to encourage your child to:

- Dress and undress independently, especially coats and shoes
- Tidy away toys and books after use
- Take turns when sharing games/activities
- Listen at appropriate times and follow simple instructions
- Know when it is time to go to the toilet and use the toilets independently; be able to wipe, use the flush and wash their hands
- Feed him/herself and use a knife, fork and spoon independently



Getting to know your child prior to school starting, Early Years staff will communicate with pre-school staff and, where possible, will visit your child at home or in their pre-school setting. The Early Years staff will undertake baseline observations/assessments during the autumn term. These are statutory and form part of our whole school assessment. They will help us to plan the activities that are needed to help your child progress. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Profile continues to help us to assess your child's achievements in detail throughout the year.

You will be invited into school to discuss your child's progress with us at a formal Parents' Evening (twice per year). You will be able to access your child's learning journey via Tapes-try. There will also be a written report at the end of the year and an opportunity to discuss its contents with a teacher if you wish. Most importantly, we would like you and your child to feel happy at Sutton CP. We want children to feel confident in themselves and respected for who they are. We also hope they will learn to value and respect the needs of others and will acknowledge and celebrate diversity. We expect high standards of behaviour from all our children and we work with the children to establish a safe learning community where we are *Ready, Respectful and Safe*.

Our Day in Early Years

Our Day -You should drop your child off at 8.55am as school starts promptly at 9.00am. All children say goodbye to their parents at the Chill Out Zone and then enter school through the Reception classroom and get busy. After registration we have a daily phonics lesson and then meet again for a focused session before lunch.

The children have lunch in the school hall at 11.45am and then play out in the Chill Out Zone, specifically for Reception children only. After lunch we have a whole class daily maths lesson.

The remainder of our day is spent playing, either in the classroom or in the outdoor area. The children get to choose where they would like to play and what activities they would like to do. During the day the children will take part in a small group reading practice session, three times a week. As the year progresses we begin to introduce focus activities with an adult, either in small groups or individually.

Finally, we have a big tidy up, have our milk and a story before we go home. We line the children up and release them into the Chill Out Zone to an authorised adult.

Learning in the Early Years as a team, we embrace the philosophy that children learn through play. Through active involvement children learn life skills: extend their imagination, creative skills, physical development and communication and thinking skills. We encourage children to use a range of resources to support their activities and actively encourage children to play alongside or with others to build on their collaborative skills. Equally we encourage children to become independent, managing their own belongings, finding their own activities and making decisions. Through careful observation we discover what and how children are learning, how they communicate and how we can best provide for the next stage of their learning. We support them in their play by listening to them, watching them, providing encouraging questions and extending their thinking.

Food -Children can have a school meal or bring a packed lunch to school. All children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 currently receive a free school meal, however, if you think you may qualify for Pupil Premium, we would be grateful if you would complete the form on the school website. [Click here for the link.](#)

If you do decide to choose packed lunches for your child, we encourage healthy choices and please, **no nuts** as we have children and adults in school with significant allergies.

Children will be provided with a healthy snack which they can eat at any time throughout the morning . They will also receive milk to drink in the afternoon once you have registered them with Cool Milk; this is provided free of charge up to the age of five. If you wish your child to continue to receive milk in school after their fifth birthday, you can choose to pay via Cool Milk.

What some of our past parents have to say about Early Years at Sutton CP

Trust the staff – they know what they are doing. Advice to ‘keep your face until you have dropped them off and cry later’ really stuck with me (and it worked)”.



Don't worry as the staff are all welcoming and helpful. Any concerns you do have are quickly dealt with and staff keep you informed of your child's progress. A lovely experience.”

Make the most of the new starters' package to help them settle and don't worry, the staff are great and know what they are doing.”

Why wouldn't you send your child to this school? - Enjoy everything about the whole experience.”

And finally... we are looking forward to welcoming your children to our school! Although transition to 'big school' can seem a bit scary, it is also an exciting time and we cannot wait to get to know our new children and see them learn and develop over the next year. Click the links below to get some great tips on preparing your child for this new adventure!

https://www.pacey.org.uk/Pacey/media/Website-files/school%20ready/PACEY_preparingforschool_guide.pdf

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2021/09/updated-guidance-to-support-the-eyfs/>

