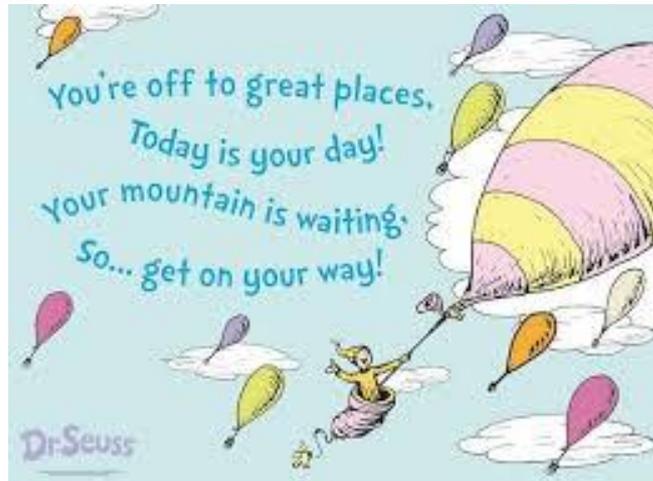




Ark Ayrton Primary Academy



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to you from us all here at Ark Ayrton Primary Academy!

We know what an important decision it is to choose your child's first school, so firstly, thank you for taking the time to look at us.

We are so sorry that at this current time, we are unable to invite you and welcome you to our site personally. We will shortly be publishing a virtual tour and video, but in the meantime, please find some key information which we hope you will find useful and give you a little taster of life in Reception at Ayrton.

Our Learning Philosophy

At Ark Ayrton – the children come first. Their safety and happiness is at the forefront of all we do. Only when children feel safe and secure and come into school with a big smile on their face, are they ready to make the most of all every day has to offer!

We know how important it is to immerse the children in learning that is creative and exciting and that draws on their own interests and curiosities so we have a flexible approach around a core curriculum. Speaking, listening and communication, reading and writing and mathematics are all vital to child development and we teach these through engaging topics, including 'Fairy Tales' and 'Real Life Superheros'. We teach and give opportunities for children to practise their learning throughout the day in guided activities and during their independent 'Discovery Time'.

During Discovery Time, staff engage in with children in their play to reinforce learning, extend and develop their own ideas, curiosities, experiences and skills and help them to apply their previous learning in new contexts to help them make sense and links within the environment around them.



Our Parent Partnership

Our partnership with you from the very beginning is something we hold dear and helps us to ensure your child has the very best start with us. At our school we have four important values, 'aim high, work hard, play fair and shine brightly' which we expect all members of our school community to uphold. For example, parents **aiming high** for their child by reading with them every day, a child **working hard** to build a tower that does not fall over, a member of staff playing fair by ensuring they always return resources in the condition in which they found them and our wonderful children **shining brightly** by creating a magnificent piece of homework or writing their name for the first time, all examples of our core values in action every day.

We ensure we work closely with you from the very beginning, including planning your child's transition, finding out all about them and you and many opportunities to involve you in your child's school journey along the way.

Our Staff

We have an amazing and dedicated Reception team. They are very experienced early years practitioners with nursery experience too so they have an excellent understanding of child development. Our team includes two teachers, two teaching assistants and an additional teaching assistant to support children with additional learning needs. They are always available and approachable at the start and end of every day and always ready to listen, help and celebrate your child with you.

Our Environment

We have two Reception classrooms and a large outdoor playground. The Reception children follow the Early Years Curriculum with lots of opportunities for learning through play, playing inside and outside and free-flowing between their classrooms and outdoor space.

Each classroom is designed to support the 7 areas of the Early Years Curriculum: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development, Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. During the day, we encourage and support the children to explore all areas of their environment, from the painting area, to the outdoor garages, stage, writing hut, builders yard and back to the home corner and role play areas!



Our School Day

We believe it is important to foster strong relationships between children and staff members and staff members and parents/carers. Every morning, children are personally greeted by a member of the Reception team so we know they are ready for their exciting day ahead.

Below is a guide to our day -

8.45	Children are greeted at the door by a teacher or TA
8.50	Welcome time – Circle Time / Handwriting
9.05-9.40	Phonics
9.45-10.00	Playtime
10-10.15	Snack Time
10.15-10.30	Singing
10.30-12.00	Literacy / Maths Guided Group time and discovery time
12.00-1.00	Lunchtime and playtime
1.00-1.15	Register and Maths Meeting
1.15 -1.30	Topic
1.30-3.15	Discovery Time, including snack time
3.15-3.30	Tidy up time and Story
3.45	End of the school day

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the school on **023 92824828** and ask to speak to Mrs Scarsbrook, our Early Years Leader

Look forward to hearing from you!