



Grampian Primary Academy

Grampian Way, Sinfin, Derby, DE24 9LU Phone & Fax: 01332 765546

e-mail: admin@grampian.derby.sch.uk

Website: www.grampian.derby.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. M. Murfin



National 'Outstanding Winner'
21st Century Learning Alliance Award

Tuesday 21st July 2020

Dear New Reception Families

It was wonderful to meet so many of you last week. We hope you all enjoyed being able to meet some of the key adults who will be with your child in September.

The children's transition into Reception has been very different to usual. Usually both parents and children would have been into school before we break up, but unfortunately we haven't been able to provide these opportunities due to the safety restrictions. As we continue to prioritise safety, we will not be able to invite parent and carers into the classroom, so the children will need to say goodbye to their grown-ups at the gate in the outdoor area.

In addition to the unusual transition, we know that lots of children have missed a great deal of their nursery and pre-school provision. In order to ensure that the children have a really positive start to their school year, we will be making a few changes:

Nursery and Reception will be fully integrated to establish an Early Years Unit. The Early Years children have integrated in the outdoor environments for some time. Working as a unit will allow the adults to work flexibly across the setting. For children who have attended our nursery, it will mean that they will have the support of some familiar faces when they return. The children will be allocated with a keyworker in the Autumn term.

We will be introducing the children to the setting in small groups and steadily increasing their time in school throughout the first week. We have grouped the children according to their date of birth - Autumn, Spring or Summer birthdays. After your child has accessed their first day, they will continue to come to school at the times outlined below.

First day for Reception children born in the Autumn term (Sept-Dec):

Date: **Thursday 3rd September**

Time: **9:00-11:30am**

Day two: **Friday 4th September 9:00-11:30am**

Day three: **Monday 7th September 9:00-11:30am**

In these morning sessions, the children will get used to our morning routines. Their teachers will help them in finding their way around the learning environment including where they can find the toilets. These morning sessions will be invaluable to the children and will be a key part in them settling into school.

Day four: **Tuesday 8th September 9:00-12:15pm**

All Reception children will stay for a school lunch. School lunches are free to all children. Parents and carers must pre-order their child's meal using teachers2parents app. Orders are placed via the School Money system however

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there will be no requirement for payment for any Reception children. We strongly advise that parents and carers pre-order for a week rather than daily wherever possible. In order to pre-order school meals, parents and carers will need to download the teachers2parents app on an electronic device via Play Store or Apple Store. We will shortly be sending all parents/carers a link and a password which will also enable you to access the Teachers2Parents site. A "How to Guide" is attached and also available on our website.

Day five: Wednesday 9th September 9:00-12:45pm

All Reception children will stay for a school lunch then a playtime. School lunches are free to all children.

Day six: Thursday 10th September 9:00-1:30pm

All Reception children will stay for a school lunch, playtime and part of an afternoon session. School lunches are free to all children.

Day seven: Friday 11th September 9:00-3:30pm

All Reception children will stay for a school lunch, playtime and the afternoon session. This will be the children's first full day. The children will then be in full-time from this point.

Start of the school day

We must stagger our start and finish times to reduce the number of parents, carers and children entering and leaving the site at any given time. We will continue to use the two gates as separate entry points and ask everyone to leave the site via the staff car park. Parents and carers will not be able to enter the school building. Parents, carers and pupils will be met by staff inside the school gates. Grown-ups will be asked to say goodbye and leave via the car park. School staff will be on the playground and various doors into school to welcome the children each day. Before entering school, the children will be asked to sanitise their hands.

- **9:00-9:15am**
 - Reception & Nursery pupils enter the school site via the front gate on Grampian Way.

Class Bubbles

The Nursery and Reception children will stay together as an Early Years group – creating a class bubble – and they will not mix with the other classes during the day, including lunchtime.

In order to help the children prepare for their return in September, we will be sending out a welcome letter at the end of this week. This will include some photographs of the learning environment and an overview of what the children will be learning about and useful information such as home and school routines.

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All children should be in school uniform each day. Each day the children should have a water bottle, book bag, coat (if cold) and hat & sun cream (if sunny). When the children are settled into their new classrooms, we will be sending out reading books that the children will need to bring to and from school each day.

End of the day

As with the start of the day, we will need to stagger how the children are dismissed at the end of the day. Parents and carers will collect their children from the same place they dropped them off at the start of the day. Everyone will leave the school site via the staff car park.

- **3:00-3:15pm**
 - Reception & Nursery pupils exit the school site via the front gate on Grampian Way.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful summer break, staying fit and well during this time. For families who are moving on to new schools, we wish you all the very best for the future and thank you for all your support during your time with us. We look forward to hearing about your children's ongoing success in their new schools.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Murfin
Headteacher

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