

The ABC of Wildridings Primary & Nursery School (Nursery)



All you need to know to help you get you
through this year....

This is not meant to be a booklet you sit and read as a whole! Use it as a reference tool as and when you need it. If you view it electronically then you can Ctrl Click on the part of the contents page you are interested in and it will take you to that section of the document.

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Absences

- If children have sickness or an upset stomach they need to be off for 48 since the last episode of illness. Please contact the school office to report their absence 01344 425483 or leave a message on parentmail stating the illness. If you do not call us, we have a statutory duty to contact you.
- This is a good guide to help with knowing what other illnesses your child may need to stay off school for <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#:~:text=If%20your%20child%20has%20mild,they%20can%20go%20to%20school>.
- As part of our Nursery policy, children should have regular attendance unless they are sick or have an unavoidable medical appointment (that you have documentation for) this is to ensure continuity in their development, friendships and education.
- Holidays should be booked during school holidays (see holidays for more information).
- Attendance matters and has a positive impact on your child's education. We are committed to ensuring the best possible education for your child and both before and after your child's statutory school age you may receive reminder letters about your child's attendance levels. If your child has only had time off for illness, please do not panic about these, it is part of us working together with you to ensure consistency and care for all of our community. Come and chat to class teachers or Mrs Russell in the office if anything is worrying you.
- We also work closely with our Education Welfare Officer who can support you as a family.



Accidents

- Many of the EYFS staff have medical training including information on allergies as part of our Paediatric First Aid Training. There will ALWAYS be at least one person with full Paediatric First Aid Training on site or on trips with the relevant training at all times.
- Any accident that requires first aid help will be recorded in our class First Aid Books. We will share this information with you or whoever picks up and ask you to sign to acknowledge we have passed the information on. On rare occasions we cannot do this we will e-mail you via parentmail or call you.
- If children have had a bigger bump to the head or a more serious injury but we feel they are still well enough to be in school, we may notify you by phone call so you know before pick up.
- Toilet accidents – we have changes of clothes in school but children often prefer their own so a spare set of clothes in their bags is very helpful. Please can these be uniform or as close to as possible e.g. black leggings. If you do borrow school clothes please ensure they are washed and come back to school for others to use when needed.



Allergies

- **NO nut products** must be sent into school due to the severity of some of our children's reactions this includes chocolate nut spread in sandwiches or nuts in brunch bars etc.
- Please keep us up-to-date with any known allergies.
- If your child has an auto injector then please ask the doctor for two – one will be kept in the classroom medical cupboard and one will be kept in the school office. They need to be clearly labelled with your child's name. The date on their auto injectors needs to be checked by you – please keep a record on your calendar of when they need replacing. Their picture will be circulated to school staff as part of our medical awareness plans.



Asthma



- If your child has been prescribed an inhaler please ask for two – one to be kept at home and one to send it in its original box with your child’s name visible on the prescription label. If they need a spacer, this should be labelled with their name too.
- You will need to fill out an asthma form and your child’s photo will be added.
- Their medication will be kept in the class medical cupboard unless it is needed.
- The information about them having asthma will be circulated to all school staff so others who come into contact with them know how to keep them safe and happy.

Behaviour



- At Wildridings, we believe all behaviour is communication and we use ‘The Zones of Regulation’ for children to check-in with and understand their emotions, develop their language to be able to talk about them or ask for help. Please talk to us about any changes or worries the children might have; often these will impact on their ability to be able to regulate.
- At this age, we teach the skills children need to be able to get along with others, advocate for themselves and learn safely. If they are finding this tricky we model the behaviours we would like to see, give them some sensory input or teach them to take a calming break in our chill out area.
- We will keep you informed of all the fabulous moments we see from your child as well as anything we need your support with. Please do the same with anything you need help with or would like to share from home too; us working together and giving the same messages has many benefits.
- Please remember that, as much as is possible, keeping children’s routines in place, regular bedtimes and consistent loving boundaries helps ensure they are ready for their busy days at Nursery. If you need any support with this as a family, our family support advisors are available for some support in-house or to signpost you to places that can help.

Birthdays



- As a special way to celebrate, children can wear their own clothes on their birthday (or the next school day if it falls in the holidays/ on a weekend). Please ensure footwear etc is appropriate for school, climbing etc.
- Some children like to bring in a treat for their class but it is NOT expected so please do not feel any pressure to do so. Due to new government guidance we CANNOT give out sweets/ cakes as part of this. Some parents have brought sheets of stickers instead. Please feel no pressure to do this though.
- We also sing them ‘Happy Birthday’ in Nursery too!

Class Window



- Most information and letters will come out via Parentmail but the class windows where you drop the children off/ pick them up may sometimes have reminders of things happening that week e.g. early pick-up times, Class Photo reminders etc.

Cooking



- As part of our curriculum we often cook or prepare things linked to our topics.
- Children will use a range of tools, supervised and taught by the staff e.g. safety knives, kitchen scissors, graters, peelers, oven.
- Remember to keep us updated about any food allergies or intolerances your child has so we can keep everyone safe and healthy.

Coffee Mornings



- At points in the year we hold coffee morning drop-in sessions. They happen in our Nurture Room but you can check in at the school office.
- They are a great way to have a few minutes to yourself with a cup of tea or coffee, catch up with other parents and our family support team.
- Look out for dates as they sometimes have a particular focus or different staff member e.g. Mrs Wort the SENDCo, Mrs Clapton to talk about supporting your child emotionally using 'Zones of Regulation' or other staff members to discuss transition strategies.

Contact Details



- Please ensure that your contact details are up to date with the office. New regulations coming in for Sept 2025 mean that all EYFS children need three different contacts saved on the school system – these could be parents, other family members or a family friend you are happy to have as an emergency contact.
- Please check your Parentmail regularly -important information is often sent out this way including newsletters, class information, trip letters etc.

Concerns



- We feel that good communication between home and school means we can support the children in the best possible way.
- School staff, are on the doors at drop-off and pick-up so you can chat to use about any worries you or the children might have, share any important family information we may need to know, ask any questions about what the children are learning etc.
- If you would like a longer meeting with the class teachers please just ask and we can make an appointment where we have more time to talk.
- If you still have concerns or questions that cannot be answered or solved by the class teachers then come and see Mrs Clapton as Early Years Leader. In the unlikely event that issues are still not resolved after this, please chat to Mrs Wort, Deputy Head or Mr Ellis, Headteacher.
- Don't forget you can also ask to chat to the Family Support Advisors, Mrs Tillman & Mrs Wallis, by making an appointment at the office or ringing their doorbell (door to the left of the main school entrance).

Curriculum



- In Nursery we follow the Early Years Statutory Framework and as part of this we work towards the Early Learning Goals for the end of their time in Early Years (which falls at the end of Reception).
- We have a play-based learning approach where we introduce the children to new experiences and texts but allow a flexible approach to meet the needs and interests of each year group. This means our 'mini topics' or learning may change quickly. We will keep you updated on what the children are learning through our Curriculum Meetings during Chatterbox sessions, the Knowledge Organisers each half term on our website class pages and via Tapestry.
- As well as this we teach the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' to give the children the learning skills and behaviours to help them become confident and competent learners throughout the whole of school. More information on these behaviours and information on what you should be developmentally be noticing your child doing through the ages please see here: <https://foundationyears.org.uk/files/2021/09/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf>
- We follow Kinetic Letters handwriting program, SoundsWrite phonics program and a mix of WhiteRose & the Maths Champion program. More information on all of these will follow in the **curriculum meetings when your child joins**.

Drop-off



- Please bring children into Nursery, help them hang their coat up, find their name to put up as an emotions check in and get them settled.
- For morning drop-off, this is through the door by the Nursery ramp, for afternoon drop-off this is through the Nursery garden door.
- Give them a big squeeze and show them you are confident that they will have a great time with their friends. If they need extra help to settle, the Nursery adults are there.
- If you are late for unavoidable reasons please check your child in at the school office. The office staff will then bring them down.

End of Day



- Pick-up is from the door by the Nursery ramp
- For those picking up at lunchtime, you must come through the back gate and across the playground.
- For 3.20pm pick up times, you can come in the back gate or through the front of the school.
- If we have any information about how your child has got on, we will share it with you then, including getting you to sign for any accidents/ first aid.

Earrings

- Only studs are allowed as part of the uniform policy.

Family Support Team

- Mrs Tillman and Mrs Wallis make up our family support team. They are here to support you and signpost you to other agencies that might be able to provide further help too.

- Their door can be found to the left of the main school office but you can also ask the office to book an appointment with them or call you.
- They can also put you in contact with the school nurse.
- During the school day they support children and staff.

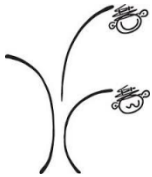


Golden Values

- Our school Golden Values are: Be Safe, Be Honest, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Listen.
- As a class we will talk about what our school Golden Values look like in our classroom and how we can help each other to show them.
- We are developing the children's understanding of their own behaviour and on their impact on others all the time so we use these terms all the time to help them make choices in their Nursery classroom e.g. Is that a safe choice? How can we respectfully ask for a turn?
- In addition to our Golden Values we also use the term 'Choose it, use it, put it away.' to help remind the children how we respectfully look after our classroom – this is definitely a good one to use at home too!



Handwriting



- We use Kinetic Letters as a handwriting scheme across the school.
- Handwriting starts in Nursery by getting their bodies and hands strong enough to sit, move effectively and be able to hold tools or pencils for writing.
- We create opportunities for children to build their independence and strength through things like climbing, reaching their arms up higher than their heads to draw and paint, hanging from the trim trails, crossing their arms over each other to complete activities (crossing the mid-line), threading, balancing etc. You can help at home by taking them to the park lots, completing finger strength activities etc. More information on how to do this will be shared at the curriculum meetings.

Holidays



- We understand that holidays can be an important experience for children and allows for vital family time. However, we strongly encourage these to be taken during school holiday times so as to minimise the impact on your child's learning and social connections.
- Term dates for school (including INSET days) can be found on our school website here: <https://www.wildridingsprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=81>
- If there are extenuating circumstances where you may need to keep your children away from school please write to, or make an appointment to see the Headteacher.
- Our attendance policy can be found in the policies folder on our website: <https://www.wildridingsprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=17>

Information

- All our school letters and communications come out via our on-line mail system, Parentmail. It is very important to check this regularly for messages.
- Both parents can be signed up for this. To start, the e-mail address you gave to register your child will be added.



- School trip consent, medical and photo permission forms, payment for school activities etc are all available on the ParentMail platform.
- School policy, term dates and curriculum information is available on the school website.
- You can also tell us about your child's absences through Parentmail.
- Look out for the weekly newsletters from Mr Ellis too, these will keep you informed of what is happening in school.

INSET Days



- Schools are required to have five INSET training days over the course of the year to ensure staff are up to date with CPD and statutory information such as safeguarding.
- These will be published in our school newsletters and on our school website.

Lost Property



- In Nursery, we tend not to have a lost property area and try to return all property as soon as it is found. This is normally possible if everything is named and clearly labelled especially hats, water bottles, lunchboxes, jumpers/ cardigans, shoes etc.
- It is helpful if your child knows where to look for their name label and what it might look like – another good reason for them to be able to recognise their name!
- Any unidentified property we do have, we put out at the end of the day. If these are not claimed by the end of term they are washed and put in the clothes donation bin.

Lunchtimes



- In Nursery, those that are full-time need to bring in their own lunch and water bottle. Please send in a healthy, balanced lunch which includes NO NUT products, no full chocolate bars, sweets or fizzy drinks.
- Please see our EYFS Nutrition Policy on our website for guidance on how to create healthy habits around eating and lunchtimes.
- We have adults there to help but getting the children as independent as possible at home will help them have the skills they need to eat in Nursery too.

Learning Environment

- Our children 'free-flow' across the whole Nursery environment, including our fenced outdoor classroom (once the school gates are closed after drop-off).
- We set up our learning environments to reflect the learning needs and interests of each cohort of children. Continuous provision is the stable and on-going areas the children have access to which stay familiar to them so they can build upon skills, gain independence and be creative in their learning. We then add some extra things from time to time to give the children different experiences, create interest or reflect the current topics and books we are using in class. These are called invitations to play or enhancements.
- The children will be encouraged to be independent and become fully engaged in all learning activities which includes the art area, mud kitchen and water areas. This means they will get messy – this shows they have been actively involved and creative which is brilliant! Our top



tip for washing is - a scrub with washing liquid before things go in the wash gets a multitude of things out of our school clothes!! If this doesn't help with whiteboard pen then spray with hairspray or anti-bac hand gel then re-try!

Medicines

- If your child needs medicine that they have been prescribed by a doctor then we are able to administer this. Please bring the medicine in its original box, with your child's name and fill out a form at the school office detailing when they last had a dose, what time and amount the next dose should be etc.
- If your child has asthma they **MUST** have one that can stay in school. This should be in its original box with their name visible on the prescription label. This will stay in the classroom medicine cupboard with their spacer if they need one. We record in the back of the first aid book when this is administered.
- If your child has an auto-injector they **MUST** have two that can stay in school. These should be in their original boxes with your child's name visible on the prescription label. One will stay in the classroom medicine cupboard and one will be kept in the main school office medicine cabinet.
- Parents are responsible for remembering when medicines expire and checking inhalers/ auto-injectors are in date. Once they have expired you will be given them to take home and dispose of them.
- All children on our medical register are shared with the wider staff team so other adults they come in contact with are aware of their needs.



Milk

- Our school milk is provided by 'Cool Milk' and all children in Nursery are entitled to this everyday which is provided to them as part of our snack time. They will also be offered water if they do not like milk.
- We choose, for environmental and learning reasons, to have our milk in four pint bottles. This means the children can decide how much they would like to drink and there is a lot less waste. In reality, this also means we often have enough milk for everyone in Reception regardless of age and it is from Year 1 you may wish to pay. It also means the children can become independent and begin pouring their own milk.
- If your child has an allergy to milk you can provide an alternative 'milk' product provided it is not nut based.



Mufti-Days

- Over the course of the year we may have mufti or 'own clothes' days for various reasons e.g. to raise money for charity, for Christmas Dinner day.
- These will be communicated on parentmail, please keep an eye out as occasionally Nursery do these at different times from the rest of the school to adapt to the needs of the cohort and account for their age and stage.
- If these are to raise money for charity, we often ask for cash instead of a ParentMail payment so this can be directly donated.



- Please ensure any mufti is still suitable for school activities (think about footwear for climbing in a muddy garden and ability to go to the toilet especially!).

Online Safety

- Children are taught in school to be safe on-line.
- Please ensure at home children are watching and playing games of an appropriate age – often those who play games over their age limits find it hard to engage with their peers in more self-directed playtimes. We have new safeguarding duties to share if children are being exposed to games/ digital media above their age limits.
- Please be respectful of our children, staff and school community when using social media yourself too – bring worries or concerns directly to us, do not share photos of any other children or staff on social media from events such as school productions etc.
- Our 'Wake-up Wednesday' ParentMails shared from the National College includes really valuable information for parents on mental well-being, on-line safety and technology.



Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

- Please join our school PTA! They are always in need of help and support from small, occasional roles to larger commitments - everything helps. It is also a fantastic way to meet other parents and make connections if that is something you would like to gain from volunteering too.
- As well as enriching our children's and school community experiences with discos, school fayres, Easter hunts and other activities, our PTA are also invaluable in helping school provide exciting and necessary resources for our children e.g. new I pads, gardening tools, materials for clubs, playground equipment. They also raise money towards larger projects to improve our school such as covered outdoor areas for Nursery & Year One. Without parent help they cannot do these vital things.
- Search for their Facebook page 'Wildridings School PTA' to see upcoming events.

Wildridings
Primary School
PTA

ParentMail

- *See information*

Parents' Evening

- There are parent's evenings in Autumn and Spring Term (Summer term we have a school report instead).
- These normally take place over two evenings.
- Each parent is asked to book one 10min appointment. These normally happen in the hall (each staff member has a different station).
- If you need longer to chat or would like to talk before this, just ask your class teacher for another appointment at a different time.



Parent Help



- If you have any particular talents, jobs or would like to share your family's celebrations and traditions then we would love to hear from you! Speak to your class teacher – we have had parents who have been able to run a dance class taster, speak about how they celebrate the Lunar New Year, bring us tasty baklava to mark Eid, share what they do in their roles as police officer or dentists and much much more!
- Donations – if you have any junk modelling materials that are clean and can be used by the children please send them in – they will be quickly used! This also goes for any other things you feel we may be able to use; art materials, plants, other donations for our classroom or garden. Thank you for your support!!

Personal Belongings



- We encourage the children not to bring toys etc from home into school (including to keep them in their bags) unless asked to for a specific reason.
- We understand that some children may need a comfort item and we will chat to you individually about how this can work in practise.
- At the start of the year we often have a few weeks where the novelty of some of our smaller toys is very appealing and some end up in bags coming home instead of being tidied away! It is a good idea to keep an eye out for toys you do not recognise that come and home or check children's bags so anything that doesn't belong can be returned! This phase normally passes quickly - thank you for your help!

Phonics

- In school we follow the Soundwrite scheme for our phonics learning.
- We teach the children the sound, not the letter name.
- Children do not need to know their letter sounds before starting in Reception. If you would like to get them ready then practising lots of oral segmenting and blending – you saying the sounds and them putting them together to make a word e.g. c-a-t and they say 'cat' or they say the sounds and you blend it. Here are some other game ideas
<https://www.lesleyclarkesynteticphonics.co.uk/parents/phonics-activities-to-use-with-your-child-at-home/268-nursery/127-helping-your-child-to-orally-blend-segment-the-sounds-in-words> .
- The other way you can help get them develop is to generally develop their talking and listening skills – can they stop and listen to what they hear around them? Can they notice changes in sounds e.g. from loud to quiet, moving from one sound to another.
- If you are worried about your child's learning in this area, come to see us.



Photographs

- Photo permission slips will come out via Parentmail. Please read and give the required consents.
- As part of tapestry there will also be photo permissions.
- If you attend a school event then for safeguarding reasons you will be asked not to film or take photos, so just sit back and enjoy the show taking in those precious moments!



Reading

- We recognise the huge impact and enjoyment that comes from stories and books. To support your child in developing this at home, keep sharing books at any moment possible, develop favourites that get read again and again, use rhyming books or ones with repeated sentences in so your child can get used to joining in.
- Most importantly, come and find out how to support your child's reading in our Curriculum Meetings or feel free to ask class teacher's any questions before then too!



Reports

- These come out in the Summer term, around the end of June.
- They detail your child's achievements for the year and give suggestions as to their next steps or ways you can support at home.
- They will tell you if your child is at the 'Expected' or 'Emerging' level for their developmental age. Within the information, they will also indicate how your child shows the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' (*see our curriculum for more info*).



Safeguarding

- If you have any safeguarding concerns please see your child's class teacher, Mrs Clapton as Team Leader, Mrs Wort as Deputy, Family Support Advisors or Mr Ellis as Headteacher.
- Mr Ellis is our school Safeguarding Lead so feel free to report concerns directly too.
- If you have serious concerns about a child (connected to our school or not) you can also report directly to Bracknell Forest Council via their website <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/keeping-adults-and-children-safe/report-safeguarding-concern>
- All staff have regular safeguarding training.
- Please also see the complaints policy on our website if you have any concerns about a member of staff.



Safety on Site

- School staff open/ close and monitor the school gates morning and afternoon. Staff are on the classroom doors in Nursery too.
- For safety and safeguarding reasons, parents are asked not to use their mobile phones on the school site.
- Please dismount from bikes/ scooters once through the school gates. These can be stored in the bike store at the front of the school (locked during the day) if you wish.
- No dogs are permitted on school premises.
- Smoking is not allowed on school premises.
- If you have any health and safety concerns about the school site, please catch Mr Dawes on the back gate at pick-up/ drop-off times or alert a member of staff.



Special Educational Needs (SEND)

- If you need to share information about your child's needs/ disability or feel your child may have unidentified needs then please speak to their class teacher in the first instance.
- Mrs Wort is our Deputy Head and Special Needs & Mental Health Lead (SENDCo). She works closely with the Early Years Team, is often in the classroom and will be able to support both the staff team and yourself with anything we may need to support your child.
- We do lots in school to support the inclusion of all children and ensure good SEND practise is part of our normal practise e.g. using visuals, giving children sensory or movement breaks, fidget aids, ensuring our classrooms are as communication friendly and neutral as possible. If you feel there are other things that may help your child settle and learn to their maximum potential please chat to us on their home visit and throughout the year.
- We work closely with other Bracknell Forest and NHS agencies to support our children including the Child Development Centre (CDC), the Speech and Language Team (SALT), our attached Educational Psychologist, The 5 to Thrive Team and other agencies.

Snacks

- All children are invited to come and have a fruit and milk snack during their Nursery session.
- An adult with first aid training is always nearby as the children are having snack and an adult sits with them at all times while they eat.
- The fruit is provided free through the Government 5 a Day scheme and often includes bananas, satumas, apples, pears and carrots. Sometimes we also have sweet peppers, sugar snap peas and tomatoes.
- The children are encouraged to be as independent and adventurous as possible as this provides lots of learning opportunities as well as being healthy.
- We slice the fruit according to the new EYFS Nutrition guidance which provides some great maths learning opportunities!

School Trips

- We love to use the wonderful local area to support and develop our children's learning opportunities.
- During the year, we often go on smaller, local visits too to Bill Hill, Mill Pond, the local park or sometimes even just our nearest letterbox!
- You will sign a general consent for this is signed at the start of the year but we will always notify you before we go for these smaller adventures.
- At this age, these trips are a perfect opportunity for you to spend a short time developing your child's communication and language and being part of our wonderful Nursery community. We will ask for you to come along with your child to these events which also helps with safety and engagement.

Tapestry

- This is our on-line platform for sharing the children's learning and achievements. Your child will be given an account once you have signed the consent forms. You can set and manage your own passwords.



- Staff will load photos and observations which you can comment on.
- It is lovely for you to post your own photos too so we can share them with the class. It also helps us get an all-round picture of your child.

Toilet Training

- If your child is not yet toilet trained, we can support with this. Please chat to us during your child's initial home visit or stay and play session so we can come up with a plan together.
- Ensure your child has plenty of nappies/ pants and wet wipes in their bag as we cannot provide these.
- Please also send them with changes of clothes for any accidents.



Uniform

- Our uniform policy is on our website.
- Logo uniform can be purchased from Brenda's in Frimley <https://www.brendas.co.uk/collections/wildridings-primary-school> but we also recommend supermarket uniforms too as children get messy!
- Please label EVERYTHING!
- Children should have their own school bag each day, this should have a change of clothes in it including socks/ pants. If they use these and have to borrow school sets please ensure they are washed and returned asap as we only keep a limited supply.
- Choosing coats and shoes that children can do mostly independently is really helpful as they don't have to wait for adult help to go outside.



Zones of Regulation

- This is the tool we use to help children develop an awareness of their differing emotions and begin to learn how they can manage them.
- We teach the children that there are different 'zones' (see infographic below) and that ALL of these zones are ok to feel but the tools we use to manage them may change depending on our situation e.g. screaming and shouting because you're angry might be ok on your own in your bedroom but is not ok when you are sat with 30 of your friends; there are other ways we can express our anger.
- We show the children lots of 'tools' they can use depending on how they are feeling, we give them vocabulary to be able to express and advocate for themselves as well as giving them a 'chill out' space where lots of these resources are available whenever they need them.
- Lots of parents find it useful to use the same wording at home as we do in school and during the year we do coffee drop-ins, parent meetings and presentations to give you more information on what we do and how you can use it at home.



			
<p>Sad</p> <p>Sick</p> <p>Tired</p> <p>Bored</p> <p>Guilty</p>	<p>Happy</p> <p>Calm</p> <p>Feeling Okay</p> <p>Focused</p> <p>Ready to Learn</p>	<p>Excited</p> <p>Silly/ Wiggly</p> <p>Worried</p> <p>Frustrated</p> <p>Loss of some control</p>	<p>Terrified</p> <p>Angry</p> <p>Mean</p> <p>Yelling/ Hitting</p> <p>Flipped your Lid</p>