

# Forest Glade Primary School

## Parent handbook Reception



## Our Vision and Values

### Our School Vision:

At Forest Glade, we are a **community** where **everyone feels safe and supported**. We give our children the **knowledge and skills** to understand the world and **empower** them to change it. We are good role models who **inspire** through a **love of learning** and a **motivation** to make a **positive impact**. Together, we continually strive to remove the barriers to success and fear of failure, **developing determined, curious and aspirant** citizens who are **lifelong learners**.

### Our School Values:

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <h3>Aspiration</h3> <p>We aim high in everything we do.</p>     | <h3>Confidence</h3> <p>We believe in ourselves and others.</p>   | <h3>Creativity</h3> <p>We use our imagination to make something our own.</p>  |
| <h3>Pride</h3> <p>We are proud of who we are.</p>               |  <h2>Our Values</h2>  | <h3>Responsibility</h3> <p>We are trusted to make the right choices.</p>      |
| <h3>Enjoyment</h3> <p>We have fun and know we can achieve.</p>  | <h3>Perseverance</h3> <p>We never give up when things get tough.</p>                                     | <h3>Kindness</h3> <p>Caring for myself, others and the environment.</p>       |

# Opportunities to Engage

## Enquiry Showcase

Each enquiry we hold an enquiry showcase where children have an opportunity to show off their work and what they have learned throughout their enquiry.

**Autumn:** How are we all different?

9am - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

**Spring:** How can we help others?

9am - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Summer:** Is nature beautiful?

9am - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July

## Reading

We value reading at our school and encourage children to read at home every day. In Reception, children will bring home two books, a decodable book which has been specifically chosen for them based on their phonics stage at that point. Decodable books should be easily accessible for the children and they should read these books multiple times until they can do so fluently. Their second book is a reading for pleasure book. This is a book that they will have chosen from their class library and is a book that interests them. These books are intended to be read with or to your child.

## Home Learning

Each term a home learning menu will be sent home which links to the current enquiry and will include a variety of activities to complete.

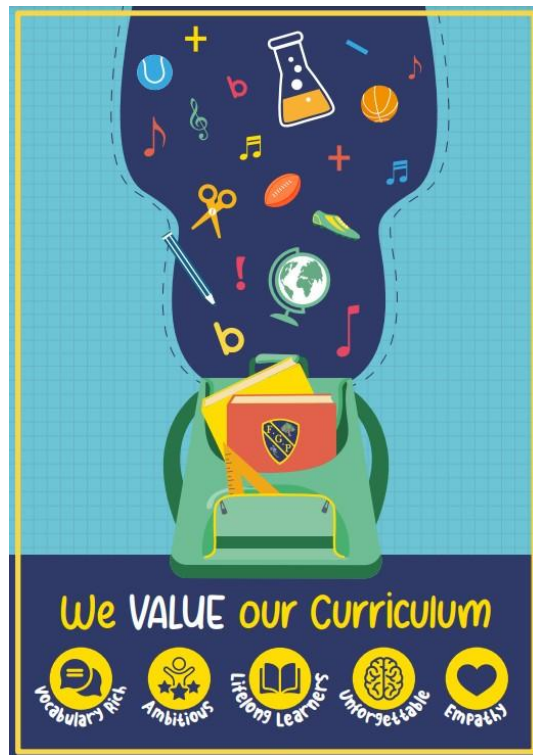
Evidence of completed activities can be sent to the class teacher and children will be awarded dojo points for showing Responsibility and having a go.

We encourage all Reception children to access Numbots, which they will all have a login for, as often as possible as this will help them with their basic number concepts.

## Parent volunteers

If you would like to volunteer your time as a parent reader, please let someone in our team know.

# Our Curriculum



At Forest Glade Primary School, we **VALUE** our curriculum. Our curriculum is **vocabulary rich**, creating **ambitious, lifelong learners** through **unforgettable** learning which allows children to show **empathy** for the world around them.

## Vocabulary rich

Vocabulary and reading are at the heart of the curriculum. Our curriculum is carefully planned so that children develop their vocabulary. Early Reading is built upon and embedded over time. This develops a wide range of vocabulary and a love of reading. To access the wider curriculum and acquire the important knowledge, our children are taught a wealth of vocabulary throughout all subjects. We aim to develop confident and articulate communicators who can successfully communicate their knowledge, learning and understanding both verbally and written.

## Ambitious

At Forest Glade, we are ambitious for all our children. Our curriculum is ambitious and allows children achieve the best possible outcomes, regardless of factors such as SEND, PP and other protected characteristics. Through learning about significant people who have made a difference, our children know that there is a wealth of opportunities beyond their local community. Ensuring learning is purposeful develops an internal drive that leads them to dreaming big and aiming high. We encourage children to become confident, independent and resilient learners who persevere in the face of challenge in order to achieve. This helps shape their life chances and choices in the future.

## **Lifelong learners**

Engaging children within lessons remains one of the biggest challenges facing teachers today. At Forest Glade, we pride ourselves on promoting curiosity and inspiring children to learn. As humans, we have a natural drive to explore, learn and grow and we help our children to connect to this natural curiosity to discover the world around them. We develop learning behaviours through our values to ensure children are prepared for their next steps in education and beyond.

## **Unforgettable**

We want our children to have unforgettable experiences during their time at Forest Glade. Experiences that inspire them across the curriculum as well as giving them opportunities that they may not have access to in their daily lives. We create unforgettable experiences within the classroom and through trips beyond school. This enables our children to understand the world around them. Through planning, teachers ensure that children revisit knowledge frequently to ensure knowledge progresses through school and to develop memory retention. By reactivating previous learning and staff with strong subject knowledge, the knowledge children attain is unforgettable.

## **Empathy**

Our curriculum is designed to develop a deep understanding of the wider world so that children are respectful, knowledgeable and understand the importance of treating each other equally. Children who learn about diversity and cultural awareness have better social skills, increased understanding and are more accepting of people who are different from themselves. Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Through knowledge of the world, we empower our children to change it and through our authentic outcomes our children show empathy towards others. For example, after learning about climate change and the impacts on animals in the rainforest, our Year 5 children have empathised and fundraised to make a difference.

Our Enquiry questions, [key texts](#), [unforgettable experiences](#) and [authentic outcome](#)

**Autumn– Explore:**

**How are we all different?**

What Makes me a me? By Ben Faulks

Martha Maps it out by Leigh Hodgkinson

The Little Red Hen

Chapatti Moon by Pippa Goodhart

Visit from an adult with Indian heritage

Artwork in the local community that celebrates diversity

**Spring – Discover:**

**How can we help others?**

Grace Darling by Anita Ganeri

People who Help Us: Lifeboat Crew by Nancy Dickmann

The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch by Ronda Armitage

Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau by Jennifer Berne

Visit to Skegness Seal Sanctuary

Visit to Skegness RNLI Centre

Visits from the Emergency services

Raising money for a charity that helps others (Cake sale for

RNLI / Seal Sanctuary)

## **Summer – Create:**

### **Is nature beautiful?**

Nature Trail by Benjamin Zephiniah

Tree: Seasons Come, Seasons Go by Patricia Hegarty

Tidy by Emily Gravett

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

That's my flower! by Alice Hemming

Seed to Sunflower

Nottingham Wildlife Trust Visit

Eco Club visit

Falconry Visit

Litter picking and putting up posters in local area (Sutton Lawn)

# Key Information

## **School Dinners**

School dinners are free for children from F2-Year 2 as they are funded by the government. The menus are sent out termly as and when they change. These are available to view on the school website. You can still send a packed lunch should you wish. Packed lunches should be healthy and should not have any item in that contains nuts as we are a nut free school.

## **Milk and snack**

Children from F2-Year 2 receive a piece of fruit every day at no cost and therefore do not need to bring snack to school or money for the tuck shop. For children in key stage one to receive milk, parents have to register with Cool milk and make a payment to them, this is funded for children up to the age of 5.

## **Drinks bottles**

All children need to bring a drinks bottle to school so that they have something to drink throughout the day. We encourage children to have water in their bottles and do not allow them to have fizzy drinks or any form of sports/energy drinks.

## **Bagels**

We provide children with bagels in the morning when they arrive in their classrooms. We do this to ensure that every child in school has had something to eat in the morning before lessons start. These are not huge portions and should not be seen as a substitute for breakfast.

## **Class Dojo**

At Forest Glade we use class dojo as a reward system which is linked to our values in school. This can also be used as a communication tool to keep you informed. Please ensure you download the app and ask your teacher for your parent code to allow access to view your class pages and messages.

## **Uniform**

We want every member of our school to feel part of the Forest Glade Primary School community. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance, giving them a sense of belonging to our school.

Forest Glade Primary School is committed to promoting equality and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion, belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. Our uniform will promote a sense of pride and act as an identity for

all the members of the school, supporting the school's commitment to inclusion. The uniform has been chosen to be smart, practical and good value for money.

Forest Glade Primary School is proud to have high expectations and strives to provide the very best for all our children. All pupils from Nursery through to Year 6 are expected to wear the specified uniform.

Our school uniform is easily available, at competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. We also have branded items of uniform available from The Big Fish Schoolwear website (<https://www.bigfishschoolwear.co.uk/> Username: forest glade Password: forest), but it is not a requirement for children to wear any item of branded clothing to school.

In addition to being able to wear non-branded uniform, we will also hold a termly uniform swap where parents can swap small sizes for bigger sizes of secondhand clothing. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for Physical Education is below.

#### School Uniform List Winter Uniform

- White polo shirt or white blouse/shirt
- Navy jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black or Grey skirt, black or grey trousers, black or grey pinafore dress
- Black shoes or boots.
- Black trainer type shoes are allowed, but they must not be 'sports' trainers and should be all black with no coloured/white logos or soles
- Grey or black socks or tights

#### Summer Uniform (as winter plus)

- Navy checked dress/playsuits (optional)
- Smart black or grey knee length school shorts (not cycling shorts)
- Grey, black or white socks or tights

#### PE Kit

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts/PE skirt
- Black or navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- Plimsolls or trainers for outside games

On days when pupils have PE, they can come to school in their PE kit. No football tops, shorts or other branded clothing should be worn on PE days.

### Jewellery

Children may wear a watch (no smart watches permitted) and a plain pair of stud earrings. No other jewellery is allowed due to health and safety and liability in case of loss. If you would like your child to have their ears pierced, please try to arrange this at the start of the summer holidays so they have enough time to heal. This means earrings can be removed for PE. We discourage the wearing of earrings for PE and will request that children remove their earrings. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, we request that parents remove them prior to children arriving at school on PE days. If there are specific reasons children cannot remove their earrings, they need to be well covered.

### Hair

Hair should be of a natural colour; long hair must be tied back and items used to secure hair must not be overly big.

### Make up

Make up and nail polish should not be worn.

### Bags

School bags should be able to carry items that the children need for school e.g. reading book, water bottle etc.

For uniform items with our school logo, please visit Big Fish Schoolwear following the link below:

<https://www.bigfishschoolwear.co.uk/>

Login details for the site are:

**Username: forest glade**

**Password: forest**

## **PE**

Our PE day is **Wednesday**.

Please remember that on PE days, children can come to school in their PE kit. Children with earrings should come to school without their earrings on PE days, we are not allowed to remove their earrings for them and discourage the use of plasters to cover earrings due to Health and Safety risks.

## **Trips this Year**

As a school, we utilise a portion of our Pupil Premium funding as well as an allocated budget to fund visitors to school and to subsidize school trips to reduce the cost of trips for parents. We will unfortunately still ask for a contribution towards school trips to make them possible. As we are a cash free school, all payments should be made through Parent Pay.

This year we will be visiting:

- Nottingham City Centre on Friday 10th  
October
- Pantomime visit at Mansfield Palace  
Theatre on Friday 12th December
- Skegness Seal Sanctuary and RNLICentre on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March (will confirm once the booking has been made)

And will have the following visitors and experiences in school:

Termly visits to Sutton Library (Autumn/ Spring/ Summer)  
Walk to the Cenotaph Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November  
Emergency services visit - Spring Term  
Falconry visit - Summer Term

# Phonics and Early Reading

## **How do we teach reading in Reception and Key Stage 1?**

We start our phonics lessons right from the beginning of our children's Reception Journey.

We use teach phonics using No Nonsense Phonics Skills (NNPS) resources to ensure consistency and a high-level of challenge in our children's phonics journey. The children progress from mastering simple to more complex alphabetic code, which the children apply at both word and text level. The children also practise reading (and spelling) common exception words, such as 'the,' 'said,' 'once' and 'where'.

The NNPS programme itself contains matched decodable texts which the children use for both reading and spelling practise, but we also send home Big Cat Phonics decodable books to consolidate the phonics that has been previously taught. The children practise their independent reading with these fully decodable books that match the phonics and the common exception words they have already been taught. They are empowered to apply the skills they have been taught to read their decodable book with confidence and fluency.

It is important to us that our curriculum is vocabulary rich, so teachers read carefully chosen texts to the children every day. The children are exposed to a wide range of stories, poetry and information books. They learn many more exciting words this way and it also inspires their writing.

## **How do we assess and support children?**

We assess the children informally as part of each phonics lesson using AfL. We also complete a formal NNPS assessment each term, with children identified as needed more support being assessed half-terminally. Children will have one-to-one support if we think he or she needs some extra help to keep up and catch up. They will receive extra support to target any gaps in code as well as practising their blending skills at word and book level.

# Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are very important to ensure all children are getting their entitlement to education. We believe that education is crucial to provide children with the best possible life chances. Please see our attendance expectations below.

## **Attendance Expectations**

100% attendance is an expectation of all pupils, including nursery children.

Children to attend daily and on time.

Parents/carers to inform school on the day of any absence.

Proof of medical appointments to be shown/given to staff.

Discuss planned absences with Headteacher in advance.