

STARTING SCHOOL
AT
HIGH LITTLETON C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL





Welcome to High Littleton C of E Primary School

This booklet contains information about starting school and some suggestions and ideas you may find useful.

We hope they will help to establish the beginnings of a happy time at our school for you and your child.



□ UNITY □

*I dreamt I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.*

*One was a teacher – the tools that were used
Were books, music and art
The other was a parent, who worked with a guiding hand
And a gentle loving heart.*

*Day after day the teacher toiled with a touch
That was deft and sure
While the parent laboured side by side
And polished and smoothed it o'er.*

*And both agreed they would have failed
If each had worked alone
For behind the teacher stood the school
And behind the parent, the home.*

Author Unknown

OUR SCHOOL DAY

8.40 a.m. School gates open

8.50 a.m. The day starts

8.50 – 10.00 a.m. Session 1

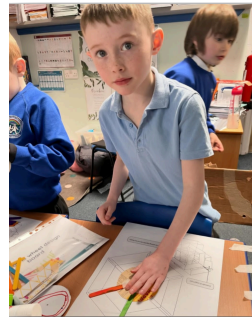
10.00 – 10.10 a.m. Milk & fruit time

10.10 – 10.30 a.m. Collective Worship

10.30 – 10.45 a.m.
Playtime



10.50 – 12.00 noon
Session 2



12.00 – 1.00 p.m.
Lunchtime



1.00 – 2.30 p.m.
Session 3



2.30 – 2.45 p.m.
Playtime



2.45 – 3.15pm
Stories & rhymes time



3.15 pm Home Time

MAKING A GOOD START

Starting school is the first step in the long journey of education. Your child has been learning much already but now that learning becomes more formal.

There is a lot for your child to get used to and for school to be a positive experience this start needs to be handled carefully.

To help your child ease their way into school life and get to know their teachers and other children s/he will attend for mornings or afternoons only for the first couple of weeks.



How can I prepare my child for starting school and help to encourage their learning?

Reading Activities

- ❖ Share books together
- ❖ Talk about stories
- ❖ Point out signs and labels
- ❖ Go to the library or a bookshop

Mathematical Language

- ❖ up, down, more than, less than, the same, yesterday, tomorrow
- ❖ Play number games; count steps, cards, cookeys together, play in water/sand

Talking and Listening... to each other!

- ❖ Use the radio, spotify, music video,
- ❖ Encourage listening instructions
- ❖ Play games e.g. I spy, Simon says

Television

- ❖ Share programmes together. Talk about what you have watched, liked, disliked and favourite characters.

Drawing and Writing

- ❖ Draw, colour, trace, dot to dot, finish off pictures, make patterns, mark make.
- ❖ Show your child how to hold a pencil correctly

Art and Craft

- ❖ Paint, glue, cut, sew, knit, use playdough and create anything!

Science

- ❖ Sort and classify all sorts of things around you – colours, shapes, sizes.
- ❖ Look at things carefully. Talk about what you see, hear, feel, smell

General

- ❖ Visit all sorts of places – the park, the seaside, shops, museums, the woods, cinema, farm.
- ❖ Talk about these experiences, point out interesting things and encourage questions



WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO PREPARE MY CHILD FOR SCHOOL?

Children arrive at school with differing levels of social skills. You can greatly help your child by making sure s/he is used to

- ✓ Listening
- ✓ Being polite
- ✓ Sitting still when asked
- ✓ Taking turns and sharing
- ✓ Can use a knife and fork
- ✓ Dressing and undressing, putting on a coat, changing for PE, putting on shoes or wellington boots, etc
- ✓ Tidying up
- ✓ Helping others
- ✓ Looking after their belongings

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER...

- We are all individuals with different strengths and weaknesses
- Try to avoid comparing your child with others as we all progress at different speeds

Reading helps your child through his/her time at school in all subjects

Read at least 3 times a week with your child at home and reread books often

Reading allows us to find out about anything that interests us throughout our lives

Reading is important...

But WHY?

We need to read in everyday life for reading signs, instructions, directions, forms, timetables etc

Reading allows us to escape into a fantasy world of books and stories. It can give us a great deal of enjoyment

READING

What can parents/carers do to help their child read?

Parents and carers are a child's natural teachers. Just think of all the things you have taught your child by the time s/he starts school.....

to talk to walk to dress to play
 to keep clean to build relationships
...as well as teaching a lot about the world around them.

There is a crucial partnership between parents/carers in helping children learn to read. How can you help at home?

- Try to find a little time each day to share and enjoy a book
- Try to make reading relaxing
- Show your child how to turn the pages from the outer edge
- Ensure your child reads from left to right
- Talk about the illustrations
- Ask your child to point to the words and read the sentence to you and ask questions
- Read the sentence to your child and point to each word as you say it - this is 'modelling'
- Ask your child to point to the words and read the sentence to you
- Use illustrations as clues to unknown words
- Look at the initial letter sound of an unknown word
- Ask your child to predict what will happen next
- At the end of a book or story ask your child what the story was about and what s/he enjoyed about it
- Encourage your child to read lots of different things eg comics, labels, signs, magazines, advertisements
- Try to visit the a library together
- Let your child **SEE YOU ENJOY** reading
- **ALWAYS GIVE LOTS OF PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT!**

TRY TO MAKE READING FUN!

Here are some games you can play with your child:

- I Spy using a picture book

Start with whole words eg 'I Spy something that is round/square'.

Then try a whole word with a sound clue eg 'I Spy something that is red and begins with 'b'.

- Find rhyming words eg 'Find a word that rhymes with call'.
- Find all the words that start with 'b', 'a', 'sh'.
- Find the longest/shortest word on the page.
- Word Snap
- Sing nursery rhymes together

...and finally

Talk with your child's teacher if you are concerned about reading.

Don't rush your child through his/her reading books. We will change reading books once a week. When s/he brings a new book home give your child time to become confident. Reread, reread and reread books to improve confidence, pace and expression. Try these helpful hints:

- You read aloud from the book first. **This is NOT cheating!** As you read put a lot of expression into your reading and run your finger underneath the line of print
 - Read the story together and let your child predict the ending of the book
 - Take it in turns to read a page each
 - The amount of reading time should never be longer than the child's interest span
 - Reading books is only part of reading - value any print
 - Remember reading isn't just about reading words - it is also about understanding those words
 - When listening to reading never criticise - **ALWAYS** praise and encourage
-
- ✓ There will be regular, informal reading meetings during the year to help you support your child's reading
 - ✓ Daily phonics lessons in school will prepare the children and at home, you will be able to practise what we teach via reading books
 - ✓ Reading books will be carefully matched to phonetic ability



Speaking and Listening

This is an important part of your child's development and an integral part of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Spend time just talking to your child, encourage him/her to become a confident speaker and able listener, engage in two way conversations - it will be time very well spent!

*I know how to ask a question

*I can talk about a story

*I can talk about myself

*I can talk with my friends

*I can talk about things I see and do

*I can listen to my friends

*I can remember to say please and thank you

*I can listen to a story

*I can listen and do as I am asked

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS IN SCHOOL?

Talk to the
School Admin,
Office,
Reception

Helping
in
School

Talk to your
child's teacher in
the first
instance, the
Headteacher, the
Deputy
Headteacher

Parent/Teacher
evenings

Home/School
Communication

PTA
Meetings and
Events

Visit the school
website
www.highlittletonschool.com



 **High Littleton**
C of E Primary School

01761 470622
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[Welcome](#) [Our Church School](#) [Our Classes](#) [News & Events](#) [Information For Parents](#) [Contact Us](#)

Welcome to High Littleton C of E Primary School

"Love each other as I have loved you." - John 15:12

Welcome to High Littleton Church of England Primary School's website. Our school serves the Parish of High Littleton and Halatrow as well as the surrounding areas.

This is a happy, family school in which we encourage pupils and adults to have a caring and considerate attitude towards one another. There is a strong Christian ethos of acceptance within the school. We recognise and value the uniqueness of every child, helping all to achieve their best within a safe, secure and creative environment. We aim to enable children to learn skills, knowledge and develop concepts that will help them grow into positive, responsible people who can work and co-operate with others and hopefully be better equipped for life in today's ever changing society.

The school enjoys a good reputation for providing a broad, balanced, challenging and creative environment, made possible by our highly committed and hardworking team of teachers, support staff, parents and governors.

If your child has been allocated a place at the school and you want practical information about starting here, you'll find the New Starters page full of useful information.

If you are already familiar with the school, you may wish to catch up with the latest Letters and Newsletters or see the main events on the school Dates for your Diary page.

If you represent a local business or organisation that you think might benefit from closer involvement with the school, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please send us an email or telephone the school.

Not covered what you need to know? Do get in touch; we'll be happy to help.

Parent Calendar & Timetable

Parent Calendar

Home MultiMedia **High Littleton Group of Schools** [New Hedgehog Class Page](#)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1:15pm MultiMedia Club	1:15pm Y4 Phonics Inform 3:15pm Gardening Club (1)	3:30pm Football Club				
3:30pm Homework Club (1)	3:30pm Mr. Steady's Mail 3:30pm SATS Club	3:30pm TS Art Club 2/5				
	3:30pm Oils and Clay					

General Information and Daily Routines

Bringing children into school

School starts at 8.50am. The school will be open from 8.40am, when parents will leave their child at the school gate, for the children to go directly into their classroom. All teachers will be in their classrooms at this time to welcome the children. We expect children to walk into their classroom independently.

Reading Books

After a couple of weeks, your child will be given a reading book and a reading diary. Please initial and comment in the diary so we know your child has read at home. Your child will also be given a Common Exception Word bag which will contain keywords for your child to learn both at home and at school. Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school EVERY DAY. Reading bags are available from the school office for £5.00, this will be payable on Parentpay and you will be set up with a Parentpay account in the first week in September. We are a cash free school and therefore the school office does not accept cash.

Fruit Time

The school holds the Healthy Schools Award and all children are encouraged to bring an item of prepared fruit to eat (eg peeled oranges in a suitable container, named banana, etc) before they go out for the mid morning break. To accompany their fruit a drink of water or milk is available. Children are entitled to free milk up to their fifth birthday. Children must also bring a named (and filled) water bottle to school each day.



Lunchtime and Dinner Arrangements

As you may be aware, all Key Stage One children (age 4-7 years) are entitled to free school meals. Unless we are notified otherwise, we will assume your child will be having free school meals. Children often need time to get used to eating their lunch in school so if there are any problems please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

Home Time

School finishes at 3.15pm and the class teacher will bring your child out to the school gate to meet you. Please come forward to collect your child as it is a very busy time. Please make sure the class teacher knows in advance if someone other than you will be collecting your child. Your child will stay with the class teacher until the person collecting them arrives.

CHECKLIST

A final checklist of items your child will need for school:

- School Uniform
 - A blue 'High Littleton Primary School' T-shirt and black shorts
 - A pair of trainers
 - A spare pair of pants and socks (to be kept in the dap bag)
 - A prepared piece of fruit (named)
 - A named water bottle
 - Wellington boots and waterproofs (named) to be kept in school
 - A reading bag
 - Children will wear their PE kit to school on their class PE days.
- Information on when these are will be sent out at the beginning of each term.

You can further help your child by:

- ensuring all items of clothing are clearly named and that your child can recognise their possessions
- making sure that your child can go to the toilet, flush it on their own and wash their hands
- showing them how to use a knife and fork correctly
- Practice getting changed and putting their shoes on independently

We have found that some children become very tired when they first start school. If your child is becoming overtired please talk to the class teacher. It is better to plan extra rest times during the week rather than force a child into school when s/he cannot cope with it.

If your child uses an inhaler or has any other medical needs then please speak to the class teacher.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea please keep him/her home for 48 hours. Any child with a fever should also be kept home until their temperature has returned to normal. These illnesses are very easily

passed from child to child and your child also needs to have time to recover properly.

Please do not send your child to school with **personal toys or possessions** unless requested to do so by the class teacher.

There is other helpful information in the School Prospectus.

Phew! That's it!

Finally...

Please remember we are here to help both parents and child settle and adjust happily to school. If there are any particular problems or anything else you would like to know, please do not hesitate to contact us.



We look forward to you starting school in September!