

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of YR children,

We are incredibly proud of all our new reception children and how well they have settled. It has been lovely getting to know them. We would also like to say a big thank you to all our parents and carers who have been wonderfully supportive.

It is quite normal for the children to feel very tired at first particularly when they start fulltime and to tell you very little about their day. If you have any questions or concerns about anything, please do ask.

In order for the day to run smoothly we would be very grateful if you could help us with the following points.

Start of the day and home time

School starts at **8.45 am** and finishes at **3.15pm** for our reception children. We start sending the children out at **3.10pm** to ensure a calm and safe transition at the end of the day. Please follow the signs that indicate where to stand to collect your child. Thank you for your patience during these busy times.

Please note school must be informed if your child is to be collected by another adult ideally by email please.

Water

Please send your child with a **named** bottle every day. Children have access to this throughout the day. Please ensure your child's bottle is easily identifiable for them. They may find a personal sticker on it makes it easier to identify. Also, don't forget to wash it and top it up daily with fresh water. Thank you.

Snack

Milk is provided free for all children up until the term after their fifth birthday. We have a **fruit/veg only policy** and each child is allocated one piece of fruit a day. You are very welcome to bring in an additional piece of fruit/veg to keep in your child's tray for when they get hungry. Please be aware we have a number of children in school with allergies. Please do ensure any snacks brought from home are **fresh fruit** or chopped **vegetables** only.

Grapes and cherry tomatoes

To avoid choking hazards please ensure any grapes or cherry tomatoes are cut in half if they are provided for additional snack or as part of a packed lunch.

Ordering school lunches

Please could you order your child's lunch before they come into school each morning. This really helps us with the start of our day.

Packed lunches

Just a reminder please not to include any nut products such as Nutella. We would also like to request that sesame products such as sesame breadsticks are not included. Many thanks.

Named clothing

Please ensure all clothing and shoes are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Outdoor clothes

Please help your child with outdoor sessions by ensuring they have a **named** warm and **shower proof** coat with a hood and a hat and gloves in cold weather. Wellies and spare socks are encouraged when snow is forecast.

Bags/Rucksacks

We have very limited space on our pegs and rucksacks often take up 2 peg spaces. Please send your child with a book bag that can fit in their trays or a **string bag** that can hang on their peg. Thank you.

Reading books

Next week your child will be bringing home a story book to share at bedtime and their home school diary. We ask that this is kept in their book bag and brought to school every day.

Our topic

Our topic for the first half term is 'Happy Children, Happy School'. We will be focusing on myself, my school, my family and where we live.

Family photo

If you have not done so already please email in a family photo as soon as you can to yr@ecclesall.sheffield.sch.uk. Many thanks.

Curriculum planning

Please refer to our school website to read weekly information about what we will be covering each week in school and also find further curriculum information including our Curriculum jigsaws and Knowledge organisers. Copy and paste the following link:

<https://ecclesallprimary.co.uk/reception/>

Contacting your child's teacher

If you need to send an urgent message to your child's teacher please ring the school office or email enquiries@ecclesall.sheffield.sch.uk

Curriculum information evening

We will be holding our curriculum information meeting for parents on Wednesday **September 23rd at 6pm** in the school hall. As part of this meeting we will talk to you about phonics and reading and how you can support your child.

Sickness

We follow the Health Protection Agency guidance which states that, to stop the spread of sickness and diarrhoea bugs, children must not return to school until 48 hours have passed since the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. We appreciate your understanding with this. Please do not send your child to school if they have a temperature as this is a sign that they are unwell.

If you have any further questions, please see a member of the Reception team. Once again, we would like to say a huge well done to all our wonderful children and extend our thanks to all our lovely parents and carers.

Kind regards

The Foundation Stage team