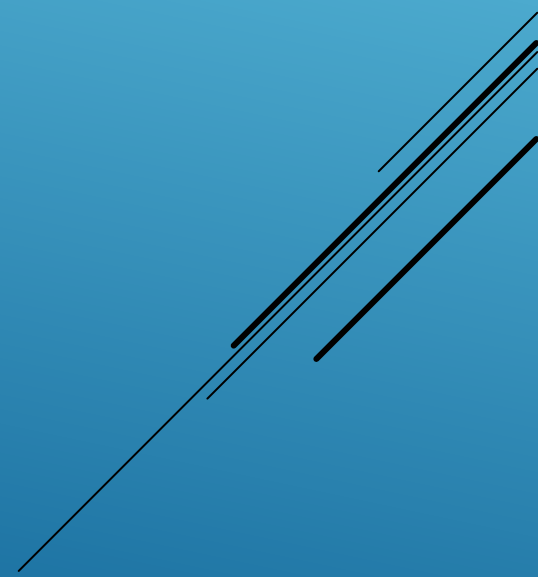


SANDGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

New Parent Meeting



WELCOME

An introduction from our Headteacher

Mr Matthew Green



What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year. When your child starts with us, they will continue their journey in the E.Y.F.S.

It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning. This is a very important stage as it prepares them for their future learning and successes. Their early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.



The E.Y.F.S. has 4 themes. These are:

1. A Unique Child

Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

2. Positive Relationships

Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships with the adults and peers in the setting.

3. Enabling Environments

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers

4. Learning and Development

Children develop and learn in different ways. Practitioners teach children by ensuring challenging, playful opportunities across the prime and specific areas of learning and development.

During their time with us, your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through
7 areas of learning and development

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

1. Communication and language

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking

2. Physical development

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

3. Personal, social and emotional development.

- Building Relationships
- Managing Self
- Self-Regulation



As children progress, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

1. Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing

The prime and specific areas of learning are broken down into 17 areas in total and your child will be assessed against each of these during their time in Foundation.

2. Mathematics

- Number
- Numerical Patterns

3. Understanding the world

- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World
- Past and Present

4. Expressive arts and design.

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive



How can I prepare my child for school?

Independence when dressing



Practise doing up fiddly fastenings on coats, shirts and shoes.

This will help for playtimes and PE.



Fine motor activities

LEGO, threading, playdough, using tweezers and similar activities all help to build up the muscles in your hands and fingertips. This will help to increase control when mark making, leading to the tripod pencil grip for writing.



Independence when toileting

Support your child to be confident about getting to the toilet in time and wiping properly. Chat about the importance of washing hands with soap and water after going to the toilet.



Tidying up

Encourage your child to hang up their own coats, put their toys away and clear their plates after dinner as this will be part of their school day routine.

Feeding themselves

Encourage your child to use a full-sized knife and fork and to be able to carry a plate.



MONITORING PROGRESS

- Each of the 7 areas of learning has its own set of 'Early Learning Goals' which determine what most children are expected to achieve by the end of the Foundation year.
- We use 'Development Matters' to identify the developing knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes that children will need if they are to achieve the Early Learning Goals by the end of the EYFS. These statements are tracked throughout the year to show your child's development and areas where they need further support. You will receive regular updates on how your child is attaining throughout the academic year, through written reports and parent consultations.



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The following are ways that we involve you in your child's time at school:

- **Home School Diary** – Your child will be given this during their first week at school. It stays in your child's book bag and goes back and forth between home and school each day. The diary can also be used to pass on any messages between home and school, for example, your child may be collected by a friend for a play date after school and you can let us know this by writing in the diary.
- It is a way for us to keep you informed of things that are going on at school, as well as record when an adult has read with your child. We ask that you use it to record when your child has read their school book or practised their sounds home.
- When your child starts school they will start off with a picture book. Once they can blend and segment (our parent phonics workshop in September will give further details about this) they will be given a reading book with words. It must come into school each day in your child's book bag.

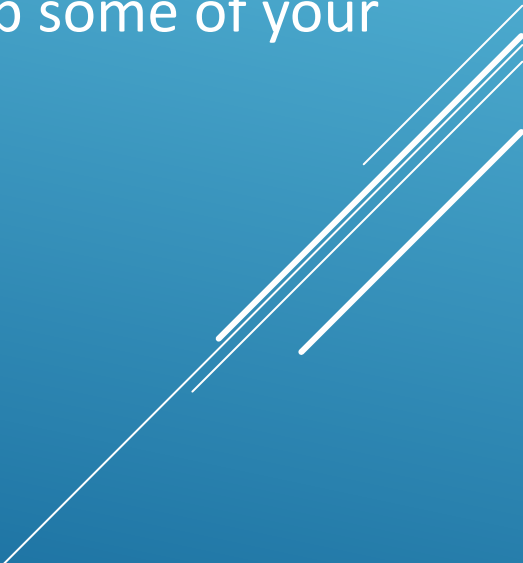


PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT CONTINUED

- **Learning Events** - Throughout the year, we host a variety of events for parents and carers to engage with their child's learning. For example, learning together events, workshops (how to support your child at home with phonics, writing, numeracy) book shares (come into school to look through your child's books with them). There are also plenty of other school events to attend, such as Christmas plays, fayres, sports days and so on.
- **Newsletter & Home Learning** – Each Friday, we send home our Foundation newsletter. This keeps you up to date with what we've been up to in Foundation as well as informing you of any upcoming events and important information. We also use the newsletter to set a short piece of home learning each week. You will also receive the whole school newsletter on a Friday as well.



Parent Teacher Association

- We are currently in the process of restarting our school PTA. Last night, the first meeting was held to discuss ideas and ways in which parents can be involved in events around the school.
 - We are always grateful for any volunteers and we have a sign up sheet this evening if you are willing to give up some of your time to help out.
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UNIFORM

- At the back of the hall you will see examples of the school uniform. Please ensure that your child's name is in all items of clothing, including shoes, tights and socks!
- Book bags , rather than backpacks, are recommended as they are easy for the children to store and access when needed. We suggest adding a small key ring so that they can find their bag independently when they need to.
- P.E kits are currently worn to school on their PE day, which ensures that children have as much time as possible to take part in physical activity. Your child will not have PE for the first couple of weeks in September, so will confirm their PE days closer to the time.
- Your child will be taking part in lots of interesting and sometimes messy experiences, so may come home dirty! It is all part of the fun and all paint that we use is washable.
- Children should bring a named drinks bottle to school with them each day, containing water.

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

- Breakfast club is available at school every day from 8am. There is no need to book, just drop your child off as and when you need. There is a charge of £3.00 a day.
- Both Greenfields Nursery and Little Oaks Nursery, who are located close to school, offer after school child care services. This is run separately from any clubs we offer at school and if you wish to book you need to contact the nurseries directly. They will then collect your child from school when appropriate.
- At Sandgate, we also provide a range of extra curricular activities that children can partake in throughout the year. These are run by school staff and vary each term. We are currently also looking in to the feasibility of offering more after school care on the school site.



Pabulum Your School Caterer

LUNCHES

- All children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free lunch under the universal infant free school meals scheme. Our school meals are catered by Pabulum.



Pabulum

Honestly Good Food

A huge welcome from your catering team at Pabulum; we are delighted to be providing fresh, nutritious, honestly good food here at Sandgate.

Pabulum wants to ensure all children can enjoy tasty, healthy primary school meals every day, and embrace the experience of learning about the benefits of fresh, seasonal ingredients.



**Cath
Medhurst**
Senior
Operations
Manager

Menu

We use 80%
British produce

65% of our
veggie / vegan
choices are
plant based

All our fish meets
the MSC
standards



**A choice of 3 main meals each
day: fish / meat, vegetarian /
vegan & jacket potato or pasta**

A choice of 2 vegetables

**A choice of 8 'help yourself'
salads**

A choice of 2 fresh breads

**A choice of 3 puddings, fresh
fruit platter, homemade yoghurt
or hot pudding with homemade
custard**

All our meat
and dairy
produce is
Red Tractor
Assured



We also
have the
Good Egg
Award!



Allergens & Special Diets

We have our own in-house team of nutritionists who will cater for any children with allergens and will look at every special diet on a case-by-case basis. Our team will speak with the family / carers to understand their needs and create a menu that will be nutritious and safe.



The Children's Dining Experience



Our industry leading Pabulum Dining Experience focuses on creating a social, family experience at lunchtimes promoting interaction between the children. This has a positive impact in the dining room and supports learning outcomes in the classroom.

All the dining tables have tablecloths, cutlery holders, bread baskets, napkin holders alongside herbs or flowers.

Taking Care of Our Planet

We have several initiatives happening in the dining room that support sustainability, reducing our carbon footprint, and making a positive impact on the planet.

- We have a no waste policy of fresh produce in the kitchens
- We promote minimal food wastage in the dining room through education
- Our cleaning chemicals are all supplied in concentrate form
- Our waste cooking oil is turned into biodiesel and used for fuel
- We involve the School Council in prompting initiatives within the dining room that will make a positive impact on the planet





Your Voice Matters

We give all the children the opportunity to participate in our dining room survey called “Your Voice Matters”. This is conducted on an interactive screen so the children can rate the food, the service, and how they felt about the overall dining experience. These results are shared with the school and the catering team.

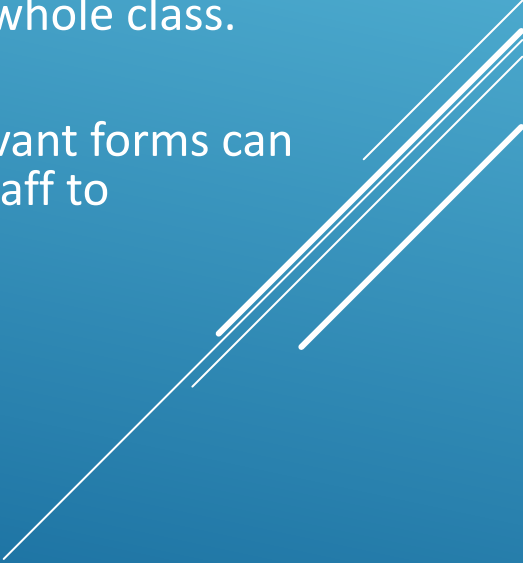
LUNCHES

- However, if you are eligible for any of these benefits, your child is eligible to receive a pupil premium grant: Pupil premium is allocated to pupils from low income families and the eligibility check is identical to the Free School Meals eligibility check. Qualifying benefits are as follows:
- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-based)
- Child Tax Credit based on income below £16,190
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Asylum Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



- Pupil Premium is additional funding that the Government gives to mainstream and special schools in England to help children from low income families.
- The Pupil Premium Grant must be spent to help eligible pupils reach their full potential, both academically and socially, and the school will decide how best to spend this.
- If you want to know how we spend our Pupil Premium Funding across the school, then you can look on our website under the Pupil Premium tab for our three year strategy.
- Even though your child will get free school meals until the end of year 2, they will not get the funding for fitting the above criteria unless you apply via the link. If eligible, they will get free school meals plus the funding amount until the end of year 6.
- **How much is the Pupil Premium?**
- Schools will receive the following funding for eligible pupils:
- £1,385 for primary-aged pupils
- £2,410 for pupils who have left care or are in care
- You can apply see if you are eligible by visiting: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/>
- Even though your child will get free school meals until the end of year 2, they will not get the funding for fitting the above criteria unless you apply via the link. If eligible, they will get free school meals plus the funding amount until the end of year 6.

MEDICAL MATTERS

- Any sickness or diarrhoea must be followed by 48 hrs absence from the last incident.
 - We ask that you call the school office by 9am when your child is off school.
 - Head lice are common! Please check regularly and treat as recommended. If we notice a child has head lice we will send a letter to the whole class.
 - If your child has any medication or an asthma pump the relevant forms can be obtained from the school office giving authorisation for staff to administer.
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TRANSITION

- We have already contacted and/or visited your children's **nurseries**. Each nursery has been given a transition pack, which contains a copy of the story: 'We're going on a bear hunt' and some suggested activities, to support the transition from nursery to school.
- **After school stay and play sessions** – These are after school sessions that run from **3.30-4.30pm**. This evening you will be able to select two dates, one from each of the following sets. These are an opportunity for your child to become familiar with the classroom settings and some of their new class mates. During these sessions we ask that only one adult accompanies their child. You will have the opportunity to meet our Family Liaison Officer (FLO), Wendy Hill, who works closely with families to support them and their children during their time at Sandgate.

Tuesday 27th June Thursday 29th June	Please select one session from these two dates.
Wednesday 12th July Thursday 13th July	Please select one session from these two dates.

- **Busy Bears Transition Morning** – On Thursday 6th July from 10am – 11.30am you and your child are invited to join us for this event. Children can bring their favourite teddy along!

TRANSITION

- **Summer Fete** – Our summer fayre will be held on Friday 14th of July after school. This is another great opportunity for your child to become familiar with our school and we hope to see you there.
- Towards the end of the summer term you will also receive a **photo pack**, which will include photos of the staff in Foundation and the learning environment. This is for you child to keep at home and refer to over the summer, to help them feel more familiar with our school.
- **Home Visits** – These will take place on Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th September. (Please book your slot this evening)
- **Part time school start -**

Thursday 7th September	Cohort 2 – 8.30am – 11.30am Cohort 1 – 12.30pm – 3.10pm
Friday 8th September	Cohort 2 – 8.30am – 11.30am Cohort 1 – 12.30pm – 3.10pm
Monday 11th September	All children in from 8.30am – 12.45pm (Stay for lunch)
Tuesday 12th September	All children in from 8.30am – 12.45pm (Stay for lunch)
Wednesday 13th September	All children in from 8.30am – 12.45pm (Stay for lunch)
Thursday 14th September	All children in school full-time 8.30am – 3.10pm

We will now let you know which class your child will be in. Although your child will be a Ladybird or a Bumblebee, the way that we teach in Foundation provides the children with lots of opportunities to mix across the year group and get to know all children and adults.

At the end of each academic year, we consider whether there is a need for the two classes to be mixed across the year group, before moving onto the next.

Please now follow us over to the classrooms, where you can book the two play sessions and home visit and ask any questions you may have.

Thank for your time this evening. This presentation will be available on our school website -
www.sandgateprimaryschool.co.uk

