



RECEPTION PARENTS' INFORMATION BOOK

2025

Welcome

Dear Families,

A very warm welcome to Caldecote Community Primary School! We are absolutely delighted that you and your child are joining our school community. Starting school is a big moment for every family, and here at Caldecote, we are incredibly proud of the exceptional start our Reception team provides.

We are immensely proud of our school - a place where children are nurtured, inspired, and encouraged to become confident, curious learners. From the moment your child walks through our doors, they will be surrounded by warmth, care and encouragement. At Caldecote, we live by our core values- Care, Challenge, Persevere and Succeed- and these are at the heart of everything we do. Your child's journey with us will be filled with exciting opportunities to grow, to explore, and to thrive in a supportive and inspiring environment.

We are committed to working closely with you to ensure that your child's first steps into school are not only happy and secure, but full of joy and discovery. We look forward to meeting you and your child and to building a strong, positive partnership with you in the months and years ahead.

With kind regards,

Mrs Briggs- Headteacher

Mrs Jenkins - Deputy Headteacher



Who are the Reception staff?



Mrs. Watson



Miss Marvin



Miss Copeland



Mrs. Birchenall



Mrs. Whitfield



Miss Bannister



Miss Griffith



Miss Harrison

Our philosophy is to nurture every child's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. We are advocates of the power of play and allow children ample time to explore, create and take risks within an enriched environment supported by sensitive and passionate Early Years Practitioners.

Our curriculum encompasses seven areas of learning and development. All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected.

Prime areas

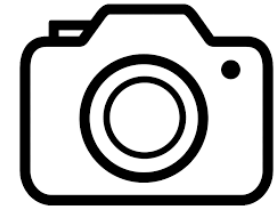
- Communication and language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and emotional development

Specific areas

- Literacy
- Math
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and design

Throughout the year the Reception children play, make friends, develop and learn. They have great fun, exploring and creating, indoors and outside. They gain independence and confidence, and their natural curiosity is encouraged at all times.

Focus Week



In partnership with parents and carers, your child will be a focus child once a term. Prior to this week your child will take home the school camera. We will record your child's experiences on a Learning Journey sheet. When the week is over your child's teacher will invite you into school to speak about their progress and discuss any queries you may have.

These meetings take place straight after school in the classroom.

Learning Journey For [redacted] Term [redacted] Date [redacted]

Entrances should include the initial observation (and assessment), the teaching and outcome.

Identified Areas for Focus:
General/Parents:
Profile:

[redacted] brought me his book he'd made. I encouraged him to read it to me. [redacted] confidently read it. I commented how brilliant he was and he was very proud.

[redacted] had an idea. He wanted to make a picture book. I encouraged [redacted] to gather up the resources he needed. [redacted] began to draw pictures. I wondered if [redacted] could tell the story about his plan. I inspired [redacted] to seal tape the edges to make a book. [redacted] continued to describe all the things he would draw inside. I wondered if [redacted] could draw a rocket in the garden. He wanted to know how to do it. I modelled how to draw a spiggle rose. [redacted] worried away and then had a tum. He tried very hard and added lots of the roses to the picture. This is your house," he said.

[redacted] was feeling really happy about the book he made. I wondered if he would like to show it to the head teacher. [redacted] was very keen. He visited the head teacher who loved his writing. I wondered how [redacted] felt. "I feel happy. I got a special sticker because my book was so good. I commented those I should feel proud of myself."

[redacted] provided some challenging adding sums for [redacted] as he found some too easy. [redacted] provided the large number chart to 100. [redacted] was able to answer the addition sums correctly using the number chart to help him.

[redacted] was making a picture book. I wondered what he would write on the blank pages. [redacted] responded with a new structured sentence. I wondered if he could write it without any help. [redacted] enjoyed the challenge. He segmented the sounds in words and wrote tricky words "there and you" from memory. [redacted] wrote beautifully about his pictures.

[redacted] wrote a beautiful story. I wondered if he wanted to share it with his friends. I provided him an opportunity [redacted] came to the front and presented his book to his friends. He told them how he made it. I wondered if [redacted] could read the story to them. [redacted] did. I commented that he had spoken clearly and confidently and that he responded well to his listeners.

[redacted] had made a rocket using the shapes. I asked him to describe the shapes and tell me their names. [redacted] could confidently do this.

Obs	Communication and Language	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Physical Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Personal, Social and Emotional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Mathematics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Understanding the World	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs	Expressive Arts and Design	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs indicators		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obs outcomes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parent consultation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Every day counts!



Our school day is from **08:40am – 03:00pm**.

As we want the best for our children, we would like to work with you to achieve 100% attendance.

Young children's brains develop rapidly, which is why poor attendance quickly affects your child's progress. Holidays in term time are unlikely to be authorised for this reason.

There may be times when your child is unwell. Please call the school office as early as possible on the first day of absence, stating the reason your child is not in school.

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, please allow **24 hours** since the last bout, before returning to school.

Telephone: 0116 282 4482

Term Dates for your diary

All children will be in school full time from
Monday 1st September 2025

Half Term	Monday 20 th October – Friday 24 th October
Christmas Break	Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
Easter Break	Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May

Milk and Fruit



Every child under the age of 5 qualifies for free school milk. Once children reach their fifth birthday, parents can choose to pay for their children to continue having milk, This can be paid to your class teacher in the morning or at the office. Children are offered fresh fruit throughout the day.

Allergies



We have both children and adults in school who have sensitivities to Nuts. Nuts do not have to be ingested to have an effect, being around someone who has eaten nuts can cause adverse reactions. Please ensure that packed lunches do not contain nuts.

Lunch Time

Lunch time will be between 11:30 – 12:25.

Hot dinners

At the start of reception, we encourage all children to try school dinners, especially as they are **free**. Teaching staff accompany the children to dinner for the first few weeks and will be able to tell you what your child has eaten. If staff have any concerns about how much your child is eating, they will ask you to highlight the foods that your child usually eats so that staff can support your child in selecting these foods.

Packed lunch

You may wish to bring in a packed lunch from home. We ask that you try to keep this as nutritionally balanced as possible:

This might include:

- A sandwich
- A piece of fruit
- A yoghurt
- A small treat (not including chocolate or sweets)
- A drinks bottle with water



Uniform

Our school uniform consists of a Royal Blue Sweatshirt and white polo shirts.

Trousers/skirts/dresses can be worn in black or grey.
Coats must be warm and waterproof.

Shoes/trainers must be black and where possible have Velcro straps

We encourage lots of outdoor, messy and wet play when we are learning which inevitably leads to a change of clothes being needed.

Please can each child keep a bag of spare clothes at school, a mud suit/waterproofs and a pair of wellies.

Please make sure that all uniform is clearly labelled.



Uniform

(Purchased from the school office)

Sweatshirt (Royal Blue)	£9.95
Cardigan (Royal Blue)	£10.95
Fleece Jacket (Royal Blue)	£12.95
Hooded Jumper	£12.00
PE Bag	£5.70
Knitted Hat	£4.50



Children new to our school will receive a school bookbag for free.



ClassDojo

Class Dojo

Each class will have their own Class Dojo page. You will be invited to join us on this platform which can be easily accessed by mobile phone.

We use class dojo to inform parents of any important dates/ events and to share photos of our adventures in school.

There is a message function that can be used to communicate any queries or information straight to the class teacher.

Class Dojo also has a function that allows users to select a language to translate messages/posts into.

Breakfast Club

We offer a breakfast club for children who need to arrive at school a little earlier. It is open from **07:45am**, please come into school via the Office. Children will be provided a choice of breakfast and will have the opportunity to play and socialise with their friends. No pre-booking is required and there is currently no charge for breakfast club.



Making Payments to school

As a school we use a system called SCOPAY to help manage any incoming money to school. This includes the payment of any trips that your child might attend. The office will send further details about this app and your log-in details once the term begins.



After school Club

Emma's Explorers

Emma's Explorers is Ofsted Registered, Childcare after school club.

We are based at Caldecote Community Primary

Opening times:

Reception	3pm – 5pm
Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2)	3:15pm – 5:15pm
Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)	3:20pm – 5:20pm

We accept childcare and student finance vouchers

Help with childcare cost:
If eligible – Tax/Universal Credits



EMAIL

emmas_explorers@outlook.com

MOBILE

07960570082

