



WELLAND ACADEMY

Foundation Stage

Reception

2020-2021



My Welcome Book

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Principal: Mrs J Anderson



WELLAND ACADEMY

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to Welland Academy. We have written this booklet to help you understand more about what it will be like in the Reception classes at the academy.

In Reception, your child will continue to play, as they have done at pre-school. They will be able to use the inside and outside learning areas to develop many skills, including working with others. The adults will guide their learning through talking to your child and encouraging them to use 'good talk' back. Your child will develop confidence and independence when it comes to their learning.

We make sure we provide a happy, safe and stimulating place for the children to learn. As Ofsted stated, 'Welland Academy is a happy school. Pupils enjoy learning and being with their teachers.'

Please remember if you have any questions or worries please get in touch. You can always ask the EYFS team questions through Tapestry, or face to face in the mornings or after school. If you would like to speak to myself, I will be more than happy to speak with you at a pre-arranged time or in the playgrounds at the start and end of the day.

Yours Sincerely



J Anderson

Mrs Joanna Anderson

Principal

Times of the Day

Try and help the children learn these!



8.45

School Begins



11.45

Lunchtime Starts



1.00

Lunchtime Ends



3.20pm

School Finishes

The Academy Uniform



Children in our academy must wear the full uniform. It is not an option at The Welland Academy. Please refer to the Uniform Policy (copies will be made available in your Welcome Pack).

Please clearly put your child's name on everything so that we can return items to the right pupil!

Uniform can be ordered online at
www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/wellandacademy
and there is a nearly new sale every term.

All new starters are provided with a basic set of uniform once we have received all your paperwork.

Suitable Clothing

We have academy uniform colours (Purple) and the requirement is that all pupils have a logo-badged purple jumper/cardigan.

In Reception

- White Polo Shirt or Shirt
- Purple Jumper or Cardigan
- Black or Grey trousers (elasticated helps!)
- No long dresses or skirts as they can be dangerous when running around outside and playing indoors
- Suitable shoes (as per the uniform policy), preferably with Velcro fastening when they start school
- A coat or jacket needs to be provided every day (so children can do all the learning activities indoors and outdoors)
- Book Bag
- Lunchbox (if bringing a packed lunch)

The PE Kit

For P.E. (Physical Education) children will need a pair of trainers or plimsolls, black shorts or leggings and an Academy PE t-shirt in an academy P.E. Bag. These all need to be clearly marked with your child's name.

PLEASE NOTE: If your child is still having accidents when toileting, please put wet wipes, spare pants, tights or socks and trousers or skirt in a bag which can be left in school.

Organisation

Your child will be given their own peg and tray with their name and a picture on it for easy identification.



Please bring in a water bottle with their name on which they can fill up again if needed. We will encourage your child to take it home at the end of the day and then return.



In the morning they will be encouraged to self-register by finding their name and choosing what they want for their lunch. These pictures will change regularly and link to our topic.



How do children learn?

Children in the Reception year follow the Early Years Foundation Curriculum. This follows on from the work they have done in a Nursery or pre-school setting.

All children will have a variety of 'teacher led' and 'child initiated' activities every day. 'Teacher led' activities are carried out by an adult in a small focus group with a clear learning objective. A valuable part of your child's learning will be through activities or areas of interest that they initiate.

The classrooms are set up so that there are clear areas of learning with resources that are easily accessible. The outside area is seen as an essential part of your child's learning journey. As well as obvious physical activities, all other areas of the curriculum can be met outside. Your child will have a class teacher, but we work closely together across the rooms and your child will be encouraged to spend time in both classrooms and the outside area.

All children are encouraged to be as independent as possible. Part of our role as teachers is to support them in making sensible choices and developing their understanding of their thoughts and feelings.

Initially it may seem that your child is 'just playing' but all activities provide lots of learning and development as well as being enjoyable.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Personal, Social and Emotional Development is:

- Learning about routines and expectations of school in relation to behaviour and learning,
- Making friends, taking turns, sharing, compromising and beginning to manage conflict,
- Developing the self-confidence to speak to others and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings,
- Beginning to explain how they are feeling and why,
- Trying new activities and give opinions about things they like and don't like,
- Managing changes to routine without becoming upset.



Communication and Language is:

- Listening to others in one to one, small group, large group and whole class situations for an increasing length of time,
- Listening and responding to stories, songs and poems,
- Joining in with repeated phrases from stories (for example ~ I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down),
- Retelling known stories using appropriate story language (for example ~ Once upon a time, happily ever after),
- Understanding and following instructions,
- Answering questions and giving opinions about a shared text,



- Using speech that is influenced by their experiences of stories.

Physical Development is:

- Using tools and equipment that require hand to eye co-ordination,
- Developing control over equipment like balls and hoops, by pushing, throwing, catching, kicking and rolling,
- Negotiating space and avoiding obstacles by changing speed or direction,
- Using mark making equipment like pencils, correctly and with control to form recognisable letters, numbers and shapes,
- Understanding the importance of sleeping, healthy eating and exercise,
- Managing their own hygiene of toileting, getting dressed and undressed,
- Understanding how to store, carry and use tools and equipment safely.



Literacy is:

- Describing characters, settings and events in stories,
- Understanding story structure and predicting what will happen next,
- Handling books correctly, holding them the right way round and turning pages one at a time,
- Reading and writing words that are not phonetically correct (we call these tricky words),
- Daily phonic lessons learning the sound a letter makes and applying it when reading and writing independently,



- Developing a joy and confidence in reading and writing.

Mathematics is:

- Recognising, writing, counting and ordering numbers to 10 and then to 20 and beyond,
- Having an understanding of quantity by knowing which number is more or less,
- Adding and subtracting 2 single digit numbers,
- Recognising, creating and describing repeated patterns,
- Using everyday language to compare size, position, distance and money,
- Comparing and ordering items according to their height, length or weight,
- Naming 2d and 3d shapes and using them to build models, recreate patterns and solve problems,
- Developing an understanding of how time is measured (for example ~ hours, days, weeks, months, seasons).



Understanding of the World is:

- Developing an understanding about what makes themselves and their family special,
- Developing an understanding of how time affects change,
- Learning about different traditions, beliefs, cultures and religions,
- Observing and discussing features of their environment and the natural world,
- Talking about how things work and why things happen,
- Using age appropriate software programmes on the computer to support and extend their learning.



Expressive Arts and Design is:

- Developing an understanding of how materials can be used and adapted,
- Understanding how to create different textures, colours and effects,
- Building a range of songs and dances that can be altered,
- Using a range of musical instruments and exploring volume, tempo and rhythm,
- Responding to feelings, ideas and experiences by choosing and using a range of media and materials,
- Playing alongside other children by developing a story using appropriate resources.



How you can support your child...

- *Talk* to your child before they start school. What are they looking forward to? Are they worried about anything? Help to prepare them for the next step in their learning.
- Make sure they can go to the *toilet* by themselves. Then ensure they can wipe themselves and know to wash their hands.
- Support them getting themselves *dressed* and undressed including socks, shoes and coats.
- At *mealtimes* make sure they can use a knife, fork and spoon properly.
- Read *stories* and nursery rhymes to your child. Ask them about the pictures they can see and questions about what is happening and what might happen next.
- Ensure your child can make simple verbal *requests* in English, for example to go to the toilet, if they are hurt, if they want something.
- Play *games* with your child both inside and outside. Encourage them to wait and take turns, showing them the importance of fair play.
- Encourage your child to *write* freely on their own even if it looks like a scribble, and ask them what they have written.

This is called '*school readiness*' and will help your child feel good about themselves and give them the necessary skills to ensure they are happy and confident to start school.

How Welland Academy supports Parents...

Using Tapestry (an online learning journal) is crucial in keeping up-to-date with your child's learning and sharing with us what your child is doing at home. We also use this as a way to keep in touch as all adults check for new messages daily. We will regularly share and celebrate learning that takes place at home and value your comments about what they have been doing in school. Make sure you have signed the form so we can activate your account.



We will invite you in many times over the year to share your child's learning and show you different ways you can continue to support and extend your child's knowledge.

We will run workshops in reading, maths and phonics so that you can see how your child learns these crucial skills. We will give you fun ideas that you can try at home.

We will send weekly homework on Tapestry for you to complete with your child. These are often in the form of games and practical experiences and cover all areas of the curriculum.

We will send home reading books to support your child in applying their phonic and reading skills at home.

We will invite you to our regular reading café. You and your child will take part in a creative reading activity and then choose a story sack to take home. Inside you'll find lots of resources to support a thorough understanding of the story in the form of puppets, games, pictures and key words.

