



Welcome to Bowker Vale Primary School EYFS 2026



**BOWKER VALE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Aiming High; Showing Integrity
Being Respectful, Honest, Fair and Proud*

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Headteacher: Mrs R Jacques



Welcome to Bowker Vale Primary School's Early Years Foundation Stage.

We look forward to welcoming our new families this September. Please use this pack to familiarise yourself with our transition schedule.

We have designed our transition schedule to give your child a smooth and happy start to their time with us. We have a wonderful team of experienced and nurturing staff in who will support your child to settle every step of the way.

If you have any questions in the mean time please contact the school office.

'Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential.'

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021





Our Early Years Practitioners:



EYFS Team Leader: Ms Dixon

Reception Team:

Daffodils class: Ms Dixon (EYFS Lead/Teacher)

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Hamer, Miss Begum

Honeysuckle Class: Miss Long (Teacher)

Teaching Assistants: Miss Orr, Miss Begum

Primrose Class Nursery Team:

Mrs Hamid-Butt (Teacher)

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Pickup, Miss Malik, Mrs Butt

All our Early Years Staff hold a paediatric First Aid certificate.

General Information

Uniform

We expect all children to wear school uniform:

- School blue jumper or cardigan
- White polo t-shirt
- Black or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Black school shoes or black trainers (no colours, no laces)
- Wellies (to be left in school)
- Bowker Vale Book Bag (no rucksacks)
- Named water bottle (no bigger than 300ml)



Our uniform is now only available from Ziggy's – this is located in Harpurhey Shopping Centre (near the large Asda at –North City Shopping Centre, 20 Lee Rd, Manchester M9 4DH.

All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

We have plenty of good quality pre-loved uniform, if you would like any extras at any time -please just ask. Also, if you have any good quality and clean uniform to donate, this is appreciated.

Wearing jewellery is not allowed, with the exception of stud earrings. On PE days please make sure earrings have been removed. Long hair should be tied back.

Practise putting on/off jumpers/cardigans & socks and shoes at home.

In Early Years we spend a lot of time outside, please ensure your child is prepared for the great British weather. All children need a waterproof coat and wellies.



Our uniform is our work wear – it will get messy!

From time to time children have accidents or can become messy throughout the day. If your child is in Nursery please ensure that your child has a drawstring bag labelled with his/her name containing a spare set of clothes. Reception children will need a spare change of clothes for the autumn term which can be kept in their bookbags.

Home Learning

Once your child is settled into school, home learning will be set for you to help your child and find out about their learning. All Children will also get a library book for you to share each week. Reception children will get a guided reading book which we expect you to read three times at home. These books must be returned to school and any lost books will be charged at £5.

Toilet Training

Due to staffing and lack of facilities, unless there is a declared medical need we expect your child to be fully toilet trained before they can increase to a full day at school. If you need support please ask us for advice.

Snacks

Children have access to a piece of fruit each day. All children must have a named water bottle (no bigger than 300ml) This needs to be taken home, washed and refilled every day.

Breakfast Club

We have a breakfast club from 7.50am. Last entry is 8.25am. Children must be settled in their new class before starting Breakfast club and numbers are limited. Please speak to the school office before you request a place. Breakfast club costs £2.50 a day.

After School Care

We do not currently have any after school care on site. If you are in need of after school care one option is Happy Tots day Nursery. They collect children from their classes and take them to the Nursery for after school care. Please contact them directly if you need any further information. Please note this is a separate service to Bowker Vale Primary School.

Lunchtime Arrangements

Children have a choice of school dinners or a packed lunch can be brought from home. All children in Reception will be entitled to a free school meal.

Children in Nursery are not eligible for this, so for Nursery children who wish to take a school dinner there is a charge of £12 a week, £2.40 a day. This is payable via our app, please see below for details.

Lunch boxes brought from home must also be labelled. Packed lunches must be contain a healthy balanced meal. Please note, as some children have severe allergies, we are a nut free school. Packed lunches must not contain nuts in any form, including chocolate nutty spreads such as Nutella.

Lunchtime Care Charge - additional charge for ALL parents/carers (regardless of a school meal or packed lunch)

Lunchtime is from 11.30 until 12.30. All children remain in school for this time. During lunchtime, the children can either be provided with a hot dinner by school or bring a packed lunch from home. The children are supervised by staff from the Early Years and wider staff teams. A charge of £1 per day is made for all children which covers the cost of the staffing supervision – this is our Lunchtime Care Charge.

Please note this is an additional charge for all children, whether they have a school dinner or bring a packed lunch. It is £5 a week for every child. For children on a packed lunch it is just this charge of £5. For children having a school dinner it is on top of the school dinner charge.

Payments will be billed through the school's online payment system. Further details will be provided to parents/carers in September.

Parking

We recognise parking is a problem for many parents, we recommend walking where possible. Where bringing a car is unavoidable, please park courteously in the area. Parents are not allowed to use the school car park or park on the pavement in front of the school fence. Please also remember that the bus stop is not a legal or safe place to park.

Birthdays

Your child is welcome to come to school in non-uniform on their birthday (or the nearest school day if it falls on a weekend). Please note we are not able to give out party bags, sweets or cake to the other children in your child's class. If you would like the class to have a memento for your child's birthday, you are welcome to bring in a storybook for their teacher to read with their class. This can then be kept in the class book area.

Home/School Communication

In September you will be able to set up an account to School Spider where all communication is sent from. We also have:

- Our class App
- Termly newsletters
- Parent meetings: Autumn and Spring
- Individual reports at the end of the school year
- Parent workshops throughout the year
- Termly Stay and Play Sessions

If you have any concerns, questions or just want to tell us something... please speak to your child's class teacher

The website is another great way to keep up to date with school information and events. Each class has a page on the website with information. Holiday dates, curriculum information and letters are also available on the website.

<https://www.bowkervale.manchester.sch.uk/>

Blog

Each class has a blog where you can view photographs and find out information about current activities your child has been completing. Please keep up to date with this via the school website.

School Spider App

This is an app we use for you to pay online for school dinners and trips.

You will be sent a link in September to set up your account.

In order to help us keep you informed with school events please make sure that you keep the school office up to date with any changes to your contact information, especially phone numbers or email addresses

Nursery children September transition

In September your child will follow this system of gradual admission. You will be given their start date and times at their stay and play visits in July. If you do not attend your stay and play sessions your September transition will be lengthened. If your child requires longer to settle into school we will discuss this with you on an individual basis.

3rd, 4th September - Your child will have a one hour visit with a parent/carer either morning or afternoon.

5th, 7th September – Your child will have a one hour visit on their own either morning or afternoon.

8th, 9th September– Your child will have a full morning or afternoon visit.

10th, 11th September – Your child will have a full morning or afternoon visit including lunch.

14th - If your child is ready they can stay all day.

Reception September Transition

3rd September - Your child will spend the afternoon at school from 12.30pm

4th September - Your child can stay all day if ready



How Can You Help Your Child Get Ready For School?

- Talk to your child and listen to what he or she has to say. Talk about starting school, how exciting it will be with lots of new things to do, and lots more friends to make.
- Involve your child in everyday activities e.g. shopping – talk about what you are buying etc.
- Encourage your child to go to the toilet independently (flushing the toilet and washing their hands).
- Encourage your child to get themselves dressed, particularly putting on coats and shoes and socks.
- Read a bedtime story and sing traditional nursery rhymes and songs. Join the local library.
- When watching television with your child encourage him or her to talk with you about the programme.
- Get used to being with others, could your child spend a short time now and then with another family member?
- Allow your child to use scissors, pencils, glue, paint etc.
- Take your child on visits and trips.
- Encourage them to tidy toys away when they have finished playing with them.
- Encourage them to feed themselves using a knife and fork.
- Introduce new foods, tastes and textures regularly. When they start school they will be eating different foods at lunchtime and the more they are used to trying new foods introduced the easier it will be for them.

Useful websites for parents:

BBC Tiny Happy People- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

Place 2B Parenting Smart - <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Toilet Training support- <https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>



Parents Checklists

- Complete the Free School meals form:
click here: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>
- Nursery children- apply for a childcare code:
click here: <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk>
- Purchase and label all uniform
- Reception children – Admissions form & Birth Certificate
- Read the home-school agreement
- Complete an “All About Me” form
- Attend all 4 Stay and Play Sessions

