



Kirtlington
C.E. School

Kirtlington C E School
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1st September 2023

Dear parents and carers,

A big warm welcome to Rowan Class! Below is some housekeeping information for nursery children.

Travelling to school and gate opening times

If you live in the village, we recommend walking, cycling or scooting to school. We have a bike rack inside the front gate, which you are welcome to use. If you are coming from further away, we ask that you park at the village hall off South Green.

The school gate opens at 8:35am. We ask parents to wait with their children in the playground, at the gate to Rowan Class until the teachers are ready to let the children in at 8:40am, where you may bring your child round and settle them into the classroom.

A typical day in Rowan Class for nursery children

Children arrive from 08.40am and hang up coats, change shoes if necessary and wash their hands. Then they self-register and freely access the activities out in the classroom until everyone has arrived. At 8:50am we take the register and discuss the date and the weather. We may sing a song or dance to music before exploring the activities indoors or outside with our friends. Snack and Chat is at 10am. Children will have a cut up selection of fruit, vegetables, toast or cereals and are offered milk or water to drink. After Snack and Chat we continue activities indoors and outside until lunchtime which is at 11.45am. We go to the Hall for lunch, joined later by the rest of the school. Good manners and social interaction are encouraged. After lunch we usually have free play outside. In the afternoon the children move freely between activities indoors and outside. At 2.30pm children all help to tidy up and we finish the day with a story and/or song or game on the carpet. Children will take part in phonics, maths and literacy lessons throughout the week, through fun games, activities and stories. We have a PE session in the hall on a Tuesday afternoon.

Collecting at the end of the day

The school day finishes at 3:10pm. Please come through the gate and into the classroom to collect your child. Rest assured that if there have been any worries, niggles or concerns we will catch up with you at the end of the day. Anything medical will be reported to you via a note. The school gates are locked at 3:20pm to allow our after school clubs to use the outside area.

Lunches

Children may bring a packed lunch. We encourage healthy eating – please consider this when making up packed lunches (no sweets or fizzy drinks). Alternatively children may have a school lunch. This is a great way for children to improve their physical skills by learning how to use cutlery. It can also encourage picky eaters to try the foods their peers are eating. We encourage good table manners and conversation thus enhancing their social skills. Parents need to sign up to Parent Pay (details available from the School Office. Email: office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk) where you can choose and pay for your child's meal in advance.

Please note, Kirtlington School is a nut and sesame free school due to severe allergies.

Independence

Part of the Foundation Stage learning ethos is that every child becomes independent. This means that they are able to visit the toilet independently. Of course children have accidents and we are prepared for that, but please do inform the team if your child is still not independent. Please make sure your child has a named bag of spare clothes, in case of emergencies.

We assist and guide all children, but as their skills develop so our expectations rise. For example, we encourage the children to 'have a go' at – changing their shoes, putting on and taking off their coat, hanging it up, tidying up the toys, washing their hands, toileting, and many other skills. We encourage the children to ask questions, take turns, look carefully, listen quietly, explore their environment, use their imagination and become helpful, respectful and responsible members of their class. We are grateful to parents for their support in helping children to gain these skills. To support children in developing independence we ask that they have clothes they can put on themselves. Some children can find tights very difficult at first, and we find that trousers and dresses with zips are much easier than buttons. Elasticated trousers can also aid independence. Please can shoes or trainers ideally have Velcro fastenings, no laces unless your child can confidently manage them.

Snacks

Your child will receive a fruit or vegetable snack and a glass of milk during the morning, but please let us know of any allergies on the new student form you received.

Uniform and hair

Nursery children are not required to wear school uniform, but we do encourage you to purchase a school jumper or cardigan for use on school trips or for school photos. Children should wear practical clothes, suitable for the time of year, that can get dirty. Please can you ensure that all clothes are named. All long hair should be tied up at all times, but especially for PE.

Items the children will need every day:

- A water bottle
- Waterproof coat
- Warm hat in the winter
- Sun hat in the summer
- A change of clothes in a bag to leave at school
- Book bag (from the uniform provider) or small rucksack

- A pair of wellies and trainers **to be left in school**
- A full set of waterproofs/all in one **to be left at school**

Please label all items

Key Person

Each child will be allocated a Keyperson with whom they and their family can form a close relationship and we will let you know who this is. Miss Grocutt will be the Key Person for all children in Reception and all nursery children will have either Izzie or Cheryl as their key person.

Absence

If your child is poorly, please contact the school office by telephone before 8:30am.

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Best wishes

Miss Grocutt

Miss Grocutt
Rowan Class Teacher and Early Years Lead