

Welcome to Downview

We grow and learn together every day

Reception 2026-27



Meet our Reception Team..



Blackberry Class

Mrs Grainger and Miss Chadwick supported by Miss Amer



Strawberry Class

Miss Swanton supported by Miss Stone



Blueberry Class

Mrs Kelly supported by Miss Muir

Additional support:

Miss Funnell and Mrs Edwards

PPA teachers:

Mrs Oliver (Year Leader), Mrs Hawkins and Mrs Jackson



What to expect in September...

- School starts at 8:40am. Our school day finishes at 3.20pm and the entrance gate is open from 3:15pm.
- The curriculum we follow at Downview is a mixture of a play based learning activities alongside more formal teaching. We hold workshops in the Autumn Term to share how we teach Reading , Writing and Maths so that you can support your child at home.
- The children will have a PE day each week. For our Woodland classroom, named welly boots are useful.
- **Teachers are available to talk to every day after school.** Please tell us if anything happens at home which might affect your child's learning.



Everything you need to know is on our website...





Preparing for school

- It will really help your child and us if they are able to:
- Use the toilet and wash their hands afterwards
- Use a knife, fork and spoon to eat their meal.
- Recognise their name
- Share toys with other children and put these away
- Open their water bottle

Please remember to name EVERYTHING! Don't leave this to the last minute as it takes a while! We have over 600 children at Downview and we want to be able to return things to you when they get lost!



<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/4ez9dkTtOVk>

Parentkind-Be School Ready!



What to
bring...



- Book bag – every day
- Water bottle (empty) every day
- Packed lunch if you're not having a school dinner

Please no backpacks or toys-we don't have room for these.



Downview School Uniform

PE day

- Plain or logo sweatshirt or cardigan - navy
- Plain trousers / skirt / pinafore - navy blue, grey or black
- Plain or logo polo shirt / shirt / blouse - white or navy
- A blue and white checked dress
- Smart, low-heeled shoes or trainers - black or blue
- Outdoor coat, weather appropriate

- Round necked T-Shirt - white
- Plain shorts - navy or black
- Trainers
- Plain jogging bottoms - navy or black
- Plain sweatshirt - navy or black

On your class PE day, please come dressed in your PE kit.
School jumper/cardigan can be worn for P.E.

No sports club attire or logos
No earrings or jewellery
No hooded or zipped sweatshirts

**ALL CLEARLY
NAMED PLEASE**

Logo uniform can be purchased from JW sports. Second-hand uniform is available in our school reception area for a small donation, if you are able to make one.

JW Sports



Hot meals and milk



- From Reception until the end of Year 2, every child is entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. You will need to pre-order meals for your child and share any allergies with ISS. **Wednesday 9th September is the first school dinner day.**
- We provide a fruit/vegetable snack each morning.
- Your child is entitled to free milk until they turn five. You will need to order this through Coolmilk.com.
<https://coolmilk.com/parents/>
- If you have any problems, please ask at the school office.



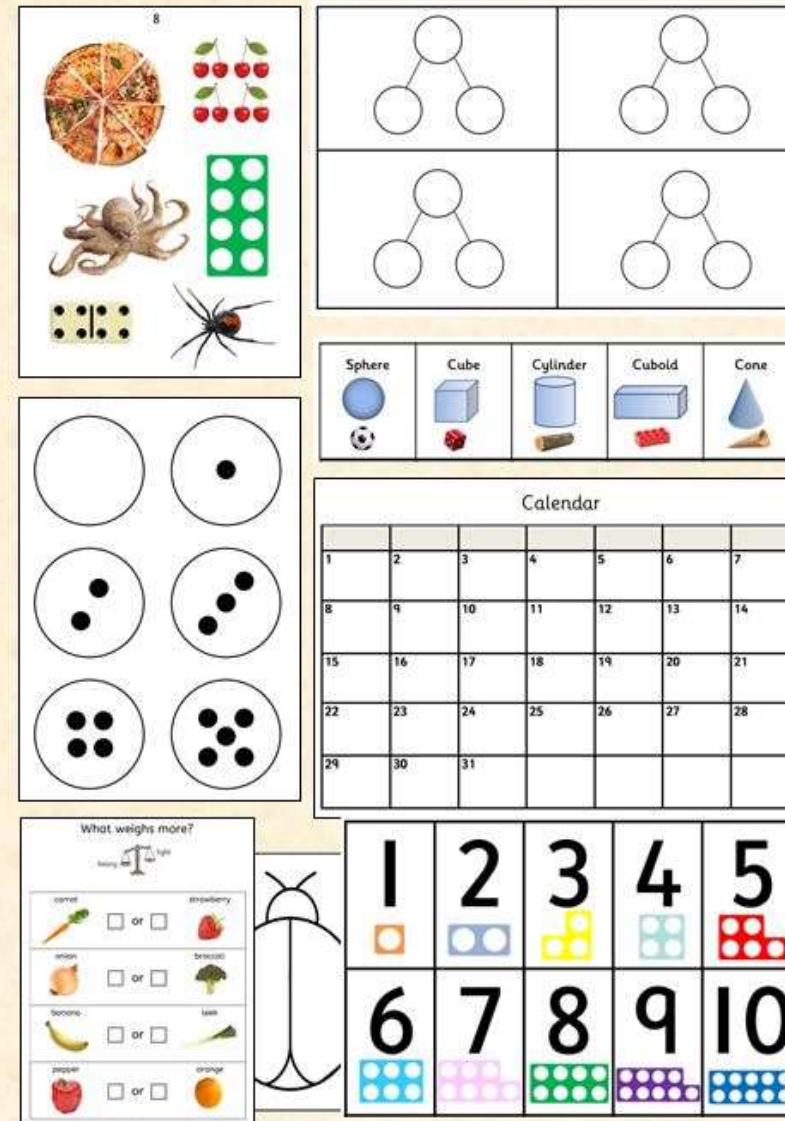
Reading

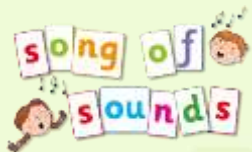
- The children will begin their reading journey as soon as they start school.
- Children usually make very good progress with your support at home and we ask you to spend at least 20 minutes every day reading with your child. Your input makes a really big difference!
- Find a quiet time away from devices and enjoy the reading together.
- We use the Collins Big Cat scheme and the children progress through this as they learn their sounds with our Song of Sounds teaching.



Maths

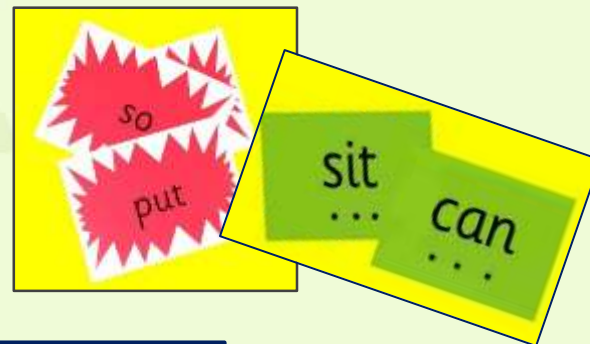
We use the White Rose Maths scheme to teach the children. Maths learning is structured around developing a deep understanding of numbers, patterns, and spatial reasoning through practical, hands-on play experiences.





Phonics

At Downview we use the Song Of Sounds Phonics Programme.



- The song teaches each sound rhyme which helps the children remember how to read and write the sound.
- The children will also learn 'tricky red words' (which can't be sounded out like: **the, I** or **we**)
- Check out our website for more details.





Tapestry

- We use Tapestry in school to record observations and activities with the children. We can do this for individual children and small groups.
- The app is easy to use and we provide you with individual logins so that we can share your child's work and progress with you. Your account is secure and can only be accessed using your login details.
- You can also use your account to upload your own photos and examples of learning at home if you wish to.



Assessment in the Early Years

- The Reception Baseline Assessment is administered to every child starting Reception within the first 6 weeks of their start date. It allows us to gain a snapshot of every child's starting point in early communication, literacy and mathematics skills, and helps us to plan for their progress.
- At the end of their Reception Year, each child's level of development is assessed against the 17 early learning goals (ELGs) set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. These cover the following areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Getting started in September...

We have a phased start, the first full day is Friday 11th September.

Stay and Play
Weds 1st July
9:30-11:00am

or

1:30pm-3pm

We will let you know your time slot.

This is an opportunity to..

- Meet teachers and TAs
- Explore the learning environments
- Start to make new friends!

September

Thurs 3rd, Fri 4th, Mon 7th Sept

Meet 1:1 with teachers and TAs

Please sign up tonight for a time that suits you .

Phased start

Tuesday 8th-Morning only-8:40am-11:30am

Weds 9th + Thurs 10th-Morning and Lunch-8:40am-12:30pm

Friday 11th Sept- First full day -8:40am-3:20pm



Come and have a look around our Reception area...

Your child's
class is
printed on the
letter in your
book bag.



Don't forget to book your
Meet the Teacher
appointment for September back in
the classroom.



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