

# ANCHORSHOLME ACADEMY



**WELCOME TO ANCHORSHOLME ACADEMY**  
**Part of The Sea View Trust**

## **RECEPTION 2023 BOOKLET**



## **Welcome to Anchorsholme Academy!**

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our school in September!

Our 2023 Reception year group will be made up of 90 children across three classes of 30.

Our Reception teachers are...



Mrs Dickinson  
(EYFS LEAD)



Mrs Glover



Miss Egan



Mrs Barratt



Mrs Clegg

Starting school is a time of excitement for both children and parents. It is a time for new beginnings, making new friends and enjoying new and positive learning experiences.

We hope this information booklet will help alleviate any anxieties, answer some of your questions and enable children to feel confident and happy within their new environment. Please take time to look through this booklet, which we hope is informative and helpful.

### **EYFS Curriculum**

All reception children follow the bespoke 'EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) Anchorsholme Curriculum by the Sea', which is topic based and organised into seven areas:

1. Personal, social & emotional development
2. Communication & language
3. Physical development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding the world
7. Expressive arts & design

We do a lot of Outdoor Play, whatever the weather! Please make sure your child has:

- A warm coat, hat and gloves (during cold weather)
- Sun cream and a sun hat (during sunny/warm weather)

Please ensure items are clearly named. Although we try our best to stay as clean as possible, learning is a messy job and children have to experiment to develop and perfect new skills.

# Important Skills to have before Starting School



## Am I ready for school?



### Tips for parents

When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. Use this sheet as a guide to help track their progress.

#### Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
  - I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

#### Speaking & literacy

- I am interested in reading stories & looking at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
  - I am practising recognising my name when it's written down

#### Getting dressed & undressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my clothes
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
- I can put my coat on & use a zip

#### Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
  - I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
  - I like asking questions

#### Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
  - I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

#### Writing skills

- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy experimenting with different shaped scribbles
  - I am practising holding a pencil

#### Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash & dry my hands without any help

#### Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after my things
- I am feeling confident about starting school

#### Listening & understanding

- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
  - I can follow instructions
- I understand the need to follow rules

#### Sharing & turn taking

- I can share toys & take turns
- I can play games with others
- I can interact with other children

#### Counting skills

- I enjoy practising counting objects
- I like saying number rhymes & playing counting games
  - I can recognise some numbers when they are written down

#### Routines

- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not feeling tired for school
- I'm learning to eat at the times I will on school days



## How to Help and Support Learning to Read

It is vitally important to share reading with your child – this can involve other family members too.

Looking at books together shows children that reading can be an enjoyable activity. Look at the illustrations of the books together and talk about them; move your finger along the print; pick out words your child might start to recognise; discuss what is happening in the story as you read aloud and talk about what may happen next. All of this support helps to develop their imagination and vocabulary.

Reading aloud to your child as you are sharing a book models great reading skills to your child. Talking to your child and explaining the answers to their questions also helps to develop your child's vocabulary.



Take trips to the library and book shops to look at a wider range of books together.

What children need to learn:	How you can help:
The words need to be read to understand the book and not just use the pictures.	Show the children how you are reading the words by pointing with your finger as you read each word. Look at the pictures to help decode any more difficult words.
We read the text from left to right.	Explain where you start reading and, as you read, move your finger along the print which will indicate the direction of the text.
Vocabulary – word, sentence, letter, page, line, turn over, picture.	Use the key words as you look at books so that your child becomes familiar with them.
Words don't change.	Read favourite stories and rhymes many times, encouraging your child to join in.
Reading is fun!	Read as much and as often as you can. Praise whenever possible for the attempts your child makes towards reading.

## Writing

In every session, the children are encouraged to take part in mark-making and writing activities. This may take the form of writing their names or words/sentences they have said; writing taking place in role play; or to write about a model they have made in the construction area/outside etc. Writing can take place at any point in the day and in any area in the setting. Writing is modelled daily by the class teacher to develop writing skills in all sessions. Children are encouraged to 'line write' when they have enough knowledge of grapheme-phoneme correspondences and the fine motor skills to hold a pencil effectively. They are then encouraged to 'sound out' each word in their sentence and write down the sounds they can hear in each word until they are writing whole words spelt phonetically. As the children develop their understanding of phonics, they are then able to use this knowledge in their writing to make informed spelling choices. Following modelled examples from the class teacher, and when pupils have developed enough confidence, the children go on to 'line writing' their own sentence ideas.





# TAPESTRY

## ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

In Reception, we use a website called Tapestry, which is an online journal that displays all the learning and fun of your child's early years education by recording, tracking and celebrating your child's progress in throughout the EYFS.

From messy play and first steps to learning phonics and new games, there's so much for children to do, learn and take in. Tapestry enhances this special time and we encourage all parents to activate their account as soon as possible in order to keep track of your child's experiences, as well as monitor their development and learning during their time in Reception.

Activating your Tapestry account:

1. Wait to receive a 'Tapestry Account Activation' email.
2. Click on the link within the 'activation' email. The site will request that you change your password (please only give this password out to trusted individuals, for the safety of your children).
3. You will then receive a 'Tapestry Account Activated' email.
4. To access the journal, click on the link within the 'activated' email and log in with your email address and new password.
5. To view school observations, click on your child's name (in the 'Children' tab) or on a specific observation (in the 'Obs' tab).
6. To share your own observations and photographs, click on the purple 'Ass Observation' button in the top right hand corner. We encourage parents to share their own observations and photographs as it helps us to plan activities, assess your child and celebrate their achievements.

### **Other Things to Note**

#### **Breakfast and Lunch**

Children will receive a free breakfast item (malt loaf, fruit, brioche etc.) and a carton of semi-skimmed milk each day. Children will also receive a (Universal Infant) free school meal, although you can provide a packed lunch if your child prefers. We promote healthy eating so ask that packed lunches reflect this.

#### **First Aid**

If your child has an accident at school which we are concerned about, or a head bump, we will telephone you to make you aware and ask you to come to school if necessary. If the accident is a graze, bump or bruise, we will treat the injury at school and inform you at the end of the day.

#### **Head Lice**

Please inspect your child's hair regularly for head lice and inform school if head lice are found. We hope that doing this will help to keep head lice at bay.

#### **Social Media**

Don't forget to 'Like' and 'Follow' our Facebook page – Anchorsholme Academy and 'Subscribe' to our YouTube channel – Anchorsholme Academy.

