



Transition Guide

Foundation Stage to Key Stage 1



**Barrow Hedges Primary
School**

Dear Parent / Carer,

The prospect of moving from Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to Key Stage 1 can be an anxious time for both children and parents. At Barrow Hedges Primary School we are committed to ensuring that the transition is as smooth and as free from difficulty as possible, particularly during this unprecedented time when children are welcomed back from 'Home School', or from their 'Bubbles'. We believe that if children are to make the best possible progress, it is vital to build on earlier successes and achievements. To allow this to happen, a great deal of thought, preparation and planning has taken place to ensure that your child's entry into KS1 will be both successful and enjoyable. During the Autumn term the Year 1 Leader, Miss Doble and the EYFS Leader, Mrs Covey will work together to ensure that teaching and learning; including amendments to the Year 1 curriculum, lesson plans and daily structures, bridge the gap between the Spring and Autumn terms.

This information booklet is just one small part of that process and is intended to help you to help your child gain the most from school. We hope that you find it useful and that it helps to relieve any of the worries you may have. Remember, if you as a parent can remain positive about school and what it has to offer, your child will also feel more settled and happy. They are then better equipped to take on the many changes and challenges that will be presented.

Please take the time to read this information carefully and contact your Class Teacher, or any member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) if there is anything further you require.

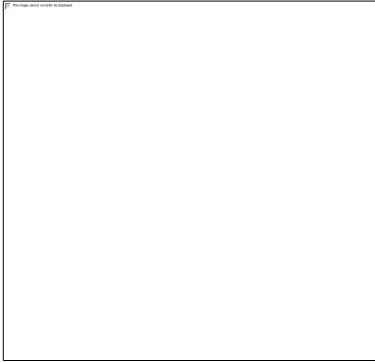
Kind regards

Louise Wood

Mrs Louise Wood
Headteacher

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD

A thorough handover between your child's Reception teacher and Year 1 teacher has already taken place; passing on information about progress made, targets set, individual strengths and weaknesses, health issues and any special educational needs. Close liaison between the two Year Groups Leaders will continue for at least the first term. If you do have any concerns about your child, or there is a medical need etc, please let your child's teacher know at the beginning of September.

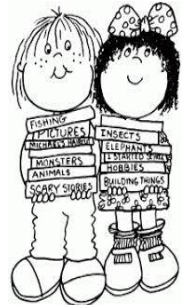


ARRIVING AND LEAVING SCHOOL

Because of the current situation, we will be providing separate information about the start and end of the school day times and procedures.

CURRICULUM

Year 1 is very similar to Reception at the beginning of the year to support transition. Child initiated time (where the children are encouraged to explore their environment to create their own learning) will be carried out some mornings and afternoons during English and Maths activities and in topic time. English lessons usually involves varied work around favourite traditional stories, poems and non-fiction texts. In the afternoon children are able to complete topic work. The topic subjects in Year 1 are 'Memory Box', 'Bright Lights, Big City', 'Moon Zoom', 'Dinosaur Planet', 'The Enchanted Woodland' and 'Superheroes'. Please do refer to the school website for more information about these topics www.barrowhedges.com



READING & PHONICS

Reading will continue to take a high priority and will be closely monitored by the teacher. Careful handover from Reception class teachers and rigorous assessment from their Year1 teacher will ensure that your child receives a book that is best matched to their needs. The children will continue to learn their Oxford Reading Tree scheme words to support their reading. Each child will be tested to ensure they receive their next set of words to take home. All children will read regularly in a variety of ways (Guided Reading, individually, as a class or group and sometimes with a parent helper) both within and outside English sessions. It is very important that you read every day with your child and that they continue to read at home to develop and extend the skills acquired in school. The children will have daily phonics lessons. It is important to practise phonics with your child as each pupil sits a Phonics test towards the end of Year 1. Further information/workshops will be provided about this nearer the time but we tend to hold a Phonics Workshop around January.

HOMEWORK

Children will receive weekly Maths and English homework that links directly to their classwork. This will be sent out on Thursdays and must be returned the following Thursday in your child's blue homework folder. They will also receive weekly spellings that link to the expectations of Year 1, set out by the National Curriculum, and will be tested on Fridays. There will also be a list of optional activities and helpful websites linked to the current topic that will be sent home every half term. These will not be expected to come back to school and are purely for those children and families that enjoy these kinds of learning activities at home. Your teacher will talk more about this in September at the Year 1 Information Session. Please support your child with their spellings, and Maths and English homework. The school Homework Policy (a copy of which can be found on the website) will provide more information about the kind of homework to expect and the ways you can continue to help your child.

PARENT HELPERS

The school welcomes parent helpers into the class, so please do see the teacher at the beginning of September if you would like to volunteer to help in class. If you wish to do so, we require a Disclosure and Barring Check (DBS).

We generally get the children settled in to their new routine before inviting helpers in at a later stage. In any case, please talk to the teacher as there are some times of the day and the week when help is of the most use. There are lots of different ways to help, from listening to children read to helping with those messy art afternoons! It is a rewarding experience, both for parents and children alike.

HOME SCHOOL DIARIES

Parents are encouraged to record daily reading in these and write down the pages the child reads each day. Please be aware that you won't get as much information or communication from the teaching staff via the Home School Diaries as you have been used to in Reception. Diaries should be in book bags every day, and will be looked at on Fridays, and signed by the class teacher, acknowledging the daily reading recorded by parents. Children can also pass on messages to the teacher themselves. This is all part of the process of encouraging children so that they themselves are more of a part of the communication process between the teacher and you.

LABELLING & UNIFORM

Please label all clothing and items brought into school (including water bottles). This is especially important for jumpers and PE Kits which can easily get muddled up. Un-named lost property is sent to the main office and kept in a box for a few weeks and is then passed on to the pre-loved uniform stock which parent helpers organise. Please check regularly if your child mislays anything. Children are expected to look after their own belongings. They are allowed to bring in a pocket-sized toy in for lunchtimes; this must be named. Please do not allow them to bring expensive or precious items to school; if they bring cards (Lego, Pokemon, football etc) for lunchtime please remind them they are not allowed to swap/trade with others.

We continue to expect children to wear smart Barrow Hedges' uniform with polo shirts tucked in at all times. We would encourage children to bring in an old pair of trainers to wear at lunchtime, especially if they enjoy playing football.

P.E. (Please see Uniform Guidelines on website)

Your child will take part in outdoor games (in reasonable weather) and so it is very important for them to have the right sportswear (all items must be named). Your child will require the following:

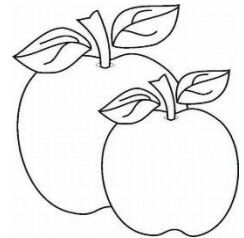
- *Plimsolls / trainers
- *PE T-shirt
- *PE shorts
- *Tracksuit/jogging bottoms and fleece

PLAYTIMES & LUNCHTIMES

Within the playground, there is the 'Friendship Stop' where children can meet and gather. They can make new friends here too. Please encourage your child to use this area and sit or stand there if they are feeling lonely and want someone to play with or talk to. Some of the older children are good at making up games with any younger ones who are at the Friendship Stop. There are also quite a few activities run by Teaching Assistants during lunchtime play. The Year 5 Buddies and Year 6 HORIS HIPPOS are also available to help make up games or arrange an activity.

FRUIT & MILK

Children will still be provided with free fruit and milk (for those that registered with Cool Milk) at break time.. If you would like to send in an alternative from home, the same principle applies i.e. fruit, dried fruit or vegetables only.



Please send your child with a water bottle labelled with their name; this should contain water only. Children are encouraged to sip water throughout the day.

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

The expectations of appropriate behaviour and politeness throughout the school are maintained by the established school behaviour policy and remain the same for both key stages. The Core Values (Care, Respect, Honesty and Responsibility) are displayed in each classroom as well as in main parts of the school. Please help us to promote this standard of behaviour and reinforce this message, should you be contacted in relation to your child's behaviour. The children continue to use the visual prompts of the 'Rainbow' and the 'Stormy Cloud' to help them to understand what is appropriate behaviour.

COMMUNICATION

Staff are always available to meet parents but arrangements for this will be revised due to the current situation and we will notify you of these. Ordinarily, if there is an important message to give to the teacher before school, please write a note to the class teacher or call the main office. If the matter is not urgent, you can write a note in the Home School diary, but please be aware that these are only checked on Fridays. You can also contact the office to make an appointment to see the class teacher, write an email for the attention of the teacher or speak to the class teacher on the playground at the end of the day to arrange an appropriate time to meet if this is needed. Members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Admin Team are always on gate duty from 8:40am – they can relay a quick message.

Should you or your child be concerned about anything, please do not hesitate to contact the school via office@barrowhedges.com. Many anxieties are caused by misconceptions that can be very quickly cleared up if talked about. A lot of worry can be avoided if potentially difficult situations are pre-empted, so please help us to help each other.

May I wish you and your child a happy and successful time in KS1.