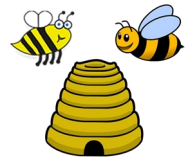




Somerby Primary School

Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

School Starter Pack



Loving learning



Welcome to School



We are delighted that your child is joining us and hope they will enjoy their time here at Somerby Primary School. We are a thriving school community where high aspirations and a caring family ethos are at the heart of what we do.

At Somerby Primary School we pride ourselves on our proven ability to ensure all our children are happy, safe and reach their individual potential. We understand new beginnings, such as starting school, is a big step for both you and your child. We are committed to do everything we can to ensure children settle into their new surroundings easily and happily.

Please take time to read through this pack as it contains a great deal of information to assist with the transition process. At Somerby Primary School, children in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follow the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. The Early Years curriculum is grounded in active learning.

There will be opportunities over the coming months for you to visit our school and meet your child's class teacher but in the meantime if you have any questions, please email us at admin@somerby.org.uk



We look forward to meeting you soon.
Andrea Brown
Headteacher

Meet The Team



Mrs Sian Parker
Class Teacher



Mrs Louise Green
Class Teacher



Miss Nic Robertson
Learning Support
Assistant -



In Willow Class the children will be part of a mixed age class with EYFS and Year 1 pupils accessing all of the classroom areas throughout the day. We also have a secure outdoor area which we are able to enjoy all year round.

We offer a safe, caring, stimulating and happy learning environment full of wonder and excitement, where children are given a sense of belonging and develop a love of learning. Learning is fun and practical. Children will have opportunities to work in large and small groups with an adult, as well as being able to access a range of resources independently.

We have high ambitions for all our children and recognise that children have different starting points to their learning. We plan according to children's stages of development so all children thrive and develop. We aim for children to be well-rounded individuals who are independent, resilient and confident in themselves and with others.

We will use our online platform 'Class Dojo' to keep you up to date with what's going on at school. Please see the Class Dojo page to understand how you can keep in contact with us now.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We will shortly be contacting you to arrange a **home visit** during week commencing the **15th of May**. This is so we can get to know you and your child better before they start school and answer any questions you may have.

Your child is also invited to two "**Stay and Play**" sessions on **Thursday 22nd June and Monday 3rd July from 1pm to 3pm**. This is a great opportunity for them to meet their new friends in Willow class and find out more about our school.

Our School Day



Autumn Term starts on
Tuesday 29th August 2023

The school days starts at 8.30am

Children finish at 3:00pm
(Full Term Dates are available on our
school website)

Coming into school

During the first few days of school we invite you in to help your child find their coat peg, put their bag away and settle them into an activity. As soon as they are confident with the morning routine, our staff will be there to encourage and support them as they become more independent. Usually once children are confident with coming into school, parents and carers drop them off at the gate into the playground. At the end of the day the children are collected from the playground.

Lunchtime

In EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, your child's hot lunch is funded as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme. School lunches are cooked at another local school and are delivered each day. Your child will be able to choose each morning between a main option, vegetarian option or jacket potato, or alternatively you can send a packed lunch if preferred.

Snacks and drinks

The children will be given a piece of fruit or vegetable at morning break if they would like one. Milk is available for free for all children under the age of 5 and must be ordered online through the 'Cool Milk' scheme. Details of how to set this up are within this pack. Once your child turns 5, you may order and pay for their milk through the same system.

We also ask that parents provide a **named** water bottle for school which stays in the classroom and goes home at the end of the day. Please make sure that only water is in the bottle.

School Uniform



Uniform

Your child will need to wear:

- a burgundy jumper or cardigan
- a white shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- grey trousers, skirt or dress
- black, grey or white socks or tights
- Red gingham dresses can be worn in the summer
- sensible black school shoes, no heels or trainers please



Please be aware that jewellery should not be worn other than if children have pierced ears. In this circumstance, studs are allowed.

Nail varnish should not be worn.

Your child will also need a:

- bag containing a set of spare clothes to be kept in school
- pair of wellies, which need to be brought in on the days we are doing our outdoor learning
- warm waterproof coat with a hood

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name - including shoes.

PE Kit

Children will need to come into school dressed in their PE kits on their allocated day, this will be communicated nearer the start of term.

Your child will need to wear:

- a black or burgundy sweatshirt or hooded top
- black shorts, leggings or joggers
- a white or burgundy T shirt
- trainers or black plimsols

Hair should be tied up and jewellery is not permitted for PE lessons. Please ensure all earrings are removed before school as staff cannot assist with removing these.

If you wish, you can buy uniform with the school logo on at: www.yourschooluniform.com

Book bags

You can purchase book bags from school for the children to keep their reading books in. The school will provide a book



Children may wear their own clothes to school on their birthday!

Class Dojo



Class Dojo Online Learning Platform

We will shortly be emailing you a link to join our Class Dojo community where you will be able to view and contribute to your child's portfolio. You will then be able to freely access all of the lovely photographs and videos showing your child learning through play. You will also see both the School Story and our Class Story for whole school/class messages and celebrations of achievement. You will be able to message us using the direct messaging feature. We will however be moving to a new system after the summer and we will keep you updated about this.



ClassDojo

In class we will also use Class Dojo in order to give 'dojos' for achievements. These are transferred to house points and collated throughout the year.

More Information



The School Day

8:30am	School begins
10:30-10:45am	Break Time
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch Time
3:00pm	School day ends

Please make sure your child arrives for the start of the school day and you pick them up promptly at 3.00pm. Missing the start of the session can unsettle your child and being late to pick them up can make children anxious.

Our first priority is the safety of your child. At the end of the day staff ensure they can see each child's parent/ carer before releasing them. As an extra safeguarding measure, if someone else is to collect your child from school, please tell us in advance, giving us a password that is also known by the person collecting your child.

Absence

If and when your child becomes ill, please let the school office know by calling the school phone (01664 504888) or emailing the office by 9am. Please leave a message if it is not answered. If they are sick or have diarrhoea, they will need to be off school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. If your child becomes unwell when they are in school, we will call you for them to be collected.

Unauthorised Absence

The law states parents do not have the automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time. All schools have received clarification from the Department of Education about children taking holidays during term time. As of September 2013, Headteachers are not able to authorise any holiday requests during school time.

If for any reason you need to take your child out of school during term time then you will need to collect a leave of absence form, (at least 2 weeks prior to the date), from the office and return it completed. The Headteacher will then respond to you in writing about your request.

Medicines

We can only give medicines if they are prescribed by a doctor – and we will need written permission to give them. A 'Medicine Request' form must be filled in, which are available from the office.

If your child is asthmatic they will need an inhaler in school at all times, so please talk to your doctor about this. If a child has a nut allergy and carries an epipen this must also be in school at all times.

Please note that it is parents and carers' responsibility to ensure that all prescribed medicines, including inhalers and Epi Pens are in date and replaced as necessary.

Accidents

If your child has an accident in school they may receive basic first aid. Parents and carers will always receive a phone call about head injuries and an email about other injuries.

More Information



Free School Meals (FSM)

Your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) if you receive certain benefits.

FSM is different to the Universal free school meals that all children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to.

How to apply for Free School Meals (FSM)

Fill in the 'Application for Free School Meals' form in this pack, or go to <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals> for more details and to apply online. We are more than happy to help you with this.

If you are successful in applying for FSM, your child may then become eligible for the Pupil Premium funding (see below). The Pupil Premium money is great for your child, so please do apply for FSM as it's the first step in getting it.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is extra money which is paid to schools from the government to support children's learning and development. The money could pay for support like small group work to boost progress and subsidising the cost of school trips. Children from EYFS to Year 11 (in secondary school) may be eligible if they are any of the below:

- are or have been in care
- have parents in the armed forces
- are registered for Free School Meals (FSM)
- have been registered for FSM at any point in the last six years

If your child is in one of the categories above, please let us know. Please see the 'Don't let your child miss out!' leaflet from Leicestershire County Council about Pupil Premium too.

When talking to your child about school and their new teachers please pass on positive feelings about your child starting school, even though you may be feeling



Keeping in touch

**Website:**

<https://www.somerby.org.uk/>

Email:

admin@somerby.org.uk

Address:

Somerby Primary School
High Street
Somerby
Melton Mowbray
LE14 2PZ

Headteacher:

Mrs Andrea Brown

Lead Teacher:

Mrs Sida

School Administrator:

Mrs Gena Ferguson

SENco

Ms Emma French

Telephone:

01664 504888

Currently the school office opening
times are 8:30am-12:00pm

How we contact you:

It is really important to us at Somerby Primary School that we have a good relationship with you and that good communication links are maintained. We use School Gateway and Class Dojo for all of our news sharing, regularly keeping you up to date with any school news and general reminders.

Your class dojo page will also provide you with useful information and fun ideas of ways that you can support your child with their learning at home.

We have a school facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083298163670> and we also post to our twitter handle @SomerbyPrimary if you wish to follow us.

Once we have your forms completed with contact details, we will be able to keep you updated with news and information straight to your phone or email address.