



DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



*Together
we play,
learn and
succeed*



Working Together for a Successful Start



Did you know that attending school every day and arriving on time every day is important to your child's success and learning? ♥



By making sure your child attends Reception each day on time you will help them to:



Develop their knowledge of school routines meaning they will feel comfortable and secure in a new environment.



Develop social skills and friendship groups.



Develop positive relationships with staff and children.



Take part in all aspects of the Curriculum.



Being absent from Reception can:



Make it harder to develop early reading skills.



Make it harder to build positive relationships with staff and other pupils.



Develop a poor attendance pattern that is hard to break.



What you can do



Talk to your child positively about school. It's important to explain where they'll be going, what they'll be doing and for how long.



Find out what day term starts and start the exciting countdown!



Share ideas other parents to make the school run go smoothly



Set a regular bedtime and morning routine – allowing time for things to go wrong as they sometimes do with small children.



Lay out clothes, and lunchboxes the night before



Develop back-up plans for getting to nursery or school if something comes up (e.g. you are not well)



Make sure your child arrives at school on time



Ensure School is notified by telephone if your child is absent, on the first day of absence and they are kept updated throughout any absence period.



Medical or dental appointments are booked outside of school hours when possible.



Holidays are not taken during term time.



If your child seems anxious about going to reception, talk to their teacher.



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together



Welcome to Reception



2026-2027

We Play, Learn and Succeed Together ♥



Learn
Through Play



Love of
Reading



Outdoor
Learning



Building
Independence



We are delighted to welcome you and your child
to Reception at Dorridge Primary School.



We look forward to sharing an exciting year of
learning, discovery, friendship and fun.



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Welcome to Dorridge



2026 – 2027



Senior Management Team



Providing strategic
leadership, guidance and
support across the school.



Director of Primary Education



Supporting collaboration
and continuous improvement
across our primary schools.



Admin Team



Your first point of contact
for attendance,
communication and
day-to-day queries.



Inclusion Team



Supporting children
with SEND, EAL,
wellbeing and
additional needs.



You'll meet many members of staff during your child's time at Dorridge.
We all work together to support every child to thrive.



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Family Support & Wellbeing



----- ♥ We are here to support you and your family. ♥ -----

Our Family Support Workers are here to listen, offer support and help connect families with the right services and people.



Mrs Mayers
Family Support Worker



Mrs Davies
Family Support Worker



Pastoral Support

- ♥ Emotional wellbeing
- ♥ Friendship concerns
- ♥ Behaviour support
- ♥ Bereavement and family changes
- ♥ Anxiety and worries



Family Support

- ♥ Signposting services
- ♥ Attendance support
- ♥ Financial and practical help
- ♥ Parenting workshops
- ♥ Early Help referrals



Working Together

- ♥ Supporting a positive transition to school
- ♥ No problem is too small
- ♥ Speak to us early
- ♥ We are here to listen
- ♥ Support without judgement



How to Reach Us

You can speak to us in person,
call the school office or email:

s22familysupport@dorridge.solihull.sch.uk

We will do our best to help.



You do not need to be in crisis to ask for support.
We are here to help children and families thrive.



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Safeguarding



Designated Safeguarding Leads in school:

Mrs Thelwell, Mrs Hales, Mrs Mannion,
Mrs Morrey, Mrs Pugh, Ms Robbins,
Mrs Davies and Mrs Mayers.

Safeguarding and promoting the
welfare of children is everyone's
responsibility. Everyone who comes
into contact with children and their
families has a role to play.

At Dorridge we consider, at all times,
what is in the best interests of the child.



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Staying Connected



Access important school information, news and updates
quickly and easily with the **Safer Schools App**.



SAFER SCHOOLS

Provided by



ZURICH
MUNICIPAL

&

Safer Schools is our communication app
designed to help keep you informed and
involved in your child's school journey.



To open the app

1

Download the app for free
from the Google Play Store
or App Store.



2

Enter the name of
our school here.



3

Then tap 'Continue'.



4

This is where you enter
your 'Entry Code'.
Our school code is

6903



5

This will then give you access
to the content within the app.



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Attendance Matters



Every day counts in Reception



Be On Time

A calm start helps children settle, learn and feel confident.



Be Here Every Day

Regular attendance supports friendships, phonics, reading and routines.



Every Day Counts

Even small absences can lead to missed learning opportunities.



Holidays during term time are not normally authorised.

96%+
Attendance

Giving children the best opportunity to thrive.



Reporting an Absence



Arbor Parent App

Please log all absences and illness via the Arbor Parent App.

It's quick, easy and helps us keep accurate records.



Requesting Leave of Absence

Use the school Leave of Absence Form available from the school office.



If Your Child is Unwell



Please log all illness and absence via the Arbor Parent App.

48 HRS

For sickness and diarrhoea, children must be 48 hours clear before returning to school.



Further advice on other medical conditions is available on our website.

Need Support?



We're here to help.

If attendance becomes difficult for any reason, please speak to us early so we can work together to support your child and family.



CSAWS
IMPROVING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
IMPROVING OUTCOMES.



Friendships

Building positive relationships



Reading

Developing a love of stories and books



Learning

Making progress every single day



Confidence

Feeling secure, happy and ready to learn



Success

Doing their best and achieving their goals



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ParentPay



ParentPay allows families to:

- ✓ Pay for trips and visits
- ✓ Pay for clubs and activities
- ✓ Make secure online payments
- ✓ Access school payment information



Login details will be
provided in September.



ParentPay & School Fund



Supporting children's learning and experiences throughout the year



School Fund

£30
per child

£50
per family



Voluntary contribution

Why Does School Fund Matter?

Your contribution helps provide the extras that make school special and enrich children's learning experiences.



Creative Resources

Art materials and
classroom equipment



Books & Reading

New books and
literacy resources



Theatre & Visitors

Special performances
and enrichment
experiences



Outdoor Learning

Enhancements to our
learning environments



Memorable Experiences

The extras that help
bring learning to life



Every Contribution Makes A Difference



As school budgets continue to face increasing pressures, School Fund contributions help us provide many of the additional opportunities and experiences that make Reception such a special year.



Every donation, no matter the size,
directly benefits our children.



Thank You For Your Support

Together we help create wonderful opportunities for every child.



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Uniform

- ✓ School Uniform
- ✓ Send coats EVERYDAY and
- ✓ Book bag with school logo*
- ✓ PE kit to be kept in school all year.
- ✓ **Please ensure that names are in EVERYTHING!!!**

All Uniform items can be purchased at Palmers or Monkhouse.



Also a [second hand](#) uniform shop is also run by our PTA.
(Scan the QR code to email a uniform request)



Helps children feel proud
and part of our school
community



Encourages organisation
and readiness
for learning



Ensures safety and
easy identification
on school trips



Promotes equality
and a sense of
belonging



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Parents as Partners

There are lots of ways to get involved in life at Dorridge Primary School.



PTA

**Supporting our
school community**

Our fantastic PTA organises events throughout the year, helping to raise valuable funds for resources, experiences and special opportunities for all children.



Parent Council

Your voice matters

The Parent Council provides an opportunity for parents and staff to work together, share ideas and help shape school life.



School Governors

**Helping shape
the future**

Our governing body works alongside school leaders to support the school's vision, ensure accountability and maintain high standards.



Volunteering

Giving your time

Whether you can offer an hour a term or more regular support, we'd love to hear from you.

Interested in helping?

Scan the QR code to register your interest in volunteering at Dorridge Primary School.



Every contribution makes a difference

There are many ways to support our school community. Whether you join a committee, volunteer your time, attend events or simply support your child's learning at home, you are an important part of our school community.



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Friends of Dorridge (PTA)

Bringing our school community together 



School Events

We organise fun events throughout the year, including fairs, discos and special celebrations for our school community.



Fundraising

We raise essential funds to provide resources, experiences and opportunities that enrich our children's learning and school life.



Community

We bring families, children and staff together and create lasting connections within our school community.



Making a Difference

Every event, big or small, helps make a positive difference to all the children at Dorridge Primary School.



Want to get involved?

Whether you can help regularly or just occasionally, the PTA would love to hear from you.



Coffee mornings



School fairs



Christmas events



Leavers celebrations



And much more!

"Many hands make light work – every little bit of help makes a big difference."



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School Start Times



First Day

All Reception Children will start on

Friday 4th September



8.40–8.50am for all Reception children who are currently at Dorridge Nursery or have siblings already at school here.



9.15am start for children who are new starters.



Children will be met at the door by a member of the Reception team.
If you are unsure about anything, please just let us know – we are here to help!



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School Start Times



Normal Drop Off and Pick Up



Please make sure you drop off and pick up your children promptly.



8:40am–8:50am (Door closes at 8.50am) Morning drop off, at EYFS door next to Reception outdoor area.



3:15 pm Pick up, this will be from KS1 playground, Children will be brought to their classroom gate.



*How You Can
Help at Home*



Arrive on time
each day.



Help children to be
ready and organised.



Good attendance
every day
makes a big
difference.



Keep us informed
of any changes
to collection
arrangements.



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Meet the Team

Get to know the adults
who will support
your child.



School Readiness

Helping children feel
confident and prepared
for school.



Our Reception Curriculum

An overview of what
children learn throughout
the year.



A Typical Day

What a normal day
in Reception
looks like.



How Children Learn

Understanding play,
exploration and
child-led learning.



Working Together

Ways you can support
your child both at home
and at school.

Welcome to Reception

This Evening



Thank you for joining us. We are excited to share with you important information about life in Reception and how, together, we can help your child have a happy, successful start to their school journey.



Together We *Play*, *Learn* and Succeed





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Our Reception
Team are here to
support your child
every step of
the way.

Meet the Reception Team



We work together to help every child learn, grow and shine. ♥



Miss Farrington
Year Lead



Mrs Eden
Teaching Assistant
RD



Mrs Davies
Class Teacher
RP



Miss Cameron
Teaching Assistant
RP



Miss Yorke
Class Teacher
RS



Mrs Bullock
Teaching Assistant
RS



Miss Hollis
1:1 Teaching Assistant



We are a team and we are here for you and your child.

If you have any questions, please come and speak to
one of us. We are always happy to help.



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School Readiness for Reception



Working together to give every child
the very **best start**.

What is school readiness?

School readiness is not about being able to
read, write or count before starting school.



It is about children feeling:

- ✓ Confident
- ✓ Independent
- ✓ Curious
- ✓ Ready to learn
- ✓ Happy to be part of school life



Five key areas



*Personal, Social &
Emotional Development*

- ♥ Managing feelings
- ♥ Taking turns
- ♥ Building friendships



*Communication
& Language*

- ♥ Listening carefully
- ♥ Following instructions
- ♥ Speaking confidently



*Physical
Development*

- ♥ Holding a pencil
- ♥ Using scissors
- ♥ Managing self-care



*Thinking
& Learning*

- ♥ Being curious
- ♥ Solving problems
- ♥ Having a go



Independence

- ♥ Toileting
- ♥ Dressing
- ♥ Looking after belongings



Family



Child



School



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I am **put** on
my coat



I can **take**
my coat off
alone



I can **use** the
toilet and
wash my hands



I can **ask** for
help if I need it



I can **listen**
and follow
instructions



I can **look after**
my belongings



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Why it matters



Builds the
foundations for
future learning



Supports children's
development across
all areas



Encourages
curiosity, confidence
and independence



Prepares children
for a successful
journey ahead

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?



The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year.



It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.



..... Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





How Children Learn in Reception

Together We **Play**, **Learn** and **Succeed**

At Dorridge, we believe that every child learns in their own unique way. We create rich, exciting experiences that inspire curiosity, build confidence and develop a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.



Warm Relationships

We build trust and strong bonds so children feel safe and secure.



Purposeful Play

Through play, children explore, imagine and make sense of the world.



Exploration & Investigation

We encourage curiosity and provide hands-on experiences to discover, question and learn.



High-Quality Interactions

We talk, listen and extend thinking through meaningful conversations.



Challenge & Discovery

We provide opportunities to have a go, take risks and develop resilience and independence.



Indoor & Outdoor Experiences

We learn in a variety of inspiring indoor and outdoor environments.



We build relationships

Positive relationships with adults enable children to feel secure and ready to learn.



We learn through play

Play is at the heart of everything we do. It sparks imagination, develops skills and deepens understanding.



We are curious explorers

Children investigate, ask questions and discover new things about people, places and the world.



We have meaningful interactions

Through conversation and shared experiences, we develop language, thinking and confidence.



Children learn best when they are engaged, active and inspired.





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The 7 Areas of Learning



Everything we do in Reception is built around these seven areas.

PRIME AREAS These are the foundations for all learning.



Communication
& Language



Physical
Development



Personal, Social
& Emotional
Development



SPECIFIC AREAS These develop as children grow in confidence and independence.

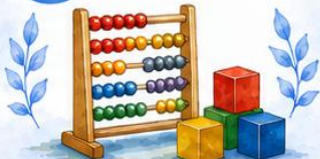


Literacy



123

Mathematics



Understanding
the World



Expressive Arts
& Design



Family



Child



School

Together We *Play, Learn* and Succeed



Communication & Language

Listening • Speaking • Understanding

Talk is at the heart of all learning.



Listening & Understanding

- ♥ Following instructions
- ♥ Listening to stories
- ♥ Understanding questions
- ♥ Developing attention skills



Speaking

- ♥ Sharing ideas
- ♥ Retelling experiences
- ♥ Asking questions
- ♥ Using new vocabulary



Conversation & Vocabulary

- ♥ Taking turns in discussion
- ♥ Explaining thinking
- ♥ Building vocabulary
- ♥ Learning through talk



How You Can Help at Home

- ♥ Talk together every day.



- ♥ Share stories and discuss pictures.



- ♥ Ask open-ended questions.



- ♥ Encourage your child to explain their ideas.



- ♥ Introduce new words through everyday experiences.



- ♥ Listen and respond to your child's thoughts and interests.



The more children *talk*, the more they learn.



Physical Development

Moving • Building • Growing

Strong bodies help build strong learners.



Gross Motor Skills

- ♥ Running, jumping and climbing
- ♥ Balance and coordination
- ♥ PE and outdoor learning
- ♥ Building strength and stamina



Fine Motor Skills

- ♥ Pencil control
- ♥ Scissor skills
- ♥ Dough Disco and finger strengthening
- ♥ Mark making and early writing



Independence & Self-Care

- ♥ Putting on coats
- ♥ Managing belongings
- ♥ Toileting and handwashing
- ♥ Healthy choices and routines



*How You Can
Help at Home*



Encourage
active play
every day.



Practise using
child-safe
scissors.



Draw, colour
and mark
make together.



Encourage
independence
with coats,
shoes and
dressing.



Use knives,
forks and
cups
independently.

*Physical development lays the foundations for
writing, learning and independence.*

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Feeling • Belonging • Growing

Happy children become confident learners.



Self-Regulation

- ♥ Recognising feelings
- ♥ Managing emotions
- ♥ Developing resilience
- ♥ Persevering with challenges



Managing Self

- ♥ Following routines
- ♥ Becoming independent
- ♥ Looking after belongings
- ♥ Making healthy choices



Building Relationships

- ♥ Making friendships
- ♥ Sharing and taking turns
- ♥ Working together
- ♥ Showing kindness and respect



*How You Can
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Draw, colour
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Encourage
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with coats,
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Use knives,
forks and
cups
independently.

Children thrive when they feel safe, valued and connected.



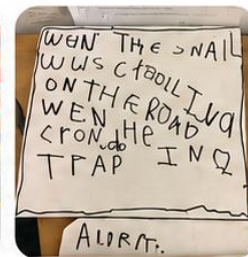
Together We Play, Learn and Succeed



Literacy

Comprehension • Word Reading • Writing

Every child can become a reader and writer.



Comprehension

- ♥ Daily story time
- ♥ Discussing stories and characters
- ♥ Developing vocabulary
- ♥ Understanding and talking about what we have read



Word Reading

- ♥ Daily Essential Letters and Sounds
- ♥ Learning letter sounds
- ♥ Blending to read words
- ♥ Building fluency and confidence



Writing

- ♥ Mark making and drawing
- ♥ Oral storytelling
- ♥ Sentence construction
- ♥ Writing simple phonetically plausible sentences



How You Can Help at Home



Read together every day.



Talk about stories and characters.



Practise phonics sounds.



Re-read favourite books.



Encourage drawing and mark making.



Celebrate all attempts at writing.

Reading opens doors. Writing gives children a voice.



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Mathematics

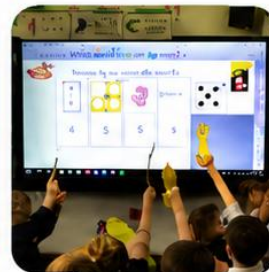
Counting

• Pattern Spotting

• Problem Solving



Mathematics is about noticing, exploring and making sense of the world.



Number

- ♥ Counting confidently
- ♥ Recognising numbers
- ♥ Subitising small quantities
- ♥ Comparing amounts
- ♥ Beginning addition and subtraction



Numerical Patterns

- ♥ Spotting patterns
- ♥ Understanding sequences
- ♥ Exploring shape and space
- ♥ Measuring and comparing
- ♥ Making connections in maths



Maths Through Play

- ♥ Practical resources
- ♥ Games and investigations
- ♥ Problem solving
- ♥ Real-life maths opportunities
- ♥ Talking about mathematical thinking



*How You Can
Help at Home*



Count
everyday
objects



Play
board
games



Compare
quantities while
shopping

1
3

Look for
numbers in the
environment



Complete puzzles
and pattern
activities



Read counting
and number
stories together



Children develop a deep understanding of number through play, exploration and meaningful experiences.



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Understanding of the World

Discovering

• Exploring

• Understanding



Children make sense of their world through exploration, experiences and curiosity.



Past & Present

- ♥ Talking about family experiences
- ♥ Celebrating special events
- ♥ Understanding changes over time
- ♥ Sharing memories and stories
- ♥ Comparing then and now



People, Culture & Communities

- ♥ Learning about different cultures
- ♥ Celebrating festivals and traditions
- ♥ Understanding our community
- ♥ Learning about similarities and differences
- ♥ Developing respect for others



The Natural World

- ♥ Exploring seasons and weather
- ♥ Caring for living things
- ♥ Observing change over time
- ♥ Investigating materials and environments
- ♥ Asking questions and finding answers



How You Can Help at Home

- ✓ Talk about family history
- ✓ Visit parks and outdoor spaces
- ✓ Look at old family photographs
- ✓ Discuss different cultures and celebrations
- ✓ Encourage questions and investigations
- ✓ Read information books together



..... The world is full of wonders. We encourage children to explore, question and discover.





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Expressive Arts and Design

Creating • Exploring • Expressing



The arts give children opportunities to be creative, imagine and express themselves.



Creating with Materials

- ♥ Exploring different materials and textures
- ♥ Using tools and techniques safely
- ♥ Joining, shaping and constructing
- ♥ Developing ideas through play
- ♥ Sharing creations with others



Being Imaginative and Expressive

- ♥ Exploring role play and storytelling
- ♥ Using music and movement
- ♥ Singing songs and playing instruments
- ♥ Exploring sounds and rhythm
- ♥ Developing confidence to perform



Expressing Ideas and Feelings

- ♥ Drawing, painting and mark making
- ♥ Using colour, shape and pattern
- ♥ Exploring design and technology
- ♥ Thinking creatively and critically
- ♥ Expressing thoughts and emotions through art



*How You Can
Help at Home*



Provide opportunities
to draw, paint and
create.



Sing songs
and explore
music together.



Encourage
dress-up and
role play.



Share creativity
and celebrate
their ideas.



Explore different
materials and
crafts.



Visit galleries,
museums or enjoy
art books together.



Creativity helps children imagine, express and make sense of the world.



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





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A Typical Day in Reception

♥ Together We **Play**, **Learn** and Succeed

1



Morning Welcome

Children arrive, settle and complete morning activities.

2



Daily Phonics

Learning the sounds needed for reading and writing.

3



Continuous Provision

Exploring, investigating and learning through play.

4



Assembly

Coming together as a school community.

5



Literacy

Stories, language and early writing opportunities.

6



Lunch Time

Eating, socialising and playing with friends.

7



Mathematics

Practical, hands-on mathematical learning.

8



Indoor & Outdoor Exploration

Applying learning through play, discovery and fresh air experiences.

9



Story Time

Sharing books, developing a love of reading.

10



Home Time

Reflecting on the day and getting ready to go home.

Learning Together



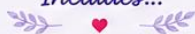
Independent Learning



Reading & Storytelling



Every Day
Includes...



Building
Friendships



Developing
Communication
Skills



Reading and
Storytelling



Creative
Experiences



Outdoor
Learning



Opportunities
to Become
Independent



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





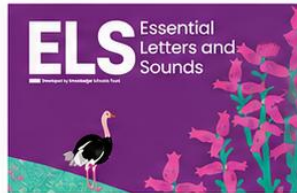
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Phonics at Dorridge

We follow **Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS)** to give every child a strong foundation in reading, writing and communication.



Learning
new sounds



Practising
blending



Reading
words



Reading
simple sentences



Sharing books and
developing a love of reading



Working together
in phonics



Learning Sounds

- ♥ Learning new letter sounds (phonemes)
- ♥ Recognising letter patterns (graphemes)
- ♥ Oral blending and segmenting
- ♥ Building confidence with sounds and words
- ♥ Developing listening and speaking skills



Reading with Confidence

- ♥ Blending sounds together to read words
- ♥ Reading captions and simple sentences
- ♥ Developing fluency and accuracy
- ♥ Building understanding of what has been read
- ♥ Developing a lifelong love of reading



Becoming Writers

- ♥ Applying phonics knowledge in writing
- ♥ Spelling words independently
- ♥ Writing simple sentences
- ♥ Communicating ideas with confidence
- ♥ Building independence as young writers



How You Can Help at Home



Read with your
child every day



Practise the
sounds and words
sent home



Spot sounds
and letters in
everyday life



Encourage children
to talk about
stories



Celebrate effort,
perseverance
and progress



Enjoy sharing
books
together



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Phase 2 Phonics



Building the foundations for reading and writing.



*Sounds
Introduced*

s, a, t, p
i, n, m, d
g, o, c, k
ck, e, u, r
h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss



Children Begin to

- Blend sounds to read simple words
- Read CVC words
- Segment sounds in words
- Read simple captions
- Build confidence and fluency



*Examples of
CVC Words*

sat

pin

mat

dog

cot

kit

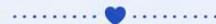
sun

hen

bug



*How You Can Help
at Home*



- ✓ Practise saying the sounds
- ✓ Use sound cards at home
- ✓ Play listening games
- ✓ Blend sounds to read words
- ✓ Praise every success!



Strong sounds today, successful readers tomorrow.





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Phase 3 Phonics



.....♥.....
Growing confident readers and writers.



New
Learning

- Digraphs
- Trigraphs
- More tricky words
- Longer words



Examples of
New Sounds

ai	ee	igh	oa
oo	ar	or	ur
ow	oi	ear	air
er			



Children Begin
to...

- Read simple books independently
- Write simple sentences
- Apply phonics in play and writing
- Build confidence and enjoy reading



How You Can Help
at Home

.....♥.....

- ✓ Encourage your child to read every day
- ✓ Spot sounds in books, labels and signs
- ✓ Talk about the meaning of words
- ✓ Praise effort and celebrate success



..... Practice makes progress and progress leads to confidence.





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Phase 4 Phonics



Expanding vocabulary and building confident, fluent readers.



New Learning

- Adjacent consonants
- Longer words
- Suffixes -ing, -ed, -er, -est
- Compound words
- Polysyllabic words
- More tricky words



Examples of New Sounds

CVCC	CCVC	CCVCC	
st	nd	mp	nt
ft	sk	lt	lp
bl	cl	fl	gl

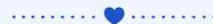


Children Begin to...

- Read longer and more complex words
- Read simple sentences and stories
- Spell words using phonics
- Write short sentences
- Develop fluency and expression



How You Can Help at Home



- ✓ Read a variety of books together
- ✓ Encourage your child to blend and segment words
- ✓ Practise tricky words
- ✓ Look for sounds in the environment
- ✓ Celebrate every success!



Practise today, confident readers tomorrow.





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Phase 5 Phonics

Building confident readers and spellers.



*Gentle intro
to new sounds*

- Children are introduced to new phonemes gradually.
- We explore new sounds through games, stories and activities.
- Building on everything learned so far.



*To help children
to learn to...*

- Read and spell some polysyllabic words (more than one syllable).
- Break words into syllables.
- Use their phonics knowledge to read and spell with increasing confidence.



*New phonemes
and graphemes*

- Introduced to new phonemes and graphemes.
- These sound the same as previous sounds, such as 'ay' (the same sound as 'ai').
- Apply to reading, writing and spelling.



*How You Can Help
at Home*

- ✓ Play sound and word games together.
- ✓ Read and discuss new books.
- ✓ Encourage your child to have a go at spelling words.
- ✓ Praise effort and celebrate achievements!



The more we practise, the stronger our phonics gets!





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— RECEPTION —



The Importance of Continuous Provision



..... ♥

Learning through exploration, imagination and discovery.



Exploring Our World



Creative & Imaginative



Reading & Discovering



Curious & Investigative



Independence & Confidence

- Children choose resources and activities independently.
- They learn to make decisions and solve problems.
- Builds resilience and self-belief.



Curiosity & Creativity

- Open-ended opportunities encourage imagination.
- Children investigate, question and explore.
- Learning follows children's interests.



Developing Skills Through Play

- Literacy and maths are practised naturally.
- Communication skills develop through interaction.
- Knowledge is applied in meaningful contexts.



Collaboration & Communication

- Children learn alongside their peers.
- They negotiate, share and cooperate.
- Supports language development and friendships.



How You Can Help at Home

- ✓ Encourage independent dressing and tidying.
- ✓ Allow time for open-ended play.
- ✓ Read together daily.
- ✓ Follow your child's interests and questions.
- ✓ Explore outdoors whenever possible.



..... Every area of our environment is carefully planned to inspire learning, independence and a lifelong love of discovery.





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Assembly



Coming together as a school community to learn, celebrate and reflect.



Celebration and Achievement

- We celebrate successes and achievements.
- Children feel proud and valued as part of our school community.
- Encourages confidence and self-esteem.



Singing and Storytelling

- Singing together develops language and memory.
- Stories bring learning to life and build imagination.
- Helps children understand the world around them.



Community and Belonging

- Assemblies help children feel connected and included.
- We learn about kindness, respect and our values.
- Encourages empathy and understanding of others.



Personal, Social and Emotional Learning

- Through Jigsaw, we learn about ourselves and others.
- We explore feelings, friendships and how to stay safe.
- Promotes positive wellbeing and mental health.



How You Can Help at Home

- ✓ Talk about the assembly themes and stories.
- ✓ Encourage your child to share what they have learnt.
- ✓ Sing songs and read stories together.
- ✓ Praise acts of kindness and good behaviour.
- ✓ Support your child to recognise and talk about their feelings.



..... Assemblies inspire our children to be kind, confident and curious learners.





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Dough Gym & Funky Fingers



Building strong hands for writing success!



**Squash
& Squeeze**



**Cut &
Create**



**Build &
Construct**



**Thread &
Weave**



**Draw &
Mark Make**



**Pinch &
Pick Up**



**Strong
Hands**

- ♥ Grip
- ♥ Strength
- ♥ Control



**Fine Motor
Skills**

- ♥ Coordination
- ♥ Dexterity
- ♥ Precision



**Ready to
Write**

- ♥ Pencil control
- ♥ Letter formation
- ♥ Independence



Playing
with Lego



Using
playdough

You can help at home by:



Cutting and
sticking



Threading
beads



Drawing and
colouring



Practising
buttons and zips



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Handwriting

Building confident writers one letter at a time!



Our PenPals
Handwriting Scheme



Learning letter
families



Correct letter
formation



Practising
our letters



Writing
independently



Our writing
in Reception



Correct Letter Formation

- ♥ Starting and ending letters correctly
- ♥ Learning letter families



Pencil Control

- ♥ Comfortable grip
- ♥ Developing control
- ♥ Accuracy and care



Ready for Writing

- ♥ Forming letters independently
- ♥ Building confidence
- ♥ Writing with fluency



≡ You can help at home by... ≡



Practising
name writing



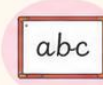
Encouraging
mark making



Drawing and
colouring



Using chalk
outside



Whiteboard
writing



Spotting letters
in books



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Reading

Learning to read, reading to learn. ♥



Oxford
Reading
Tree



1 Phonics Reading Book

- ♥ Matches the sounds taught in phonics
- ♥ Designed for independent reading
- ♥ Builds confidence and fluency



1 Shared Reading Book

- ♥ A book to enjoy together
- ♥ Develops vocabulary, language and understanding
- ♥ Encourages a love of stories



Daily Reading Matters

- ♥ Read together every day
- ♥ Little and often works best
- ♥ Celebrate effort and progress



☆ Why Reading Matters ☆

Children who read regularly develop stronger vocabulary, comprehension and writing skills.



Just **20 minutes** of reading a day can expose a child to around

1.8 million words each year!



Read every day



Complete the Home-School Organiser



Talk about stories and pictures



Celebrate effort and success



Make reading part of your daily routine



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





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— RECEPTION —



Lunch Time



Developing independence, confidence and social skills every day.



Healthy Choices

- Freshly prepared meals each day
- Vegetarian options available
- Salad and fruit choices daily
- Balanced and nutritious menu



Learning New Skills

- Carrying trays safely
- Choosing food independently
- Using cutlery confidently
- Clearing away after eating



Time With Friends

- Sitting and chatting together
- Developing good manners
- Learning lunchtime routines
- Building friendships across school



How You Can Help at Home



- ✓ Encourage independence at mealtimes
- ✓ Practise using a knife and fork
- ✓ Talk positively about school lunches
- ✓ Encourage children to try new foods



Lunch time is an important part of the school day where children develop confidence, independence and friendships.





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Forest School



Learning, exploring and growing through outdoor experiences.



Exploring Nature

- Discovering plants, animals and habitats
- Learning to care for the natural world
- Developing curiosity and observation skills
- Encouraging a love of the outdoors



Building Confidence

- Taking safe risks and solving problems
- Developing resilience and independence
- Working collaboratively with friends
- Challenging themselves in new ways



Learning Through Adventure

- Investigating and asking questions
- Using imagination and creativity
- Applying knowledge in real-life situations
- Developing communication and teamwork



How You Can Help at Home



- ✓ Encourage outdoor exploration
- ✓ Go on nature walks together
- ✓ Talk about plants, insects and wildlife
- ✓ Allow opportunities for problem-solving
- ✓ Spend time outdoors in all seasons



..... Forest School inspires confidence, curiosity and a lifelong love of learning.





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



FootieBugs

Learning, moving and having fun!



Increase
confidence



Improves concentration
and listening skills



Improve social
interaction



Improve
behaviour



Develops coordination
and physical skills



Most importantly...
it's fun!



What is FootieBugs?

- ♥ Weekly PE sessions led by FootieBugs coaches
- ♥ Fun, engaging and age appropriate
- ♥ Builds skills through games and activities



What will my child learn?

- ♥ Teamwork and respect
- ♥ Listening and taking turns
- ♥ Resilience and determination
- ♥ Ball skills, control and coordination
- ♥ Healthy habits and active lifestyles



What do children need?

- ♥ PE kit on their FootieBugs day
- ♥ Trainers
- ♥ A positive attitude and a smile!



How FootieBugs helps your child



Boosts confidence
and self-esteem



Builds friendships
and teamwork



Improves focus
and learning



Supports wellbeing
and happiness



Encourages a
lifelong love of
physical activity



Children learn best
when they are active,
happy and confident!



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Story Time & Home Time!

Sharing stories every day builds a love of reading for life! ♥



Story Time



♥ We love to listen



♥ We enjoy stories



♥ We talk about them



♥ They help us learn

Home Time!



We get ready



We put on our
coats and bags



We say
goodbye



We go home
happily!

≡ You can help at home by... ≡



Enjoy stories
together



Talk about the
pictures and
characters



Ask questions
about the
story



Share what
happened in
the story



Make reading
a special time
every day



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





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PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



Keeping You Updated

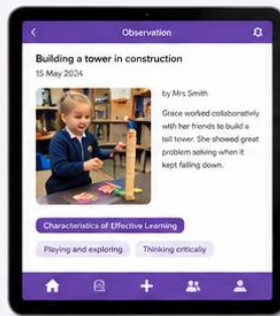


Sharing your child's learning journey and celebrating achievements together.

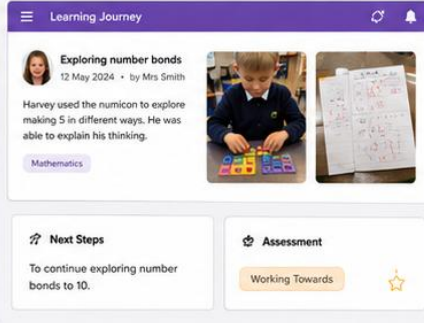


**evidence
me**

Evidence Me
Learning
Observations



Your Child's Learning Journey
Photos, observations and assessments



ClassDojo

Class Dojo
Home-School
Communication



Points

15

Great
teamwork!



Evidence Me
Learning observations

- See photographs of your child's learning.
- Celebrate achievements and milestones.
- View special moments from school.
- Understand how your child is progressing.



Class Dojo
Home-school communication

- Important announcements.
- Reminders and updates.
- Quick messages from school.
- Celebration of achievements.



Working Together
Partnership with families

- Keep notifications switched on.
- Check updates regularly.
- Celebrate learning together.
- Share in your child's successes.



*How You Can
Help at Home*

- ✓ Check Evidence Me regularly.
- ✓ Read Class Dojo announcements.
- ✓ Talk to your child about their learning.
- ✓ Celebrate achievements together.
- ✓ Contact us if you have any questions.



Working together to support every child's learning journey.





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How Can I Support My Child?

Working together to give your child the very best start.



1 Read Every Day



- ♥ Read with your child daily
- ♥ Listen to them read their phonics book
- ♥ Share and enjoy their story book together



2 Build Independence



- ♥ Encourage your child to dress themselves
- ♥ Put on coats and shoes independently
- ♥ Tidy away their belongings



3 Complete Home Learning



- ♥ Read and sign the Home-School Organiser
- ♥ Return books and resources on time
- ♥ Support simple home activities



4 Talk, Play and Explore



- ♥ Chat about their day
- ♥ Play games together
- ♥ Encourage questions and curiosity



5 Trust the Process



- ♥ Children learn through challenge, mistakes and problem-solving
- ♥ Not every wobble needs fixing immediately
- ♥ We will always contact you if there is a genuine concern
- ♥ Trust us to support your child whilst they learn and grow



Small Things Make A Big Difference



Read every day



Encourage independence



Talk together



Celebrate success



Work in partnership with school



The most successful children are those whose families and school work together.



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed



INCLUSION



*Every child.
Every family.
Every opportunity.*

Supporting Every Child to Thrive

At Dorridge Primary School we work together to ensure every child feels **valued**, **supported** and able to **succeed**.



SEND Support



Additional support for children with learning, communication or developmental needs.



EAL Support



Helping children who are learning English as an additional language.



Wellbeing



Supporting emotional wellbeing, confidence and a sense of belonging.



Family Support



Working in partnership with families to help children thrive.



Every child.
Known.
Valued.
Supported.
Empowered.



*Questions
or concerns?*

Please come and speak to us.

Early support and strong partnerships make a real difference.



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed





DORRIDGE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

— RECEPTION —



And Finally...



We can't wait to welcome your child to Reception. ♥

- ♥ We look forward to **working in partnership** with you and your family.
- ♥ Every child starts their Reception journey with **different experiences, strengths and interests**.
- ♥ Together we will help your child become **confident, independent** and ready to **thrive**.
- ♥ If you ever have any **questions or concerns**, please come and talk to us.
We are always happy to help.
- ♥ We are **incredibly proud** of our Reception team and can't wait to share the year ahead with you.

Every child.
Every day.
Every chance
to **shine**.



The
Reception
Team



Together We Play, Learn and Succeed

