

Answers to frequently asked questions

What things should I keep school informed about?

- If your child has any medical problems or allergies please let us know.
- In the event of sickness please ring the school **before 8.30am**.
- If you wish to take your child out of school during term time you must request an Absence Request Form from the school office.
- Any change in emergency telephone numbers, parents' address or home telephone numbers should be notified (in writing) to the school **IMMEDIATELY** in case of an emergency or us needing to contact you.
- If anything changes at home - i.e. family circumstances or arrangements, please let us know.
- If you have any concerns - please make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

How do I know what's going on at school?

- Please check Tapestry for the Foundation Stage 'Weekly Learning' information and your child's book bag daily for letters. In addition, visit the school website at <http://www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk/> for lots more information and to keep up to date with events.

What time should we come to school?

- School starts at **8.45am**. You are able to bring your child into class between 8.30am and 8.45am. This is an opportunity for you to spend quality time with your child, settling them for the school day and sharing in a morning activity.
- Please do not come into the classroom until your child's teacher is there, this is for Health and Safety reasons.

How do we get into the school?

- Please come to the classroom when bringing your child into school in the morning and at all other times please go via the school office.
- If for any reason you are late (arrive after 8.45am) please enter school via the school office.
- For the safety of your child the car park is for the use of staff only.

What will my child need to bring to school?

- St Nicholas school book bag (available from the school office).
- PE bag in the Spring term (as with school uniform please mark **all** items with your child's name, including ties, socks, shoes etc). Plimsolls/trainers are not required until the Summer term.
- Spare items of underwear to be kept in your child's book bag or PE bag.

Will my child have a mid morning snack?

- Throughout the day children have access to milk and water and they are also entitled to receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable as part of the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. For additional information please visit <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/5ADAY/Pages/Schoolscheme.aspx>.
- Your child may also wish to bring their own water bottle to drink during the school day.

Can my child have a school dinner?

- Children in Reception and Key Stage One are entitled to a government funded free school meal each day. A menu will be shared with you and your child will be able to select their menu choice.
- If your child prefers they can bring a packed lunch to school.

Will my child bring home reading books?

- Children will take home a reading book each day. This is for you to enjoy reading together. Please take care of the book and return it daily. You are able to change your child's reading book with your child in the mornings.

Will my child have home learning activities?

- In Reception, parents are asked to hear their child read regularly and record comments in a reading record book. Other tasks to complete at home include practising letter sounds and formation, playing games to support key word and number recognition, and counting.

How will I be kept informed of my child's progress?

- All parents of children in the Foundation Stage have access to Tapestry, an online learning journal that enables school and parents to record, track and celebrate learning and progress in the early years. More information about Tapestry will be shared with you by your child's class teacher. It is very important that you are able to access your child's account so please let us know if you are experiencing any problems with logging in.
- There will also be a parents' evening in the Autumn and Spring terms. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress at any time please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.