



ST MATTHEW'S
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to our Early Years Foundation Stage





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The Early Years Foundation Stage is made up of the Nursery and Reception classes. We work closely together to provide a caring and stimulating learning environment and to meet the needs of each individual child. We want the children to enjoy their first experience of school life and give them enthusiasm to begin their learning journey.

Our Aims

- To provide a secure and happy learning environment and promote positive relationships.
- To provide an excellent foundation for learning that will go with them throughout school
- To promote positive parent partnerships through good communication and joint learning opportunities.

We have enthusiastic staff who are fully qualified and experienced. Each class has a teacher and teaching assistant.



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

St Matthew's CE Primary School
Poplar Road
Stretford
M32 9AN

Tel: 0161 865 1284

Email: stmatthews.head@traffordlearning.org

Website: <http://www.stmatthews.trafford.sch.uk/>

Head Teacher: Mr T Johnson
Acting Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Wooley
Chair of Governors: Mrs B Garlick

Hours of opening:

Nursery children attend for 15 hours part time either mornings or afternoons.

Morning sessions are from 8.55am until 11.55am

Afternoon sessions are from 12.30pm until 3.30pm

Reception children attend full time - 8.55am until 3.30pm

Nursery and Reception children share many activities including outdoor play, educational trips, Nativity and other celebrations. We also follow the same curriculum which is the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

Uniform

A school uniform list is included at the back of the brochure. Uniform is compulsory for all children whether in Nursery or Reception. Please make sure all uniform and shoes are **named**.



The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

There are Seven areas of learning and development in the EYFS.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.



These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. Our professional understanding of teaching and supporting your child will enable us to make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in main school, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that we can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.



The Nursery and Reception Day

Arriving

Please make sure that your child arrives promptly. Children are provided with a named coat peg and encouraged to hang their own coats up. We encourage independence at every opportunity! Parents can help by supporting children with self help skills such as toileting, getting dressed, putting shoes on, zipping up coats and fastening buttons.

In Nursery parents are encouraged to stay and settle their children, helping them to find their name card and choosing an activity and this continues throughout the year. In Reception parents may be invited into the classroom to read with their child or a similar activity at the beginning of the day. More details will be given at the Nursery and Reception Intake meetings which are held in the summer term before your child enters that class.

Routines

Routines will vary throughout the year as the children develop and their needs change. However in general children will have a balance of adult led activities and child initiated play. Adult led activities may be a whole class carpet session or with a small group in the Continuous Provision areas indoors or outdoors.

Classroom Organisation

Learning in the EYFS is play based and there is a wide range of activities for the children to choose from. Play opportunities and the use of resources are carefully planned to enable children to develop in a variety of ways.

Key areas in the classroom are: sand, water, dough, art and workshop, messy, investigation, construction, maths, reading, writing/mark making, listening, imaginative role play, ICT.



Outdoor Play

Nursery and Reception share an extensive, well resourced outdoor area and we operate a free-flow system. This means that children can choose whether they want to access activities indoors or outdoors. This allows for longer periods of play without interruptions. The same learning opportunities are available outside but are presented in different ways, usually on a larger scale. The school provides all weather suits and parents are asked to bring in a pair of wellies that can stay in school.

Snack Time

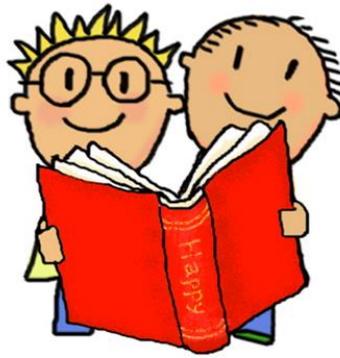
Each session children are provided with milk (up to their 5th birthday) or water and a piece of fruit which they can access themselves on a snack bar basis.

Behaviour

Children are expected to follow school rules and routines. At St Matthew's we follow the Golden Rules and these will be introduced to children as soon as they start Nursery. (see the school prospectus)

Collecting your child from school

Children should be brought to and from school by a person over the age of 16. A member of staff **must** be informed if this is not the regular person that comes.



Starting Nursery and Reception

Intake Meetings

You will be invited into school for a meeting in December/June. This will give you the opportunity to meet teaching staff who can answer any questions you may have. At the meeting you will also be introduced to other agencies who work closely with school such as the school nurse, education welfare officer, Sure Start Children's Centre, the school's Children's and Families support workers, and the FAF (Friends and family of St Matthew's).

Transition to Nursery

Nursery staff will arrange a home visit prior to your child starting Nursery. This is very informal and is a great chance to get to know each other in the child's own setting. Children will also be invited to attend Nursery with their parents for short visits in the summer term prior to starting Nursery.

Transition to Reception

Children will be invited to a class swap day where they will meet their new teacher and teaching assistant. If your child does not attend St Matthew's Nursery they will be invited by letter.

Parents!

We are very keen to involve parents in their children's learning and school life. We will provide you with an on line weekly learning update and there are two parent's evenings during the year to discuss your child's progress. Throughout the year we will invite you into the classroom to take part in workshops with your children e.g Phonics, Mark Making, Maths etc. However, please do not wait until you are invited! Parents are welcome to come and help in the classroom. If you have a special skill or interest we would love you to share this with us and the children.



Other Information

Breakfast Club

We run a Breakfast Club in the school hall from 8.00 to 8.55 each morning. We charge £2:00 a session and parents do not have to book in advance.

After School Club

After school childcare is available onsite. This is run by an independent company called Kids Crew. Please contact them for an up to date price list. 07761014211

Children and Families Services

Mrs Crump and Mrs Cavanagh offer children and family support both inside and outside school. They will be available for an informal chat about anything you may be worried about - parenting, financial or educational. We also provide opportunities for adult learning and joint child and adult extra-curricular activities.

Class Fund

This is £1 per week. This helps cover the cost of baking, playdoh ingredients, messy area resources, seasonal activities and extra snacks.

Jewellery

In the interest of safety, no jewellery at all may be worn except small stud earrings.

Car Parking

To avoid congestion outside the school gates, please park your car further down Poplar Road when picking up or dropping off children. It is very unsafe for cars to be reversing out of tight corners when young children are coming to or out of school.

Medicines

If your child needs to take medication prescribed by their GP in school, a form must be completed. Please ask at the school office.

Absences

If your child is absent from school please telephone to let us know. If you do not contact us you will receive a phone call from us.

Parents and Friends Association

This is run by parents and they are always looking for new members. They organise social events and fund raising events for the school.

Talking to Staff

Please feel free to ask any member of staff anything which may concern you. The best time to speak to staff is before school starts or after school. If you are a working parent you can telephone at these times or at lunch time.

