



# Welcome to Bratton Primary School



Reception (Zebra Class) 2023/2024

**Bratton Primary School**

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# Welcome to Bratton Primary

Dear parents and carers,

A very warm welcome to the Bratton Primary School family. We are delighted that you have chosen our school for your child. Here at Bratton we aim to deliver a wonderful learning experience in which your child will explore, play, investigate, create and learn in a caring and nurturing school environment with a wonderful team of staff to support them on their journey.

We firmly believe in working in partnership, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you as parents as well as your children. Through a close partnership and sharing of knowledge, skills and information, we aim to create the best possible educational experiences where every child can truly foster a love of learning and achieve their very best.

We believe in celebrating individuality and look for opportunities for every child to shine in their own special way. Each child in our school is special and unique and we aim for all children to leave Bratton Primary School as confident learners who recognise their strengths and know that they can go on to achieve anything they put their heart and mind to.

At Bratton Primary School, we provide a happy, safe and caring environment set in beautiful school grounds in which children thrive. As your child moves on through the school they will discover a knowledge rich, creative curriculum which inspires and engages them throughout their 7 years with us, and of course we love to have lots of fun along the way!

This leaflet outlines many of the routines and procedures at the school, also setting out some additional advice and guidance, should it be required. We hope you find the information helpful and informative.

Thank you once again for choosing Bratton Primary School and for entrusting your child's education to us. We are very much looking forward to working with you to ensure your child enjoys a happy and positive start to their educational journey at Bratton Primary.

Mrs Emma Williams  
Headteacher, Bratton Primary School

*Learn – Have Fun - Thrive*

# About our school

## A POSITIVE START TO EACH DAY

When term commences, we want all the children to feel settled and secure as they begin their school day, so please bring your child to the Zebra class gate at the start of the day and help to settle him or her. This is also a good opportunity to talk with the Zebra Class staff. When you leave, please say a definite goodbye to reassure your child. We will help you with this process, if need be. As the term progresses, we will encourage the children to become more independent, in terms of entering the building without parents/carers and organising their belongings.



## A HAPPY CHILD

Our first priority is that your child gets off to a good start at school. We value open communication so please always talk to us, if appropriate before school, or our teachers will be happy to make an appointment to meet with you for longer conversations at the end of the school day. We also operate a home/school communication book, which we will explain further at the parent information evening.



## THE SCHOOL DAY IN ZEBRA CLASS

**8.40am** – Arrive in school, come to the Zebra class gate, your child will be met by a member of the Zebra team. Children in Breakfast Club are brought down to the classroom by staff.

**8.50am** – The Gate closes and the register is taken

**9 – 9.30am** – Phonics

**9.30-10.15am** - First learning session\*

**10.15am** – Milk (water is also available throughout the day)

**10.30am – 10.45pm** - Assembly

**10.45am – 11.00am** – Break and Snack

**11.00am – 12.10pm** – Second learning session\*

**12.10pm – 1.15pm** – Lunch

**1.15pm – 3.00pm** – Third learning session\*

**3.00pm** - Story

**3.20pm** - Hometime. Children line up on the playground to be released one at a time to their parents/carers. Children going to After School Club are collected by staff.

\*includes explore and learn time

## GETTING TO SCHOOL

The beginning and end of the school day are very busy times, as you can imagine. If you can, please walk your child to school. If you have to drive please park considerately, respecting access ways of the local residents in and around the school. The car park of The Duke has kindly been made available to parents before and after school times. The school car park is restricted to use by staff, disabled visitors and official school visitors only and can we ask you to please not park on the turning circle outside the school gate, as it is important to keep this area free for the school bus to turn and park.

## REGISTER, LATENESS AND ABSENCE

We take the register at 8.50am. If you arrive late to school, please take your child to the office to sign in. ***If your child is ill and will not be able to attend school that day, please inform the school office by 9.00am*** at the latest, as legally we need to note that in the register. It will then not be marked as an unauthorised absence. ***If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they will need to stay off school for 48 hours from the last episode of illness. If you require any further clarification, please speak to the school office.***



## LUNCHTIME AND MORNING SNACK

All children from Reception to Year 2 are provided with a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables at morning break. From September 2014 all children in Reception, Year 1 & 2 became eligible for Universal Infant Free School Meals. Our lunchtime meals are cooked on the premises; the menu and order form is available online from:

<https://www.aspens-services.co.uk/>

The children eat alongside their class. Our friendly and caring lunchtime supervisors will support your child with using cutlery, pouring drinks and opening packets. Please ask the office if you need further information about the ordering system.

## END OF THE DAY ROUTINE

We only allow children to go home with their parent, carer, or another adult who you have specifically told us will collect your child on that day. If your child is going home with someone other than their usual adult, please let us know in the morning so we can make a note of it or call the office to let them know. Children are not allowed to be collected by older siblings. Please wait for your child at the top playground.



## ASSEMBLIES

<b>Monday:</b>	Whole school values assembly
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Class assembly
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Singing assembly
<b>Thursday:</b>	Visitor assembly
<b>Friday:</b>	Celebration and birthdays assembly



## CLOTHING

Please ensure that your child has all the items that he or she needs from the uniform list included in this pack. Trainers should have velcro fastenings, not laces. **Please make sure that all items of clothing and footwear are clearly named.** Please always bring a coat to school for your child. We like to spend lots of time outside, including weekly Forest School sessions, so we would also like each child to have a pair of named wellingtons and waterproof trousers, allowing them to access the outdoor learning across the year. We also ask that you bring a named sunhat and sun cream for your child when appropriate. If we have anything we cannot immediately return to its owner, this will be moved into the School Office lost property box. We also ask that on PE days that children come to school wearing their PE kit.

## WATER

Each child will need a named water bottle in school every day. Please make sure it contains only water and is in a drink bottle with a sports lid (so that the lid doesn't need to come off to drink).

## SPARE CLOTHES

We have spare clothes in case of accidents or water tray fun. Please could any that do come home be washed and returned as soon as possible; thank you.

## FAMILY FRIDAY

As a school we believe strongly in open collaboration between ourselves and our parents, as this close working relationship helps foster greater trust, support and shared understanding. Therefore, on the **first Friday of every month 2-45pm to 3-15pm**, we will be welcoming parents and carers into our classroom to share stories or take part in an activity and learn alongside your children. This is a great opportunity for you to work with your children in their learning environment, also meeting with our staff and other parents. We look forward to you joining us.



## READING

Reading has more impact on academic success in itself than any other factor. Enjoying books and reading stories from a very early age is therefore crucial in the development of children. It helps with their ability to understand words, use their imagination and develop their speech, as well as being something they will enjoy for the rest of their life. As we know, teachers, along with parents, play a vital role in encouraging reading and developing these literacy skills in young children.

We review your children's reading development regularly, to group your child for our Read, Write Inc daily phonics sessions, which run in smaller groups, with children from Reception to Year 2 learning alongside children of similar abilities. Your child will bring Read Write Inc books home to read with you. We send home a reading record to ensure communication is maintained, also allowing teaching staff to evidence reading developments noted in school. **Please purchase a book bag from the school office.**



## MATHS

As a school, we believe a high-quality mathematics education provides the children with a foundation for understanding the world, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject. Mathematics is essential to everyday life and teaches children how to make sense of the world around them.

By celebrating their learning and through providing the children with engaging challenges, we aim to inspire our children, as at Bratton Primary we believe that every child can develop the mathematical skills they will need, both at school and throughout their lives.

Schools in England follow the Early Years Foundation Stage. In mathematics, your child is likely to cover the following things:

- Counting up to 20 everyday objects
- Saying and using the number names in order
- Finding one more or less than a number up to 20
- Starting to use the language of addition and subtraction; counting on and back
- Sorting and matching objects and shapes
- Comparing quantities and shapes
- Finding and recreating simple patterns
- Beginning to do some simple measuring, comparing lengths and quantities
- Talking about things like size, weight, distance, time and money to develop correct vocabulary





### **LEARNING JOURNALS**

We use an online learning journal system called Tapestry, where you will be able to see photos and watch videos of some of the learning that your child has experienced each week. We also send home a termly curriculum document, detailing what we aim to work on across the whole term. If you feel you could contribute to our topic work or curriculum provision in any way, then please do come and let us know.

### **HELPING OUT**

On that theme, we would really appreciate any help you would like to volunteer at Bratton Primary School; either on trips, in the classrooms, or with the multitude of behind-the-scenes jobs that take place at school. If you are inspired to get involved, please let the office know and they will help you to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosure check; this is a legal necessity that we have all undergone in order to work with children.

### **TOYS**

Toys from home are not allowed in school, as there are so many opportunities for your toys to get lost or broken in school, which would be a shame. Instead, we have lots of toys and games in our classroom and playground to entertain us during the school day. However, we do understand if, initially, your child feels the need to bring a 'comfort toy'.

### **INDEPENDENCE**

Growing up is so much about gaining independence. It therefore helps us tremendously if your child is able to take him or herself to the toilet. We also encourage the children to dress independently for Forest School and break time, particularly doing up their own coats and would greatly appreciate your help with securing these life skills at home too.

### **PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS**

During the school year there will be meetings to explain our teaching of English, including phonics and Maths. This will be an opportunity for us to expand upon our learning and teaching methods and for you to ask any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you then.

### **AND FINALLY...**

Thank you once again for entrusting your children's education to us and for your support on all the above matters. We are looking forward to a fantastic year working with you to ensure your child enjoys a happy and positive start to 7 years of school life at Bratton Primary School.