First Steps to School

Court Lane Infant School

2026

Proud to be part of the UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER ACADEMY TRUST

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Staff Teams

Senior Leadership Team

Our Early Years Team

Our Infant based Admin Team

Children are at the heart of what we do. We empower people to be lifelong learners, equipping children with knowledge, skills and attitudes in order to aspire, adapt and achieve in an ever changing world.

Our Core Values
Believe, Inspire, Achieve

Believe

Fostering confidence in every learner's journey.

Inspire

Encouraging creativity and innovation in students.

Achieve

Celebrating successes and milestones together.

University of Chichester Academy Trust

Early Years Foundation Stage

- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework is a government document that all schools and Ofsted-registered early years providers in England must follow.
- It sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years old.
- Reception in school is the final year the children follow this framework and sets the foundation for future learning.
- The National Curriculum starts in Year 1, Year R is the transition between nursery and Year 1.

What Will My Child Be Learning?

The EYFS framework outlines seven areas of learning and development and educational programmes. There are three **prime** areas of learning, which are particularly important for your child's development and future learning:

- communication and language
- personal, social and emotional development
- physical development

There are four **specific** areas of learning, through which the prime areas are strengthened and applied:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Early years practitioners also use your child's needs and interests to plan challenging and enjoyable activities and experiences.

Typical School Day

Morning Routine
8.25 to 8.35
Doors Open

8.35 to 12.00
Learning Experiences include,
Adult Led – Phonics/ Maths/ Literacy/ Handgym/Reading
Child Initiated/ Child Led Learning
Snack Time during Morning

12.00 to 1.10
Lunchtime

Afternoon Routine
1.10 to 3.15
Learning Experiences,
Adult Led – Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design– Topic Based/ Child Interests
Child Initiated/ Child Led Learning

3.15
End of school day

Free School Meals

- Universal Infant Free School meals
- All infant age pupils are eligible for a free school meal regardless of income
- A menu is available that you can pre order from in advance or your pupil can order in class on the day.
- Water is available for pupils

Pupil Premium funding

Parents in low income families can also apply for Pupil Premium funding. This additional funding helps us to make a real difference for the children in our school. Families may also benefit from other schemes such as Holiday Activity Programmes.

The way parents can check eligibility is currently changing for our school. Further details will be made available in September.

Snacks & Packed Lunches

- Free school snacks for infant age pupils provided daily.
- This included fruits and vegetables.
- Pupils can also bring their own healthy snack in a named snack box.
- Water Bottles –please ensure that these only contain water. Children need to bring plastic water bottles rather than metal.

Packed Lunches

- Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families – NHS
- Items that children can open themselves where possible.
- If a drink is provided in a lunch box, please ensure it is in a plastic bottle or a waxed carton. No glass bottles, flasks, cans or fizzy drinks are permitted. Children can have juice in their lunchboxes.
- Whilst a biscuit covered in chocolate is acceptable in a lunch box, e.g. kit kat or penguin, bars of chocolate or sweets are not.
- In order to safeguard the children who are at risk from an anaphylactic shock (severe allergic reaction) we have banned, CHOCOLATE SPREAD, PEANUTS, and NUT RELATED PRODUCTS. Please DO NOT put any of these items in your child's lunchbox.
- If your child has a food allergy, intolerance or food related medical condition and you require a special menu for a school lunch please contact the school office.

Year R Curriculum

How do we deliver the curriculum?

- Inside and outside classrooms.
- Children can access all areas of learning
- Cater for all styles of learners
- Listening to the children and what they show interest in learning about
- Learning activities at home to support your child's learning in school

How do we track your child's achievement?

- Regular observations of your child
- Tapestry
- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

Autumn Term

- Focus on PSED, PD and CL
- Routines
- Phonics

Parent & School Partnership

- Home learning set on Tapestry – weekly phonics, half term holiday challenges, half termly maths challenges

- Parent observations on Tapestry

- Reading at home – recording in their blue home reading diary

- Phonics -
Link -For parents | Letters and Sounds

- Summer Holiday Challenges – getting your child ready for school

Getting to know your child

- Telephone or visits with preschool settings
- In school visits – story time, discovery time, class visit
- Parents/Carers
- Tapestry Learning Journey
- Reception Baseline Assessment (within first 6 weeks)
- First few days of school

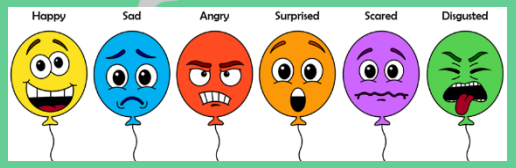
Help your child be school ready

For more information visit

www.portsmouth.gov.uk/startschooltips

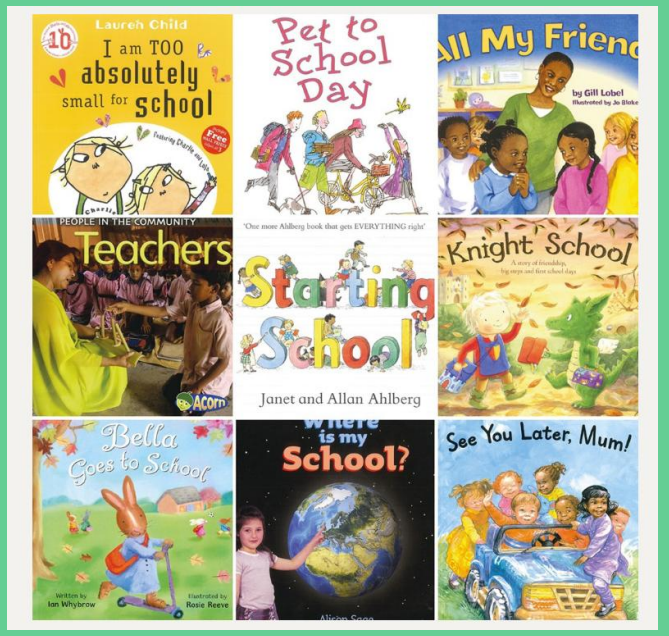
Preparing for School/Emotions

Children have many different feelings/emotions when they start school, this is normal.



Ideas to support your child…

- Talk to them about what they are looking forward to.
- Acknowledge the change and think about this in a positive way. Think about making new friends and learning new things.
- Visit the library and borrow some books about starting school.
- Develop their independence.
- Walk past school during the summer holiday, practise putting their uniform on.
- Allow enough time to rest.



Induction Arrangements

Class Visit

Tuesday 30th June

Classes 1 and 3 - 9.30 am – 11 am

Classes 2 and 4 - 9.45 am – 11am

Starting School Arrangements

For the first 3 days of school **(9th September – 11th September)** your child will be invited to attend for a morning or afternoon session.

- Morning Session: 8.25-11.30
- Afternoon Session: 1.30-3.15

From **Monday 14th September** all children will attend full time.

- For the first day we will be staggering the entry.
- Class 1 and 3: 8.25-3.15/Class 2 and 4: 8.45-3.15

From **Tuesday 15th September** all children will enter school together at 8.25-3.15

- Class 1 and 2 enter school from the Year R playground.
- Class 3 and 4 enter school from the hall doors in the main playground.

Uniform & Equipment

Uniform (everyday and PE kits)

- Supermarkets for t-shirts, grey skirts/shorts/trousers, summer dresses (green/yellow)
- Pre-loved from CLACA
- Price and Buckland
- https://hiveportsmouth.org.uk/uniform-share-store

- EVERYTHING must be labelled
- Bookbags only
  - No need to purchase any equipment such as pens etc, all this is provided in each class.

PE

This year children will be allocated a house. Each house has its own colour PE T-Shirt and PE bag.

Communication

- Morning messages
- Teachers available at the end of the day
- Newsletters
- Parents Evening
- Annual Reports
- Reading diaries
- Emails and phone calls
- Tapestry used for **learning** information only to and from school
- Arbor app –ready for autumn term –try to set up app before summer

Court Lane Schools do have an official Facebook page.

Communication

- At school we use the The Arbor Management System. Parents can use the accompanying Parent Portal or App to stay connected. Login details will be sent by email.
- The App can be downloaded from both the App store and Google Play store.
- Access to the App allows parents to: -
    - Order school meals
    - Report absences and view attendance
    - Update contact details
    - Pay for places on school trips
    - Book appointments for parents evenings
    - Provide and update consent choices and permissions

For questions about school events, admissions, medical needs, uniform, general information, or to get in touch with a specific member of staff, please contact the School Office.
They will make sure that your query gets to the best person to answer it and resolve swiftly.

Community Links

- Governors
- CLACA – Court Lane Academy Community Association
- School Nurse
- MHST
- Farlington Wrap Around and Dreamcatchers
- School Catering Services - Caterlink

The Importance of Attendance

- Avoid holidays in term time
- Attendance less than 90% will be followed up with a letter from school.
- Punctuality is key to ensuring your child settles into school and does not miss the important start to the day.

MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT

The government expects

Schools and local authorities to:

- promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence
- ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled
- act early to address patterns of absence

Parents to:

- perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly
- all pupils to be punctual to their lessons

Teddy Bears Picnic

CLACA have organised a Teddy Bears Picnic for all new entrants and their family to help you get to know each other before you start school.

When: 30th June (after the class visit)

Where: Drayton Park

What do you need: A snack and your favourite teddy bear ☺

We are looking forward to working with you and making a difference to your child's future.

Court Lane
Infant School

A place where success is expected, achieved and celebrated!