



Starting 'big school'



A very warm welcome...

- Please direct any questions via the office at office@barnsgreen.org.uk

Transition

- ▶ We are hoping to be able to run a full programme of transition this year, which will include our usual stay and play sessions in the summer term and contact with all pre-school settings. Your child's well-being is at the heart of what we do.
- ▶ In the first week of term, we are hoping to offer home visits or the option of telephone consultation appointments with the class teachers to talk over any queries or information you would like us to know about your small person.
- ▶ We would like to find out a little bit about you and would love you to complete the all about me sheet that we will forward to you all. You can either bring it with you in September, pop it in the post or email it into the school office.

Team Dormouse

- ▶ Dormouse Class is taught by Mrs Al-Tarafi
- ▶ We have amazing early years teaching assistants too: Mrs Cooper and Mrs Dasey
- ▶ We look forward to getting to know you all.

Our classroom

- ▶ The photos on the next slides will show you a little snippet of life in Dormouse Class.
- ▶ Please show these to your child, ask them what they can see and answer any questions they might have.
- ▶ In Dormouse Class, we are very lucky to also have some of our year 1 cohort who are on hand in a supportive role to show our new children the ropes and help them to settle into big school – they are experts as they've already been there and done it all!

This is our carpet
area...

This is where we come
together for stories and
learning with our grown ups.

We sit nicely and listen
carefully here so everyone
has a chance to share their
good ideas.



What is my classroom like?

We learn new sounds



We play with small world resources



We love our block area for building



Our classroom...

- ▶ Changes through the year.
- ▶ Reflects the interests and needs of the children
- ▶ Is a busy and creative place to learn
- ▶ Is a friendly and safe space to learn in



We have our own outdoor classroom





Our cloakroom

- ▶ This is where we hang up our coats and keep our bags.
- ▶ You can bring a small backpack to school we also provide a bookbag to keep your reading book and home school diary in, this is also useful to carry home letters. We would like you to bring this to school each day.



How can I help my child get ready?

- ▶ Listening and talking –
 - ▶ Sing nursery rhymes as often as possible
 - ▶ Read books and share stories everyday
 - ▶ Count every day, reciting numbers and counting objects
 - ▶ Play games –eye spy, board games, active games
- Tiny Happy People has lots of wonderful communication activities for children up to 5 years old. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

Help them to look after themselves

A child who can look after themselves will be more confident at school. Here are some top tips:

- ▶ Practise going to the toilet, wiping their own bottom and flushing the toilet
- ▶ Practise washing their hands properly for 20 seconds
- ▶ Practise blowing their nose and putting the tissue in the bin
- ▶ Practise dressing and undressing themselves including putting on socks and doing the fastening on their coat.
- ▶ Feed themselves, open packets, peel fruit and use a knife and fork.
- ▶ Practise tidying up their own toys and helping with simple chores.
- ▶ Practise following 2 step instructions eg put your shoes on and get your coat please.

Talk about big school

- ▶ Prepare them as much as possible, there will not be as many grown ups on hand to help at big school.
- ▶ Practise sharing their toys and taking turns in games.
- ▶ Practise taking turns to speak, there will be lots of children who all want to share ideas so we have to learn to wait our turn.



Tips for parents

When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. Use this sheet as a guide to help track their progress.

Independence

- I know when to wash my hands
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

Speaking & literacy

- I am interested in reading stories & looking at picture books
- I am able to describe myself, my needs & feelings
- I am beginning to recognise my own name

Getting dressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my clothes

- I can put on my coat

Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I can follow simple instructions
- I can follow simple instructions

Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can follow simple instructions
- I am confident in opening my water bottle

Writing skills

- I like to write letters & words
- I enjoy writing with a pencil
- I am starting to write my name

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own
- I can wash my hands

Independence

- I am happy to be away from my home
- I am happy to follow my instructions

- I am interested in the world around me

Listening & understanding

- I am able to follow instructions
- I can follow simple instructions
- I can understand the need to follow rules

Sharing a turn taking

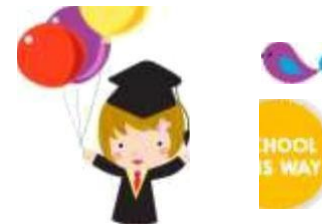
- I can play games with others
- I can share with others

Counting skills

- I enjoy practising counting
- I can recognise some numbers

Routines

- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
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- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time



What will I need to bring with me?

- All children in early years and key stage one are entitled to a free hot meal, you do not need to sign up for this and can view the menu at <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/Page/149/WS-Meal-Selector---Menus.html>
- ▶ We will provide a fruit snack each morning so your child need not bring any additional snacks.
- We will provide free milk for all children under the age of 5. Once your child turns 5 you may apply and pay online for them to continue receiving milk <https://www.coolmilk.com/>
- ▶ Your child will need a clean, named water bottle each day please for water, please do not send the bottle in with fruit juice and practise opening and closing the bottle fastening.
- ▶ Once we are settled in, your child will be able to bring home a home reader book which can be changed each morning. A book must be returned before taking a new one please.

What next?

- ▶ Please ensure all school admission forms are returned in good time including your preference for your child's full time, part time or staggered route into school.
- ▶ Let the office know if you would like a phone call with one of the teachers in the first full week of term.
- ▶ There will be a curriculum meeting in September (fingers crossed this will be face to face) and this will go over in detail about the early years curriculum, how you child will be taught and all about supporting early maths and reading. We will also go into detail about our phonics scheme Read Write Inc.
- ▶ We very much look forward to meeting you all in September!