



**Heathlands
Primary School**
ACHIEVE • SUCCEED • FLY

Welcome to Heathlands
Foundation Stage Unit

Foundation 2

Information pack for Parents
and Carers

Meet the Team

Mr Shaun Walker	Executive Head Teacher
Mrs Sally Morgan	Head of School
Miss Charlotte Baker	Foundation Stage Leader F2 Class Teacher
Mrs Rebecca Lambley	F1 Key Person

Class Teacher

We have one full-time Foundation 2 class. Children in F2 have a separate space in our unit for their adult directed tasks but have opportunities throughout the day to share the whole unit with children in F1. This gives children access to a wide variety of stimulating activities and resources, both inside and outside.

Foundation 2 Teacher

Miss Charlotte Baker



Transition to F2

New Class Days

We offer two new class days which will take place during the half term before the summer holidays. The aim of these visits is to familiarise your child with the F2 environment, the outdoor area, dinner hall, toilets, their class teacher and other staff who work in Foundation.

During the new class days children will complete fun activities, get to know their classmates, and enjoy exploring the environments. A school meal will be provided free of charge, if you wish for your child to take one.

Alternatively, you can send your child with a packed lunch from home.

During the lunchtimes class teachers will stay with children so they have a familiar face! Please let us know if you have any questions about the visits.

What does my child need to bring to school?

Your child will need to bring a **water bottle**, **book bag** (provided by school), any **changing items**, **phonics reading book**, **reading for pleasure book** and **reading diary** each day (this will be given to your child during the first few of weeks in September).

Your child will receive optional homework each Friday, this is based on the phonics we have learnt that week. Whilst children do not have to complete this, it something that we will celebrate in school and for parents it shows exactly what they have focused their learning on for that week.

Each child will have a named peg, in the Foundation Unit, where they can hang their coats and bags each morning.

We encourage you not to allow your child to bring toys to school. This is because they can be easily lost or broken which can be upsetting. Experience tells us that you will not have an easy night if a favourite teddy gets left at school!

A Typical Morning in Foundation 2

We very much live 'in the moment' in Foundation. However, we aim to follow roughly the same routine every day as much as possible to help children feel happy, safe and secure.

Here is a typical morning in Foundation 2:

8:45am:	Enter school and put away belongings. Register.
9:00am:	Whole class phonics
9:20am:	Directed writing (one group)
9:20am:	Snack and chat
10:00am:	Free flow Active Learning, indoors and outdoors
11:00am:	Whole class math session
11:30am:	Reading for Pleasure
11:45am:	Lunch time – this is in the dinner hall

Active Learning

“Play is the highest form of research” – Albert Einstein



Active learning is time when the children are able to explore the learning environment independently with free flow access between indoors and outdoors.

Active Learning time throughout our unit is the crux of the learning experiences we provide for our children. We commit a significant part of our timetable to Active Learning, and this means that

it has to be monitored at all times to ensure it is of high quality, progressive and holds high expectations of every child's learning.

Active Learning time is the biggest contributor to Personal, Social and Emotional Development in our unit due to the vast opportunities for social interaction, making personal choices of what to do and how to behave, as well as contributing to taking care of their environment. Children are encouraged to attempt to solve their own problems when they get stuck before approaching an adult, and the motto 'Choose it, use it, put it away!' is used to remind all children about their responsibilities in keeping our unit safe and tidy.



Directed Group Time

Children are expected to join in daily with an adult directed writing and a mathematics activity. We use these times to teach key skills and also to provide children with the tools needed to be an effective learner.

In our directed writing we focus on the sound we have learnt that day in phonics, enabling the children to apply their skills effectively. In maths we focus on the key skills of number and shape, building on the children's skills week by week.

The length of time children sit in an adult directed group time is kept to the very minimum and is only increased when the majority of children within the group are ready to concentrate for longer. If a child is not ready to join in with their peers in a group time activity, then we will work to provide an activity that more closely suits their needs. Whilst having high expectations of all our children, we work very much to the pace of each child and their development.

Reading

Early reading skills form an important part of our daily learning in F2, as a part of our phonics and reading sessions. We focus on the skill of blending sounds and building fluency and confidence when reading sentences.



To support your child to read and build a love for reading we have the following reading opportunities:

Phonics reading book – this book will match the phonics sounds your child has learnt in school. This is changed weekly in school.

Reading for Pleasure – this book is a story to enjoy at home with an adult, this can be changed as often as you wish.

In your child's reading diary, you can achieve two reads a day, one for their phonics book and one for a reading for pleasure (this can be a book they enjoy at home too). Each term we aim for 50 reads in our High 5 Reward, those that achieve this will enjoy a fun afternoon activity.

Tapestry



We make ongoing observations and assessments of each child through an online learning journal called Tapestry. We have used Tapestry for a number of years and we find it a user-friendly way of communicating with parents about children's day to day experiences and achievements. We are able to post videos and photos of your child in school that are shared immediately with you. Likewise, you can also share achievements or special events that happen at home which we can then talk about at school. Quite often, children may meet a milestone at home that we might never get to see at school and vice versa. Therefore, Tapestry is an excellent way for us to share your child's learning and development.

We recommend that you get signed up as soon as possible once your child starts school. You will be asked to sign an agreement form and soon after you will receive a link via email. You must then activate your password immediately to be able to view your child's profile.

Please speak to the school office or your child's key person if you have any issues getting set up on Tapestry.

Lunchtime

Children have a 45-minute lunchtime, which includes time to eat lunch in the hall and then outdoor play on our main playground. During the first 15 minutes in the dinner hall, F2 are the only children accessing this space, so it is not too loud or busy. Midday supervisors support them with opening packets, drinks and cutting up their school dinner if needed.

School Dinners

Children in F2 are offered a free school meal; this includes a drink, main meal and dessert. The menu changes weekly, so the children can try a variety of meals throughout the school year. Please see the below for an example of the meals we offer. Please note: vegetarian options and dietary requirements can be easily catered for, please speak to a member of the School Office to arrange this.

WEEK 1 Spring Term Menu Week commencing: 05/01, 02/02, 09/03				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Option 1 Pizza pasta bake (G,M)/ Vegetable pasta bake (G), garlic bread (G), sweetcorn	Option 1 Chicken/ Veggie wrap (G), twister fries, crunchy veg	Option 1 Pork sausage (G)/ Vegetarian sausage(G), mash potato, Yorkshire pudding (G,M,E), seasonal veg, gravy	Option 1 Cheese and tomato parcels (G,M), potato wedges, spaghetti hoops (G)	Option 1 Fish fingers (G,F)/ Veggie fingers (G), chips, carrots and peas, ketchup
Option 2 Jacket potatoes with either baked beans, cheese (G,M) or tuna mayo (F,E)	Option 2 Jacket potatoes with either baked beans, cheese (G,M) or tuna mayo (F,E)	Option 2 Choice of cheese (G,M), ham or tuna mayo (F,E,G) sandwiches, served with crisps (G,M) and vegetable sticks	Option 2 Jacket potatoes with either baked beans, cheese (G,M) or tuna mayo (F,E)	Option 2 Choice of cheese (G,M), ham or tuna mayo (F,E) sandwiches, served with crisps (G,M) and vegetable sticks
Pudding Cupcake (G,M,E,S)	Pudding Sponge and custard (G,M,E,S)	Pudding Choc chip cookie (G,M,E)	Pudding Ice cream (M)	Pudding Shortbread (G)
BLIDWORTH OAKS				
Celery(C) Crustaceans(CR) Eggs(E) Fish(F) Gluten(G) Lupin(L) Milk(M) Nuts(N) Molluscs(MO) Peanuts(P) Sesame(S) Sulphites(SU) Mustard(MU)				
Fresh fruit, yoghurts and water available daily. Menus subject to change. Special diets catered for.				

Packed Lunches

Children are also welcome to bring a packed lunch from home. We have found that giving your child no more than 5 items enable them to finish most of their lunch in the timeslot.

Please note - We are a nut and egg free school. Please do not send food items into school that contain nuts or traces of nuts or egg in its purest form.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Learning and Development Requirements

Teaching and learning in the Foundation Stage is driven by the Early Years Profile which directs all Early Years settings on the key areas of learning and assessment requirements.

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape our curriculum. The first three areas are the **Prime Areas** which are particularly important for igniting children's enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving. The Prime Areas are our main focus for teaching, learning and assessment in F1.

The Prime Areas

- **Communication and Language**
- **Physical Development**
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

We must also support children through four **Specific Areas** through which the Prime Areas are strengthened and applied.

The Specific Areas

- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding The World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

We provide a blend of child-led and adult-led activities and experiences that support all seven areas of learning.

In addition, our curriculum responds to the needs and interests of the children so 'what' we teach will differ with each cohort and quite often will change 'in the moment' as do the needs and interests of children

What to expect in the Early Years



As your child moves through the Foundation Stage you will be given this helpful booklet (it can also be found online). This document clearly explains all areas of the EYFS for each age group, explaining what each Prime and Specific Areas learning looks like for your child.

Assessment and Progress Meetings

Reception Baseline Assessments – This is an initial assessment that takes place in the first half term after your child joins F2.

Termly Wellcomm assessments – communication and language.

Termly Learning Celebrations – These take place every term with your class teacher.

End of F2 Assessment against the Early Learning Goals and a written report.

The Early Learning Goals

Our F2 teachers are required to assess each child against the Early Learning Goal for each area of learning at the end of F2. These do not form our curriculum but are used to support teachers in making a best fit judgement about a child's development and their readiness for Year 1.

Teachers will assess your child as either meeting the expected level of development (*expected*) or not yet meeting the expected level (*emerging*) against the each of the Early Learning Goals.

More information regarding the early learning goals and the seven areas of learning can be found on the school website.

Special Education Needs

A special needs register is kept for all children with Special Educational Needs. Please tell us as early as possible if you already know that your child has special educational needs to ensure that we can provide the best possible start including any necessary changes to the environment.

Please keep us closely informed of any developments or any involvements from outside agencies. The closer we work together, the better the outcome will be for your child.

Please also tell us if you already know of any adjustments we need to make to help support you or your child, for example; letters in large font or Braille, providing a signer, explaining letters in person, wheelchair access.

School Uniform

We do expect children in F2 to wear a school uniform which is as follows:

- White or blue shirt/blouse/polo shirt. Grey trousers/shorts.
- Royal blue jumper, cardigan, sweatshirt or fleece.
- Grey skirt or pinafore dress. Blue or blue and white dress.
- School sweatshirts, polo shirts and other clothing showing the school logo can be purchased online at www.myclothing.com

We do expect children in F2 to wear a PE kit for PE lessons, which is as follows:

- White t-shirt /polo shirt.
- Black shorts / joggers
- Trainers or plimsols

PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING (including shoes!)

The children will go outside every day and will need a warm coat or jacket to wear in cold weather as well as shoes that are suitable for indoor and outdoor play.

We aim to do as much of our learning outdoors as well as indoors, so wellies are extremely important in Foundation. Please ensure your child has a named pair of wellies in school **at all times**.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Our Breakfast and After School club is based in our 'Butterfly Room' and run by the school and school staff. It is open five days per week during term time from 7:30am until 6pm and is available for children aged 3 to 11. Places can be booked though our school app or through the school office. Bookings should be made in advance where possible to ensure a place.



Getting in Touch

We hope that this booklet provides you with most of the information you need, but we understand that this very exciting time can also be an anxious one. If you have any concerns or questions, anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone or email.

Here are some useful contacts for you:

Heathlands Primary School Office:

Telephone: 01623 401402

Email: office@heathlands.notts.sch.uk

Miss Charlotte Baker – Foundation Stage Leader

Email: cbaker@heathlands.notts.sch.uk

Mrs Rebecca Lambley – F1 Key person

Email: rlambley@heathlands.notts.sch.uk

Heathlands School Website

www.heathlandsprimary.co.uk