



Welcome to Buckminster Primary School

Information Pack
2020-2021



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Introduction to Buckminster Primary School



Buckminster is a small, rural school for children aged four to eleven years. The school is situated mid-way between Buckminster and Sewstern, and was built in 1898.



The school has six classrooms together with a school hall, library, community room and snug. In the Foundation Unit we have a newly built Pre school, reception classroom and a fantastic enclosed outdoor area. This learning space also has a covered area which allows the children to use the outdoor classroom in all weather conditions. Pre school children are a part of our Foundation Unit and will mix with the Reception children throughout the day. In addition to this there is a tarmac playground with play equipment and a large sports field in which the 'Muga' our all weather sports pitch is positioned.



The reception children also have the opportunity of going to Forest School in Little Dalby on a fortnightly basis during the Autumn and Summer terms. Buckminster School planted our own woodland which we hope to be able to use in the years to come.



Staff at Buckminster Primary School

- Head Teacher- Mrs Debbie Clarke
- Office Manager – Mrs Nicola Wright
- Admin Assistant- Mrs S Holmes
- Year 5 and 6 Teacher – Mrs C Kilius-Smith and Mrs C Smith
- Year 3 and 4 Teacher- Mrs K Hunt and Miss P Winter
- Year 1 and 2 Teacher- Mrs R O’Callaghan
- Reception Teachers- Mrs B Bagshaw, Mrs H Jackson & trainee teacher Mr S Floyd
- Pre school Teacher- Mrs C Floyd
- Classroom Assistants- Mrs J Roberts and Mrs R Clarke
- Lunchtime Supervisors- Mrs S Watkin and Mr W Watkin
- Breakfast Club- Mr W Watkin
- Afterschool Club- Mr W Watkin and Mrs S Watkin
- Premises Officer- Mr W Watkin



Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum



- The Foundation Stage is the period of education for children from birth to the end of the Foundation year.
- The Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the recognition that children learn through play and active learning.
- There are seven areas of learning and development that shape the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Three areas of learning are:
 - **Communication and language;**
 - **Physical development;** and
 - **Personal, social and emotional development.**
- These areas of learning, called the *prime* areas are particularly crucial in enabling children's learning, as they reflect the key skills and capabilities all children need to develop and learn effectively.
- We also support children in four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. These areas are:
 - **Literacy;**
 - **Mathematics;**
 - **Understanding the world**
 - **Expressive arts and design**

Monitoring Progress

Each area of learning has its own '**Early Learning Goal**' which monitors the progress that has been achieved by the **end** of Foundation Class. Teachers will make best fit judgements against each of the 17 Early Learning Goals (ELG). Children will be described as 'emerging', 'expected' or 'exceeding' in each ELG.

The first few weeks

We will find out what your child already knows and can do and use this information to help us develop an individual learning programme for your child. In September all reception children will take a baseline assessment which will take place within the first 6 weeks of the school term.

Your child will have their own 'Learning Journey' which records information of your child's achievements throughout the year. This may be in the form of a photograph, an observation or some of your child's work. Parents can access these freely on the Tapestry website; these are published on Fridays. You can also add comments and add your own observations of the things your child does.

You will be invited to discuss your child's progress at Parent's evenings which are held every term. At the final parents' meeting in July you will receive a full written report.



Term Dates Academic Year 2020-2021



Autumn Term

School opens: Wednesday 26th August

Bank Holiday: Monday 31st August 2020

Mid Term Break: Monday 19th to Friday 23rd October 2020

School closes: Friday 18th December 2020



Spring Term

School opens: Tuesday 5th January 2021

Mid Term Break: Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2021

School closes: Friday 26th March 2021



Summer Term

School opens: Monday 12th April 2021

May Day: Monday 3rd May 2021

Mid Term Break: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021

School closes: Friday 9th July 2021



School Dress

Children should come to school dressed in a way which is appropriate, which shows care for appearance and gives them a sense of belonging.

School Uniform: Children must wear either the navy school jumper or cardigan with the school logo on, a white shirt or blouse and the blue and white school tie. Boys must wear grey trousers in the winter months and shorts are permitted in the summer months. Girls wear grey skirts with either grey tights or white socks. In the summer months girls can wear a navy blue gingham summer dresses.

The PTFA are providing all children with a Buckminster tie and book bag and a home school diary.

PE Kit: A pale blue polo shirt, plain navy shorts and plimsolls (indoors) old trainers (outdoors), and a navy tracksuit for outside.

PE kit must be in a drawstring bag- these can be ordered from Nationwide School Uniforms. It is also useful to have a **spare set of named underwear and clothes in school.**

It is **vital** that all your child's property is marked with his/her name, especially school uniform. We will take no responsibility for loss of any unmarked clothing as we do not keep a 'lost property box.'



General Information

Milk: If you wish your child to have milk in school on a daily basis you need to register on the 'Cool Milk' website www.coolmilk.com or fill in a 'Cool Milk' form. Children are **advised to bring water bottles** into school which they can access freely during the day.

Fruit: This is provided daily for infant children which is given out during the day.

Book Bags: These can be purchased from Nationwide School Uniforms for £5.50, although this year the **PTFA** are providing every child with one **free** of charge. Book bags need to come to school everyday with their reading books and should be checked at the end of every day for any letters. Children are heard read regularly either individually or in groups. Please discuss your child's book with them and hear them read as they progress. School provide a School diary with a reading record which parents can use to record their child's progress or any comments about their child's reading. Staff will write comments in these books and they will be checked on a regular basis.

Home School Diaries: These will be given out in August and will be used to communicate all messages between home and school.



General Information

Continued...

- **Newsletters:** Weekly newsletters are emailed or sent home to keep parents up to date with current events and dates for your diary. If you do not have access to email please inform the school office for you to receive paper copies. All newsletters will be put on the school website. www.buckminster.leics.sch.uk
- **Absence from school:** If your child is away from school for any reason you must make contact with the school either by email, by telephone or in person before 9.05am.
- **Holidays:** No holidays can be taken during term time unless it is an exceptional circumstance and approved by the Head Teacher.
- We offer a **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club** at Buckminster School. The Breakfast Club starts from 7.40am and runs until 8.40am and the After School Club runs until 5.20pm. If you would be interested in attending either of these clubs please speak to the school office as soon as possible. There is a charge of £4.00 per hour.



The School Day

School hours are 8.55am to 12.15pm and 1.20pm to 3.20pm for both infants and juniors.

Start of the day: In the morning the school gates are opened at 8.40am and children are to come straight into their classroom where they will complete a morning activity before school starts. Class teachers will be there to welcome your child and get them settled for the day. Registration is at 8.55am.

Home Time: At 3.20pm reception children wait in their classroom with their teacher. Parents are asked to wait on the large playground outside the blue gate leading into the Foundation play area. When parents can be seen, children are dismissed by the teacher. If you know that you will not be picking up your child at the end of the day it is important that you inform the class teacher in the morning.



Day to Day routines

School dinners/packed lunch: School dinners are provided in the middle of the school day. Since September 2014 all pupils in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools in England are eligible for free school meals. School dinners are ordered on a daily basis therefore allowing for flexibility during the week. If children wish to bring in a packed lunch we encourage them to bring in a healthy lunch (no fizzy drinks and sweets please) but as storage is limited we do ask that lunches are sent in proper lunch boxes. The lunch boxes are stored at room temperature so it may be useful to include an icepack.



Forest School

- The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences.
- Children visit the same local woodlands on a regular basis and through play they have the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, how to handle risks and most importantly to use their own initiative to solve problems and co-operate with others.
- We visit Forest School every other Friday at Little Dalby the children need to have full waterproofs and wellingtons. Children do not need to wear school uniform on these days and come to school dressed according to the weather in old clothes. Children need to come to school in long sleeves and long trousers so their legs are covered. A spare set of clothes would be useful in case children get wet or dirty.
- We will be travelling to Forest School on a minibuss and we are looking for a parent helper to come with us, can you help? If you think you would be able to help please speak to the class teacher. There will be a small charge for transport due to high fuel costs, this will be done on a termly basis.



The Hollies- Little Dalby



Do you have any questions?

If so please to do not hesitate to get in touch either by telephone on 01476 860315 or email: office@buckminster.leics.sch.uk
We will be happy to help.

