



RACE LEYS INFANT SCHOOL



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

2020-2021

Welcome

Welcome to Race Leys Infant school. This booklet will give you all of the information you will need to know about your child's time at our school.

Race Leys Infant school prides itself on being a welcoming, friendly and caring place for everyone to attend.

We are a 'good' school in the heart of Bedworth. Having celebrated our centenary in 2012, the school has served the families in the town for over a hundred years. We continue to build on our proud traditions by providing a high quality learning environment and experiences for our pupils. Our creative approach to the curriculum provides a wide range of opportunities for our children.

Our school values promote high expectations and require all of our children to work hard and behave well. These attitudes are reflected in the excellent standards of learning and progress we achieve. We encourage our children to be thoughtful and confident individuals.

We welcome parents to join in with the life of the school and encourage them to share and support with their child's learning.

Please come in and see for yourself what we have to offer your child.

I look forward to working with you.

Judith Ward

Headteacher



Aims and Vision

The positive values and ethos of our school are promoted throughout everything we do.

Our school motto highlights our high expectations for every member of the school community, including pupils, staff and parents/carers:

“ Learning Together We Can Reach For The Stars”

Learning together is at the heart of Race Leys Infant School where we all enjoy being challenged in exciting and creative ways. We have high expectations and work hard to be the best we can be. Our exciting curriculum helps us to learn skills for the future, recognise each others differences, strengths and celebrate success. Our school values help us to use good manners, develop respectful, caring relationships and support us to feel safe, be happy and make good choices.

You will see these aims and values reflected in the attitudes and behaviour of all our pupils and staff.



‘Learning for all is central to the ethos of the school. Consequently, pupils make good progress.’ Ofsted 2018

Admissions

Children enter Reception in the September after their 4th birthday. Priority is given to children who live in the school's priority area. Children from outside the priority area may be admitted up to the maximum admission number. The school has a standard admission number of 60 per year group.

The admissions criteria is printed on the reverse of the application form which is available from the County's Admissions Department. For further information telephone 01926 742047.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions

The School is organised into 3 year groups. These are:

Reception (YR) – children becoming 5 during the school year

Year One (Y1) – children becoming 6 during the school year

Year Two (Y2) – children becoming 7 during the school year

School Times

School starts 8.55am

Break time 10.00am – 10.10am

Lunch time 12.00pm – 1.15 pm

Afternoon starts 1.15pm

End of school 3.15pm



Children can arrive in the playground from 8.45. Parents need to wait with their children until the bell goes at 8.55 and see them to their class teacher at the specified entrance.

Please note that there is no supervision on site before and at the end of the day unless the children are involved in after school activities. Parents are responsible for their children on the playground before and after school.

School Uniform

The school has a recommended uniform with the main colours being red and white. Sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo are available for you to order and purchase from the school office.

Girls wear: red school sweatshirt, or cardigan, white blouse or polo shirt, grey skirt, pinafore or trousers, red checked summer dress.

Boys wear: red school sweatshirt, white shirt or polo shirt, grey trousers or shorts.

Sturdy, flat black shoes should be worn in school. Boots may be worn to and from school during the winter. Enclosed sandals or black trainers can be worn in warmer weather.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL UNIFORM IS LABELLED WITH YOU CHILD'S NAME ALL OF THE TIME



Book Bags and P.E. Bags

School book bags are an important addition to the school uniform, enabling your child to carry their school books and letters safely to and from school each day. **We recommend that children only bring these bags to school as there is limited storage space for larger bags. Please do not send large rucksacks or bags.**

P.E. bags with the school Logo can also be purchased from the office.

P.E Clothing

Children will need to bring a pair of shorts and t-shirt and slip on pumps for P.E. They will also need a small pump bag to keep these in.

Wearing jewellery of any kind can be dangerous to children at play and in P.E. Earrings are especially dangerous. Pupils will need to remove or cover earrings with tape in PE lessons.



'The PE and Sport Premium funding is used particularly well to encourage all pupils to take part in a wide range of physical activities.' Ofsted 2018

Money, Jewellery and belongings

It can cause great distress and upset if possessions get lost or broken. We recommend that money, toys and precious items are not brought into school. We cannot be held responsible for the loss of valuables brought into school.

Jewellery must not be worn to school. An exception may be made for stud earrings to be worn for recently pierced ears.

'There is a strong culture for keeping pupils safe throughout the school'.
Ofsted 2018

The Curriculum

The Foundation Stage Curriculum

Children in our Reception classes follow the Foundation Curriculum which is for pupils aged 0-5 years. It promotes and develops the knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding needed to build on for future learning throughout the school. There are seven areas of learning in the Foundation Stage curriculum:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive Arts and Design



The Early Learning Goals show the expectations for most children to reach by the end of the Foundation Stage.

Children are encouraged to explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves. They take part in enjoyable and purposeful activities planned by adults and also those which they plan and initiate themselves. Children have opportunities to work as individuals and as part of small and large groups. Parental and community links are developed to further support learning.

Assessments are carried out in a variety of ways such as informal observations, interaction with the children and discussions with staff. The information gathered is used to find out what they know and can do and to plan for future learning.



Key Stage 1

This stage covers Year 1 and Year 2. The curriculum for Key Stage 1 builds on the Early Years Foundation Stage by further developing a range of knowledge, skills and attitudes.

The National Curriculum is organised into subjects which include:

- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
- English (Reading, Spelling Punctuation and Grammar, Writing, Speaking and listening)
- Mathematics (Number, Shape, Space and measures)
- Science
- Religious Education (RE)
- Computing
- Design Technology (DT)
- History
- Geography
- Art and Design
- Music
- Physical Education (PE)



Children are taught as a class, in groups and as individuals.

We plan the curriculum to ensure breadth and depth, continuity and progression in children's learning. We have a commitment to learning through first hand experience and plan the curriculum through topics which allow knowledge and skills to be transferred across the curriculum. Regular educational trips and visitors to school enhance learning.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment is central to the teaching and learning process. Teachers make use of assessment to identify strengths and next steps in learning.. Parents have the opportunity to meet with the teacher at our Learning Reviews and also receive an annual report during the school year which identifies pupils achievements, progress and next steps.

Attainment and Progress

Pupils at Race Leys Infant school make very good progress from their starting points, to reach standards which are consistently in line with or above the National average by the end of Key Stage One when they leave the school. See summary of data included at the back of this booklet.

Read Write Inc (RWI)

At Race Leys Infant School, we follow a rigorous phonics and reading programme called Read Write Inc.

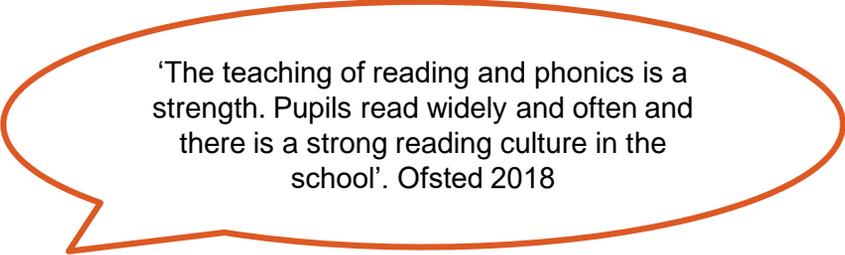
All pupils take part in a daily Read Write Inc session which comprises of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Children learn in small groups matched to their ability. They will learn to recognise and blend sounds which they apply to their reading and writing.

Children are regularly assessed and placed in groups matched to their ability.

A programme of daily 1-1 support is available for pupils who may need extra help.

The introduction of this scheme has had a significant impact on raising standards of reading and writing across the school.



'The teaching of reading and phonics is a strength. Pupils read widely and often and there is a strong reading culture in the school'. Ofsted 2018

Special Educational Needs

We strive to meet every pupil's needs and encourage all children to reach their potential. Children make progress at different rates and therefore have different levels of attainment.

Thorough planning and on-going assessment enables us to identify the learning needs of all children, including the more able children. Individual targets to support learning are identified and shared with pupils and parents. Class teachers and teaching assistants delivering intervention programmes help the children to make progress in their learning and development.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress or particular needs, please speak to their class teacher or make an appointment to meet with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO).

Gifted and Talented

Some children may display abilities above and beyond those of their peers. In these cases, staff ensure that pupils are appropriately challenged.

Working with Parents

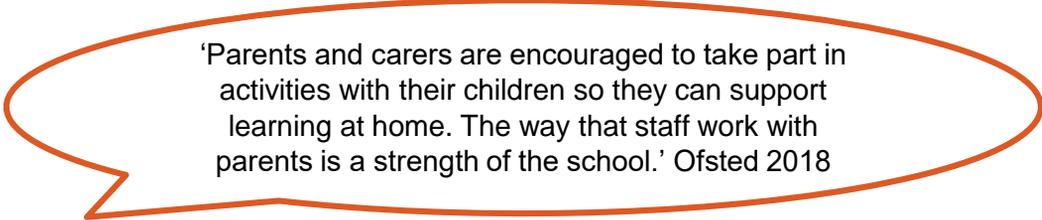
If you have any concerns, please tell us about them. Teachers will be pleased to discuss any problems and will arrange to speak with you at the end of the school day if necessary. The Headteacher will happily see you at any time, although you may have to wait a while if she has prior arrangements. It is usually better to make an appointment if possible.

Good communication is the key to an effective partnership. The school operates an electronic mail system (Parent Mail) to ensure that parents can keep up to date. We encourage all of our parents to sign up to this service and download the Parentmail app.

If we are concerned about your child we will contact you to discuss the problem or concern.

Meetings/Workshops

Occasionally there may be meetings or workshops to help you to understand what your child is learning and how you can help them. By working together to build a shared understanding and co-operation between home and school your child will be able to make the best progress. Please ask if there is any information you need at any time.



'Parents and carers are encouraged to take part in activities with their children so they can support learning at home. The way that staff work with parents is a strength of the school.' Ofsted 2018

Children's Progress

There are many opportunities for you to find out about your child's progress. Learning Review evenings during the year for parents and children together provide a formal setting to discuss progress and identify new targets. Informal 'drop in' sessions are also held for you to meet the teacher and look at the children's work on a more informal basis. You will also receive an annual report during the summer term.

Reach for the Stars Assembly

Our Reach for the Stars assemblies are an opportunity to celebrate the children's learning and achievement. Both academic and non academic successes are recognised for the year group on these occasions. Parents are invited to join us for this assembly on Friday afternoons. Please see the school newsletter for information about the dates and times of the celebrations.

How to Help Your Child to Do Well at School

- By ensuring your child attends regularly and punctually
- By showing an interest in what your child does at school. Parents' interest, praise and encouragement are vital for the children to succeed. Children bring books home to read everyday, Please help by sharing books with your children or by listening to them reading. You can help by helping them to sound out unknown words using their phonic skills. Praise works wonders!
- By continuing to read stories to them yourself as children love to hear stories and it helps to develop their language.
- By supporting them by practising phonic skills. New sounds are sent home regularly.
- By helping them to learn to spell common words sent home weekly.
- By talking with your children about what they have been learning and encouraging them to join in adult conversations. e.g. when you are out shopping, talking about television programmes, special events.
- By playing games and completing jigsaws together as a family.
- By helping children to realise that numbers are used in everyday life, not by doing sums, but by sorting and counting in different ways. e.g. how many knives and forks are on the table, how many letters has the postman brought today.
- By appreciating that all children are different and work at different levels and rates – just as we as adults do. If you are worried about your child's progress, please come into school and speak to their teacher.



Behaviour, Attitudes and Values

Behaviour is very good at Race Leys Infant School. We have high expectations and expect our pupils, staff and parents to reflect this at all times.

Our approach to behaviour management promotes self esteem and positive behaviour. The school policy is based around the school values, and is in place to ensure the safety and well being of everyone in the school community. It provides a structured approach which is easily understood and followed by the pupils.

There may be times, when consequences need to be imposed by a member of staff. These may take the form of a discussion or withdrawal of privileges (such as missing a playtime). We work together with parents to promote good behaviour and resolve any problems that may arise.

Please see the school website or ask to see a copy of our policy.

"Pupils behave well, and respond positively to the school's values. Pupils are proud of their school and are happy to take on responsibilities.." Ofsted 2018



'The school is very positive. The good role model certificates, sticker rewards and Reach for the Stars assemblies encourage all pupils to do their best.'
Parent 2019

Attendance

Children are legally required to attend school. We monitor closely records of attendances, absences and lateness. The national expectation for attendance is 95%. Regular attendance is essential for your child to make good progress and reach their potential.

When children are absent from school, please telephone, send an e.mail or letter on the first day of absence. In the interests of safeguarding, you will be contacted by school if your child is absent without notification in accordance with the school attendance policy.

Holidays During Term Time

We are unable to authorise absences for pupils to take holidays from school during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Should you be planning a holiday in term time, you may request a leave of absence form from the office, These days may be authorised by the Headteacher.



Kindness is always a priority.

The school is supportive in every way possible and helps to guide the family through problems that arise. Parent 2019

Emergencies

Emergency Closures

If the school has to be closed due to unforeseen circumstances e.g. heavy snowfall or broken heating, you can find information on the Warwickshire County Council website: www.warwickshire.gov.uk, BBC CWR or Free Radio stations. The school can also notify you by text message through the 'Parent Mail' system

Illness

When children become ill at school we ask parents to come and collect them. Therefore it is most important that we should have a daytime contact telephone number and address for emergency use during school hours. Please notify us of any changes immediately so that we can keep our records up to date.

If a child needs hospital treatment following an injury at school we attempt to contact the parents to take the child to the Casualty department. However, if parents cannot be contacted we will take the child ourselves.

Appointments

If your child has a medical or dental appointment or you need to collect them during school time, please report to the office via the main school entrance. The children will be collected from the classroom and brought to you in reception.

Medication

If your child has a medical condition of any kind, please inform us before they start school so that we have a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a problem.

Usually if your child is unwell and taking medication, they will be more comfortable at home. However, there may be times when they will need medication whilst at school (4 times a day only which is administered at 12noon). For safety reasons, we do not keep medicines (except inhalers) in classrooms. All medication should be given to the Office Manager or Headteacher and the appropriate forms completed.

School Meals

All pupils are entitled to receive a school meal free of charge every day throughout their time at our school. All of our school meals are cooked on site in our new kitchen. Children have the choice of hot nourishing meals, and sandwiches. Menus are sent home showing the food options available to support you and your child in choosing their meals. Please contact the school office by 9.15am if your child will be late into school, so that their meal choice can be ordered.



'My child loves the new school dinners and has started to eat new things.' Parent 2019

'We think the pupils have a good choice of nutritious food. We like the fact that school meals are free.' Parent 2019

Fruit

All children receive a free piece of fruit at playtime from the National Fruit Scheme.

Drinks

We ask that all children bring a water bottle into school to enable them to have a drink as required throughout the day. Research show that regular drinks support pupil concentration as well as their health and well being. We do not allow pupils to consume sugary shop brought drinks throughout the day.

School trips

School trips play an important role in enhancing the children's learning and during the time that your child is at Race Leys Infant School, you may be asked for a contribution towards the cost of educational visits outside of school. Whilst the school will do its best to support families in receipt of income support, if you are unwilling to pay then the cost has to be met by school funds and some activities may have to be cancelled.

School Clubs

At Race Leys Infant School we are keen to provide opportunities for our children to experience a wide range of extra curricular activities. Our clubs run at lunchtime and after school. The clubs on offer vary throughout the year. There may be a small charge for pupils to take part in some of these activities. Clubs on offer include:

Dance Table Top Games

Football Cheerleading

Tennis Art

Gymnastics

Lego/Imagination Club

Archery

Athletics

Tag Rugby



Book shop

Our school is home to the only book shop in Bedworth! This wonderful resource is run each week by a team of dedicated volunteers. Pupils are encouraged to save a small amount of money each week so that they can purchase a chosen book. Through this, we aim to teach our children about saving up for items.

Before and After School Care

We are fortunate to have Happy Tykes Out of School Club in the school grounds to cater for your before and after school care needs. Breakfast club operates from 7.30 am and after school club remains open until 6.00pm. Children are brought into school from the club in the morning and are taken to their classrooms. At the end of the day children are collected from their classes and taken to Happy Tykes.

For more information about Happy Tykes please see the additional items at the back of the prospectus.

The school also advertises a range of holiday activities which are on offer in the local area.



Liaison with Pre school Settings

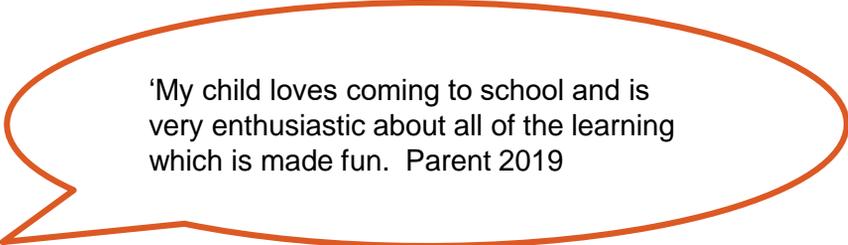
The school fosters strong partnerships with many local pre school settings.

They work throughout the year with Happy Tykes (on the school site) to support a partnership which develops learning between the two settings and supports transition.

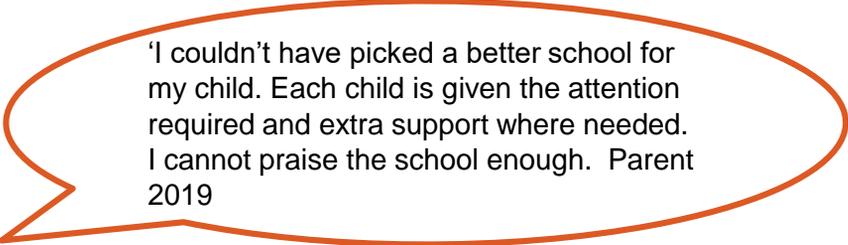
Partnership with Junior Schools

The children transfer to a Junior School at the end of the school year in which they are 7 years old. A place is not automatically guaranteed at Race Leys Junior School. A separate application will need to be made for the Junior school of your choice. The local authority criteria for admissions will be followed.

We work closely with Race Leys Junior School and a comprehensive transition programme is in place to support children moving from year two to year three.



'My child loves coming to school and is very enthusiastic about all of the learning which is made fun. Parent 2019



'I couldn't have picked a better school for my child. Each child is given the attention required and extra support where needed. I cannot praise the school enough. Parent 2019

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Children

At Race Leys Infant School we place the utmost importance in Safeguarding the children in our care. Our first concern is your child's welfare and therefore there may be exceptional circumstances when we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you.

'Under the Education Act 2002 (Section 175 for maintained schools), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Parents/carers should know that the law (Children Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. Staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with the parent/carer and, where possible, seek their consent to make a referral to Children's Social Care if that is considered necessary. This will only be done where such discussion will not place the child at increased risk of significant harm. The school will seek advice from Children's Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later found to be unfounded. Parents/carers will appreciate that the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead carries out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acts in the best interests of all children.'

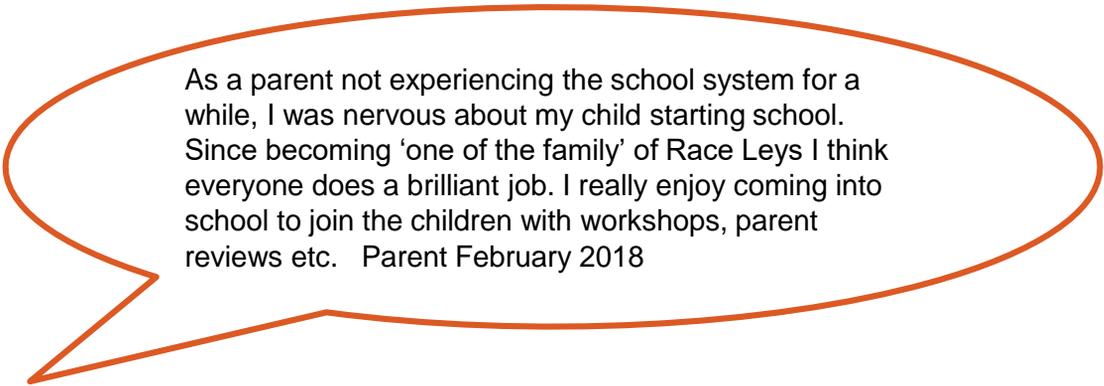
Complaints

If a problem or concern arises while your child is in school it is important that you discuss the issue with your child's class teacher or the Headteacher as soon as possible. There will always be someone available to talk with you; alternatively an appointment can be made. We will always do our best to reach a satisfactory solution. Should you be unhappy after the discussion with the school, the school has a formal complaints procedure which you can follow. Procedures to make a formal complaint are on the school website.

Thank you for reading our school brochure.

We hope it has given you a good picture of what life is like at Race Leys Infant School.

We look forward to working with you and your child to create a happy and rewarding partnership.



As a parent not experiencing the school system for a while, I was nervous about my child starting school. Since becoming 'one of the family' of Race Leys I think everyone does a brilliant job. I really enjoy coming into school to join the children with workshops, parent reviews etc. Parent February 2018

For further information contact:

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e.mail: admin2614@welearn365.com

www.raceleysinfant.com