

Whiteley Primary School Induction Programme 2026

Welcome meeting for parents: Monday 18th May 7pm

This meeting is a chance for us to tell you a bit more about our school and our induction programme. You will be given information on how your child will spend their day, and ways in which you can help your child make the transition into school. There will be information available about school lunches and the uniform. (Please note that children should **not** be brought along).

At the end of the meeting, there will be a number of key staff available to answer any questions you may have. (Please note that at this point, we will not have decided on class groupings or be able to confirm which teachers will be in the YR classes for September.)

Meet the Teacher Events: w/c 22nd June

You will receive a letter by the 8th June to tell you which class your child will be joining in September and to invite you to a 'meet the teacher' event on one of the dates opposite. This is a more informal event with a presentation from the class teacher, and a chance to visit the reception base, spend time in your child's classroom and meet the class teacher. (**This event is for parents, not children**). There will also be an opportunity to tour the school for parents who have not already done so. On this letter, you will also find out if your child has been allocated to group A or B within the class – these groupings are used for the initial taster sessions to reduce numbers in the classroom.

Meeting 1 – Monday
22nd June 6.15pm

Meeting 2 – Tuesday
23rd June – 6.15pm

Meeting 3 – Thursday
25th June – 6.15pm

Home visits /Individual Meetings – various dates July/Sept

Home visits are a valuable opportunity for your child to meet their new teacher and teaching assistant in their own environment. Parents will be able to book a home visit once class teachers have been allocated – an individual meeting in school can be offered as an alternative, if preferred. Further information will be emailed out to parents in June.

Daytime appointments
(20 mins). These will
be booked by the
office.

July/early Sept 2026

Parent and child classroom visit/story session – Wednesday 2nd September (pm)

This session is an opportunity for your child and one accompanying adult to come into school for a 20 min story session during the day. It allows your child to become familiar with their new classroom and the adults that will be working with them before they start school. Parents will be invited to sign up for one of the story sessions once classes are known – group A and group B will have a choice of two times so each session will have no more than 8 children at a time.

Weds 2nd September

Children do not need to
wear their school
uniform for this
session.

One parent **only** to stay
with the child

Stay and Play session (45mins) – Thursday 3rd September

This is a chance for your child to spend a short session in the classroom with the adults they will be working with next year along with half of their class. Parents will drop off at the classroom door. Refreshments for parents will then be available in the school gym, or you may choose to wait on the benches at the front of the school.

Group A : Thurs 3rd
Sept (9.05-9.50am)

Group B : Thurs 3rd
Sept (10.15-11.00am)

Uniform optional

Additional drop in sessions may be organised during the afternoons in early September on an individual basis for those children who are likely to need additional transition activities prior to starting school. Additional home visit appointments may also be offered to those unable to make the July dates.

Starting School – first session – Friday 4th or Tuesday 8th September

Experience has shown us that it is useful to have smaller groups of children on their first few days of school so that they can be introduced to the classroom routines and become familiar with their surroundings without being overwhelmed. We have therefore arranged for Groups A and B to have a different half day session (without lunch) as their first ‘real’ school session in September – see opposite for times. It is very important that children attend this first session, and we would ask that they wear uniform and bring a book bag, PE kit and water bottle to help them get into routines. Drop off is deliberately later than the rest of the school to ensure a quieter start to the day for the new YR children.

Group A – Fri 4th Sept

Group B – Tues 8th Sept

Drop off between 9.00 and 9.10am

Pick up between 11.50 and 12 noon

Starting School – Second session (Experiencing Lunchtime) – Monday 7th or Wednesday 9th September

After their first session, children are invited to attend the next morning and stay for lunch to experience eating lunch together in the gym and going out for lunch play in their half-class grouping.

Following these half day sessions, we assume that most children will be ready to manage full days at school. If your child is not ready for full days, please discuss with your child’s class teacher as we may be able to support a further period of part time attendance

Group A – Mon 7th Sept

Group B – Weds 9th Sept

Drop off between 9.00 and 9.10am

Pick up between 1.15 and 1.25pm

Full time attendance – half class sessions – Thurs 10th or Fri 11th September

For your child’s first full day in school, they will be with half the class, to help them learn the afternoon routines with a higher adult to child ratio.

At these sessions, children and families are introduced to our normal school timings, although slightly longer is allowed for drop off for the first few full time sessions.

Group A – Thurs 11th Sept

Group B – Fri 11th Sept

Doors open at 8.45am – please drop off your child by 9am (NB: official school start time is 8.50am).

Pick up between 3.05 and 3.15pm

Full time attendance – whole class – w/c 14th September

We assume that most children will be ready to commence full time at school from w/c 14th September. If your child is not ready for full time school attendance at this point, please liaise with the YR/1 phase leader, Mrs Robinson, or your child’s class teacher, as a further period of part-time attendance may be agreed to support transition with collection at 11.45 (before lunch) or at 1.30pm. Please note that we do not permit ‘ad hoc’ flexibility - for example, pupils coming full time for occasional days - as this can be confusing for the children and does not support them in becoming used to routines.