

New Reception Parents Welcome Meeting and Transition Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had an enjoyable summer. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children to Calcot Schools.

Due to Covid-19, we have been unable to put in place our normal transition meetings and open evening. As a result, many of you may not have had the opportunity to come into school and see the learning environment in Reception, and speak with our staff about what to expect for your child's exciting first year in education. Therefore we would like to invite you to a virtual welcome meeting where we will provide you with relevant information about the day to day running of our Reception classes.

We are holding two separate meetings via Google Meet on Tuesday 1st September 2020, one for each of our Reception classes. Please see the information below for timings and the link in order to access the relevant meeting. You only need to access your child's class teacher meeting. These meetings will be led by members of our school leadership team including our Early Years Assistant Headteacher and our Reception Team Leader.

Mrs Carlisle's class – 4.00-4.30pm



These links have been covered as the website can be accessed by the public.

Please refer to the original letter sent to you personally for the link to join the meeting.

Miss McCallam & Mrs Hatherall's class – 4.45-5.15pm



Holding meetings remotely is certainly something that is new to us all and doesn't come without its technical difficulties. We hope that you will be able to access the meeting on this date and that it runs smoothly. However if for any reason you are unable to join us, or you have difficulties accessing the meeting, we will be posting a relevant PowerPoint on our school website.

In order to access the meeting, you will need a Google account. Once you are logged into your Google account, you can join the meeting by copying and pasting the link above into the address bar on your internet browser. This meeting format is able to be accessed on a range of devices. However, we recommend that you try this out on the device you intend to use before the date, to ensure that it is accessible. On the day of the meeting, members of staff will admit you into the meeting once you have requested to join.

Due to the number of people attending the meeting, we will be unable to take live questions. Therefore we ask that your microphone remains muted for the duration of the meeting. If you have a question you would like to ask, please use the chat function to post these during the course of the meeting and we will endeavour to answer them.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns you are welcome to use the following email address to contact us – yearr@calcotschools.co.uk. This email will be checked on a daily basis and we will try to respond to your queries as quickly as we can.

In addition to this meeting, we are holding three transition visits for your child. Please see the dates and times below (this information was previously emailed out in July).

Wednesday 2 nd September	10.00am-11.00am
Thursday 3 rd September	1.30pm-2.30pm
Friday 4 th September (including staying for lunch)	11.00am-12.30pm

On Friday 4th September, your child will be able to stay for lunch as part of their visit. They are welcome to bring a packed lunch or alternatively enjoy a taster school lunch. Please can we ask you to copy and paste the link below into your internet address bar where you will be directed to complete a Google form and notify us of your child's meal choice. We would ask that all parents complete this form by Tuesday 1st September, even if you are intending on sending your child in with a packed lunch. Please note that all infant aged children are entitled to government funded lunches. Therefore you will not need to pay for your child's school lunches.

<https://forms.gle/qizsxZq1dr5m5Tft9>

Week commencing Monday 7th September, your child will be able to attend school on three full days. Please refer back to the letter that was emailed in July which will indicate the days your child has been invited. Be aware that these days may differ to some of their peers, therefore it is vital that you check your child's individual letter.

From Monday 14th September, your child will be attending school on a full time basis. For all of our children, we are running staggered start and finish times to aid social distancing measures. All Reception children will start school at 9.00am and will finish at 2.50pm. Please can we ask that you are prompt in dropping off and collecting your child in order to support us in reducing the number of adults on site. It is vital that social gatherings are avoided. In line with this, we are unable to have parents inside our school building at this time. The class teachers will be available in the morning to support your child to come into school without their adult. Please be assured that the staff will do all that they can to help your child to settle into school under these unusual circumstances.

On their first transition visit, please come to the playground that is by the gate leading to the A4 Bath Road. Members of staff will be on hand to direct you each morning. There will be separate entrances for the two classes. You will collect your child from the same place that you drop them in the morning. Please note there is no parking on school site at any time.

We appreciate that this is a lot of information to digest. Please do not worry as all of our staff will be on hand to support you, answer any questions you may have and help your little ones settle into Calcot School Life. There is also further information available on our school website <https://www.calcotschools.co.uk/>. Next week we will be uploading a full Covid-19 risk assessment for you to view and class timetables.

Yours sincerely

Florence Rostron

(Headteacher)