



# **Welcome to Samuel Barlow Primary Academy**

## **Foundation Stage 2 – Reception**



## Introduction

We have great pleasure in welcoming you to Samuel Barlow Primary Academy. This booklet has been produced in order to give as much information as possible to you and your child about taking this next big step in starting school. We work hard to ensure all our children have a safe, caring and happy environment in which to learn. Just like you, we want your children to enjoy their time with us and make the most of every minute. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher or give the office a call.

## Our Academy Values

- We are caring
- We are respectful
- We are responsible
- We strive to succeed

## Reception Teachers

Pink Class - Mrs Michaela Ledsham (Early Years Lead)

Violet Class - Mrs Heidi Warnes

## Our Academy Day – due to COVID19 timings are subject to change

Doors open at **8:45am** for children to begin their learning day.

Please say your goodbyes outside the Reception class door and then support your child to enter the building where there will always be a member of staff available to greet them. Please ensure that you arrive on time as attendance and late arrivals disrupt a positive start and end to your children's day.

Doors will open again at **3:20pm** for you to collect your child. We ask that you are patient and work with us and every other family so that we can ensure we safely reunite children with their families.

For safety reasons, children must be brought and collected from the academy by a person over the age of 18 years old and we need to have their details as contacts. Please tell us if someone different will be collecting your child or if you are going to be late for any reason. You can call us in the academy office or let your child's class teacher know via ClassDojo.

## Attendance

Good attendance is of vital importance to ensure that a child receives a good education. We celebrate excellent attendance. Our school target is 97%.

## Health & Safety

We care very much about the health and welfare of each child. Children are encouraged to value themselves as individuals and to become aware of the needs of others.

In the case of an accident or illness, a parent will be contacted and your child will also be seen by a staff member who has received certified First Aid training.

We do not administer medicines to children but if your child requires an inhaler or other emergency treatment due to allergies, please bring this to the academy office and a trained member of staff will be able to ensure we have written consent from you before administration of any prescribed medicine. Please contact the Academy office for further information. Please do not send your child with any over the counter bought medicines e.g. cough sweets or creams. If in any doubt always ask a member of staff.

## Sickness

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea during the night you should not bring them to the academy until 48 hours has passed since they were last ill. This is to prevent the rapid spread of any infection and follows Public Health England's guidelines.

If your child is unwell and the illness is infectious, then we ask that you consult your family doctor before bringing your child back to our academy. Please keep us informed by calling the academy office.

It is your responsibility to check your child's hair regularly for head lice as we do not have academy staff to do this. Coming through wet hair covered in conditioner is advised – please see the NHS website for more information. If your child has head lice we ask that you treat your child straight away. Please do let us know as we can alert other families and ensure everyone is sent a reminder to check for the same problem.

## Sun Protection



Appropriate clothing should be worn by the children and families are asked to apply an 'all day' sunscreen to their children before the academy day begins during the summer term. The children will need a hat when it is warm and sunny to enable them to play outside safely.

## Water Bottles



Your child needs to bring their own water bottle from home to drink from. All water bottles should only contain water and need to have a sports top. This will be freely available for them to access during the day. As with anything from home please make sure this is labelled with your child's full name to prevent it being misplaced.

## Fruit and Milk



All children receive fruit each day and this is available to them throughout every session. Reception children receive free school milk until they are 5, after which a small charge applies. All children will need to be registered with Cool Milk in order to receive this. Please register your child for their free milk by visiting [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) and follow the instructions.

Please let us know if your child has food intolerance including dairy.

## Lunchtime

Your child will be entitled to a Free School Meal up until Key Stage 2 (Year 3) our website is updated termly with our menus. Once your child reaches Year 3, you will need to start paying for their meal. We are a cashless academy and we use an online payment system (sQuid) where you will need to register. Please contact the academy office where a member of staff will be able to assist you.

## Behaviour

We believe that all children should be able to enjoy and participate in the learning opportunities provided within a safe and caring environment. We show the children how to take responsibility for their own behaviour.

If your child has any behaviour difficulties, we will inform you and work with you to overcome them.

## Uniform



We are very proud of how smart our children look in their uniform which consists of black trousers/skirt/dress, black school shoes, white polo shirt or shirt and navy blue jumper or cardigan. Jumpers and cardigans with an academy logo can be purchased online at Price & Buckland.



## Reading

As children start to learn to read at school, you can play an important role in helping them to grow into lifelong readers. Find out what interests them, help them to find books that will be engaging and fun, and spend time reading the books they bring home from school together.

"Reading for pleasure is the single biggest factor in success later in life, outside of an education. Study after study has shown that those children who read for pleasure are the ones who are most likely to fulfil their ambitions. If your child reads, they will succeed – it's that simple."

Bali Rai

Adults in our academy will share stories during every day. The book corners in classrooms and our library are special places where children can go to look at books during free activity time.

Your child will read books with their teacher, and they will bring books home with a reading diary for you to write in too. Initially, they might have picture books to read, which are great to look for clues and help them to tell a fantastic story, progressing books closely matching their phonics learning which will give them confidence as readers.



## Phonics



In our academy, we use Read Write Inc to teach children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step. For each sound, they will learn the shape of the letter and a picture and phrase to help them remember it. Phonics is taught daily in small groups and at every opportunity – there will be a chance for you learn more about this so you can help your child at home too.



## Writing



Children love to make marks! In Reception, your child will learn how to form their letters correctly, then how to write simple words and eventually sentences.

Please encourage your child to write their own name when they start Reception with a capital letter at the start of it. Don't worry if they can't; they will soon learn at school. They will be able to do plenty of other activities at school to help with their



writing. These include tracing over pictures, drawing patterns, colouring, making models with play dough, cutting and drawing.

## Maths



Your child will have the opportunity to discover many mathematical activities. Maths is an exciting way to explore the world as it involves lots of practical activities such as counting, measuring, weighing, looking at shapes and making models. The children also learn how to write numerals to represent different quantities.



## PE Kit



Please send your child's PE kit every Monday and leave it in their classroom for the week ahead- plain white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers in a small drawstring bag is ideal. Please make sure every item has their name clearly marked in it so that we can easily return any lost or misplaced items. Getting dressed every day is an important life skill. Please encourage your child to practise this at home as independently as we will also do this as part of our PE lessons.

**We look forward to welcoming you to our Academy.**

