



Welcome to Foundation Stage 1 2020-2021

Senior Leadership Team

Executive Head Teacher – Mr Batty

Head of School – Mrs Pearce

Assistant Head of School – Mrs Matthews and Mrs Deakin

Website: www.longhillprimary.org.uk

Twitter: @LonghillPrimary

Telephone: 01482 814160

Office Email Address: admin.longhill@hcat.org.uk

EYFS Email Address: Longhillstaffeyfs@hcat.org.uk

Welcome

A very warm Longhill welcome to you!

During these unprecedented times we understand that you may have additional concerns and questions as your child prepares to begin Foundation Stage 1. We want to reassure you that the Foundation Stage Team are here to answer any questions, provide support and guidance as your child begins school.

The aim of this booklet is to provide key information about our Foundation Stage so that you and your child can look forward to beginning the next part of their learning journey.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing our special school for your child and provide some information about our school ethos.

What makes Longhill Primary School a special place to learn and grow?

“We want all our children to feel happy and secure in school and every effort is made by all the staff to create a family atmosphere where each child is shown respect and care, allowing them to develop their personalities.

The staff at Longhill Primary School are caring, dedicated and experienced. They try to achieve the very best from your child, whether it be educationally, morally, spiritually or physically.

The ethos of the school is built around children feeling empowered to learn. It is our aim that every child is able to look back on their time at Longhill Primary with affection and pride, having the confidence to achieve anything in their future life.”

Mr Batty



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The Early Years Foundation Stage spans the years your child is in Foundation Stage 1 and Foundation Stage 2. This is such a crucial step in your child's development as it lays the 'foundations' of your child's learning. We see huge changes and progress during these formative years and that's why your child's holistic development is at the heart of all we do and why we are so passionate about planning exciting learning experiences and high-quality provision from the very start.

What makes the EYFS particularly special is the importance placed on learning through play. Throughout the school day, your child will have many opportunities to complete independent child led activities through play and this how they gain understanding of the world around them and their place in it.

The curriculum we follow is informed by *The Early Learning Goals*. These cover areas of language and literacy, mathematics, personal and social development, creative development, physical development, knowledge and understanding of the world, Religious Education and Information Communication Technology.

We follow the Early Years Outcomes document which supports us with assessment and planning. You can find additional information about this document by reading 'What to expect, when?' which can be found at: www.4children.org.uk. Included here, is helpful information for how to help your child at home.

School Timings

Morning session: 8.30am till 11.30am.

Afternoon session: 12.30pm till 3.30pm (doors open at 3.15pm)

Full time: 8.30 till 3.30pm- Lunch time: 11.15am for 1 hour

We open our doors early so that you can bring your child into school and help them get settled for the day and pass any messages onto your child's teacher. Due to the new guidance on social distancing this may need to change but we will keep you updated.

We value teamwork and we understand the importance of communication and developing a positive partnership with you to aid your child's development; therefore, the Foundation Stage Team are available to share learning, answer questions etc. You will receive most information face to face with a member of staff, via email or newsletters. We will share your child's learning face-to-face, via Twitter, or on Tapestry. Within this booklet you will find information about how you can access your child's learning journey on Tapestry so that you can see what your child has been learning.

If there is something particular you wish to discuss, the end of the day - after the rest of the class are safely dismissed - is the best time to have a longer conversation with a member of the Foundation Stage Team.

The safety of your child is of the utmost importance to us so if your child is being collected by another adult you MUST contact the school office and leave a message for their class teacher.

Our Curriculum

There are different areas 7 key areas within the curriculum these are:

- **Social and Emotional Development**
 - **Physical Development**
- **Communication and Language**
 - **Literacy**
 - **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

In Personal, Social and Emotional development we will focus on:

- Making friends, talking to each other and forming good relationships with teachers and adults;
- Beginning to ask questions about what they are doing to develop their understanding;
- Recognising our own feelings as well as others and begin to resolve conflicts without aggression;
- Sharing and looking after resources;
- Adapting our behaviour to different situations.



Helping your child at home: Talk about their friendships at school. Ask questions to develop their understanding. Talk about sharing with others and looking after things.

In Physical development we will be focusing on:

- How to hold a pencil correctly;
- How to make controlled marks with pencils;
- Using scissors and other tools correctly;
- Developing coordination skills in order to move safely through large spaces;
- How to move freely with pleasure in different ways;
- Understanding about healthy food choices.



Helping your child at home: Support your child with mark making at home. Encourage them to talk about their marks.

In Communication and Language we will be focusing on:

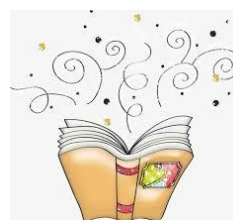
- Talking to each other in pairs and groups using language to explain what has happened or make predictions;
- Sharing and recalling facts and retelling them through role play;
- Joining in with nursery rhymes and stories;
- Following simple instructions and directions;
- Developing concentration skills;
- Extending vocabulary through stories and language;
- Begin to use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences.



Helping your child at home: Share stories and non-fiction books with your child to help develop their vocabulary and experiences. Help them to follow simple instructions.

In Literacy we will be focusing on:

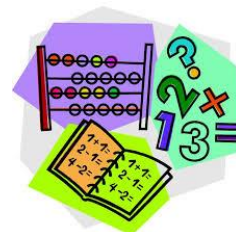
- Learning different nursery rhymes using role play and dance to re-enact them in different ways;
- Retelling familiar stories with detail;
- Learning sounds and linking them to letters;
- Learning to recognise our names and other familiar signs in the environment;
- Learning to write our name.



Helping your child at home: Read, share and sing rhymes. Ask your child to talk to you about the different stories that they are learning about. Encourage your child to draw the stories that they know.

In Mathematics we will be focusing on:

- Reciting number names accurately to 10;
- Representing amounts of objects using fingers, marks on the page or pictures;
- Recognising numbers 1-5;
- Counting out 6 objects from a large group;
- Talking about shapes of everyday objects e.g. 'tall' or 'round';
- Recognising some 2D and 3D shapes.



Helping your child at home: Talk about numbers at home. Find numbers in the environment or on the way to school.

In Understanding the world we will be focusing on:

- Asking questions about our family and our homes, how we have changed over time;
- Asking questions about routines and events in the day, beginning to recognise that not all children share the same routines;
- How to take care of our bodies and the importance of good hygiene.



Helping your child at home: Talk to your child at home about where they live, can they learn their house number? etc...

In Expressive Arts and Design we will be focusing on:

- Exploring colour in paints, printing and colour mixing;
- Exploring colour and texture when creating collage;
- Developing role play skills indoors and outdoors, within structured and unstructured role play areas.
- Exploring the various sounds of different instruments;
- Learning a variety of songs and dances.



Helping your child at home: Explore music and dance. Encourage role play in different forms.

A Day in F1

- At Longhill Primary School we strive to provide a safe, creative, engaging environment to enable your child to develop a lifelong love of learning and to achieve their full potential.
- Greeted at the door
- Encourage to be independent with hanging up their coat/self-register
- Focussed activities will be set out on the carpet area within the classroom for children to assess independently and with their peers. These change on a weekly basis focussing on key skills like- pencil control, number, shape, colours etc.
- Your child will be allocated a key worker group. Many activities throughout each day will be completed within these groups and your child will build a strong relationship with this member of staff over the year.
- The children will take part in short phonics sessions on a daily basis. In some instances, the children will be active within the session with many hands-on activities.
- The children will also have a number session each day which can be learning number rhymes, recognising numbers and counting out small amounts of objects.
- Your children will have time to engage in free choice activities which builds their confidence, resilience, imagination as well as very important developing social skills.

Dinner time (full-time children only)

- Parents help their children pre-order dinners a term in advance (menu sent home with tick sheet to complete and return).
- *We advise that you also take note of the choices so that you can remind the children in the morning. *
- The children will be taken down to the dining hall and will be supervised by their own teacher. This means that we can also monitor how much the children are eating. They are encouraged to take their own plate to their seat and cut up their food. However, they are given support if they find this difficult.
- Children are able to bring a packed lunch if they would prefer this, but we do promote healthy eating habitats. No fizzy drinks and no chocolate.
- No nuts are allowed in packed lunches as we have children with severe allergies.
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Snacks

- In Foundation Stage we always have milk and water available to drink throughout the day, however, children may bring in their own water bottles if they wish. We ask that children only bring water to drink, no juice, squash or fizzy drinks.
- There are snacks of fruit and/or vegetables available throughout the day, but we also sell biscuits snack. If you would like your child to have a biscuit, we charge 50p per week.

School Uniform

In Foundation Stage 1 it is not compulsory to wear a school uniform but some parents like the children to wear one. If you would like to send your child in a school uniform, you are welcome to do so.

Our Longhill uniform consists of:

- A white or pale blue polo shirt
- A navy-blue jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan or fleece with/without school logo
- Black trousers (short or long)
- Grey skirt or pinafore
- A blue checked summer dress can be worn during the Summer Term



We have a wonderful all-weather outdoor area that we use daily so please send children with appropriate outdoor clothing including coats, wellies, scarves and hats for colder weather periods.

Please ensure that all clothing including coats, jumpers and wellies are named. We do encourage pupils to wear aprons when painting, however on some occasion's accidents can happen. All paints are washable and suitable for younger children.

We are aware that young children often need help and supervision with toileting needs and therefore accidents can and do happen! Please could we ask parents/ carers to send a set of spare clothes each day in a named bag and place it on the children's individual pegs...just in case!

Medical Issues, Illness and Absence from School

Medical Conditions

If your child has a medical condition it is important that you inform the school office so that a medical plan can be implemented.

Illness

If your child is ill, please contact the school office via telephone or in person before the school day begins to notify us. If your child does require medication this may be administered by school staff with your consent, a form can be obtained from the school office. Medicines must be clearly labelled (pharmacy printed) with dosage. Please do **not** leave any medicines with children. Asthma pumps will be stored in the classrooms- please discuss this with the staff.

Accidents

If your child has an accident that requires some attention, we will record this electronically. We will inform you at the end of the day if required.

If your child has a bump to the head or requires additional attention, you will be contacted immediately.

*Please make sure contact details in the office are always up to date. *

Within the school we have a number of staff who are Paediatric First Aid trained and can deal with any injuries, if these do occur.

Head Lice

Although it is not very nice, head lice are a frequent visitor for younger children. We ask you to check your child's hair weekly and monitor this. If you need any further advice you can meet with the school nurse to discuss this.

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Home Learning

There are many ways that you can help to support your child's learning at home.

Reading

- Children will receive a weekly 'Chatter' pack. This consists of a story book that parents can read to the child so they can become familiar with the story and other resources to help with retelling the key events. This encourages the use of story language and develops a love of reading.



Homework

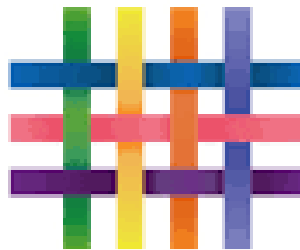
- A weekly activity will be sent home to complete this will vary depending on the weekly theme.
- We may also send home focussed phonics / letter sounds and number books linked to our maths sessions that we have been learning throughout the week for your child to practise at home.
- Throughout the year as your child approaches preparing for their transition into Reception, we may give out a reading book for you to share and look at together. This is a lovely time for your child to become familiar with the characters, letter sounds and 'tricky words' that we may be practising at school, in preparation for starting full time in Reception.

Assessment and Tapestry

- The children are assessed continuously throughout the year. This is in line with the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) framework.
- Tapestry is an online assessment tool. It is used to record observations and assess the children against the ages and stages of development.
- We also assess and mark other pieces of work that will go into their topic books.

*Children's pictures will be taken to support written observations. *

Parent Evenings will take place twice during the year- November and March. These sessions will be after school and we can discuss your child's progress.



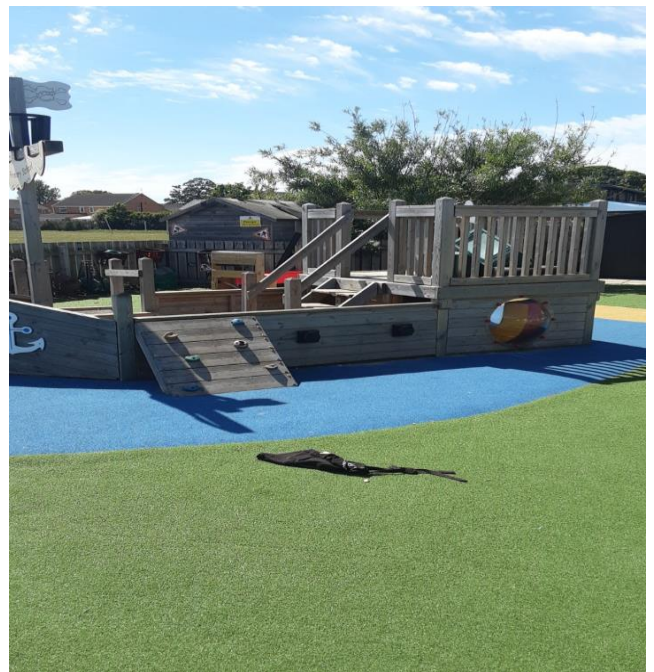
TAPESTRY
ONLINE LEARNING
JOURNAL

Explore the F1 Environment

- Foundation Stage 1 classroom:



- Outdoor area:



Outdoor classroom:



Toilet area:



Cloakroom:



Technology:



Meet the F1 Team



Mrs Thornborough

Mrs Thornborough is a qualified EYFS teacher and has been teaching for many years. She specialises in Early Years and has worked in a variety of Early Years settings across the city. She has a great understanding of child development and has had many experiences of working with young children. She is also a qualified Nursery Nurse and previous to teaching she has worked in a Private Day Nursery with children aged three and under.



Mrs Jones

Mrs Jones has worked at Longhill Primary School for a number of years and has a great knowledge of Early Years learning. Her interests are arts and crafts and loves to pass on her interests and skills to the children.

Practical Information

- O We are a paperless school so sent all newsletters and letters via email. Please have a valid email that we can contact you on.
- O Cashless- We use ParentPay as a means to pay for school lunches and school trips. Please visit the school office if you need any further information on this.
- O Email communication- If you have any questions and can't come into school to see a staff member please email the Foundation Stage and someone will get back to you. longhillstaffeyfs@hcat.org.uk
- O Photographs- The children will have their photographs taken by staff members for their online journals. On some occasions we will put these on our school twitter account. If you do not wish for your child's photo to be shared on social media please let the school office know asap.
- O No bikes/scooters to be rode on the playground
- O No smoking on the site.
- O Good attendance is very important to your child's learning, if they are ill please call the school office- press Option 1 to leave a message.
- O If your child has a medical appointment please provide evidence to the school office.
- O Lateness impacts on attendance and children's learning and emotional well-being so please make sure they arrive on time with their peers ready to start their session.

Early Help Team

- O Safeguarding- Mrs Matthews
- O Emotional Well Being- Mrs Shillito, Mrs Pressick and Mrs Wilkinson
- O Family Support- Mrs Matthews and Mrs Ombler (school nurse)
- O Behaviour Support- Miss Gibson-Gibbs and Mr Usher

Next Steps

We hope you find this booklet useful and you can share the photos of the staff members and classroom environments so your child can become familiar.

We are very disappointed that we are not able to meet you face to face at the moment but we hope to see you in the not so distant future.

We will give you a call in the next few weeks to discuss your child's interests and get to know them a little better.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us through the email address provided or the school telephone number.