



Welcome to Foundation Stage 2 2020-2021

Senior Leadership Team

Executive Head Teacher – Mr Batty

Head of School – Mrs Pearce

Assistant Head of School – Mrs Matthews and Mrs Deakin

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Welcome

A very warm Longhill welcome to you!

During these unprecedented times, we understand that you may have additional concerns and questions as you prepare for your child to begin Foundation Stage 2. We want to reassure you that the F2 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's education 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. 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. Through play your child will build relationships, gain communication skills and improve their brain development. 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 the areas of *Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World* and *Expressive Arts and Design*.

We follow the *Early Years Outcomes* document which supports us with assessment and planning. You can find additional information about this document and helpful advice on how to support your child at home by reading '*What to expect, When?*' which can be found at:

www.4children.org.uk.

In the following pages we have provided some information about the seven key areas within the curriculum. Please note that these are targets for the end of the year and are only provided to give you a better idea about what each area includes. We understand that your child is an individual with their own specific talents and needs, so please be reassured that we will get to know your child's starting points in September and facilitate their learning from there.

Different Areas of the Curriculum



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making friends, working and playing cooperatively and forming good relationships with teachers and children;
- Developing an understanding of their feelings and gaining strategies to manage emotions and regulate behaviour;
- Developing a positive sense of self and showing resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge;
- Talking about how to resolve conflicts with other children and showing sensitivity to the needs of others;
- Sharing and looking after resources;
- Managing their own basic hygiene and personal needs;
- Understanding the importance of healthy food choices;
- Being able to explain the reasons for rules and know right from wrong.

You can help your child at home by: talking about their friendships at school, encouraging them to name their feelings and look for solutions if problems arise, talking about fairness and encouraging them to share with others and look after things, practising buttoning/unbuttoning/zippering clothes, talking about healthy food and good hygiene etc.

Physical Development



- How to negotiate space and obstacles safely, with considerations for themselves and others;
- Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination;
- Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing;
- Holding a pencil correctly to make controlled marks;
- Use a range of small tools such as scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery;
- Show accuracy and care when drawing and copying.

You can help your child's development at home by: allowing them to mark make using a variety of pens/pencils/felt tips on a range of paper, encouraging your child to talk about their marks, practise forming letters of the alphabet correctly, practise holding their pencil correctly, model cutting food using a knife and fork etc.

Communication and Language



- Listen carefully and respond appropriately when being read to and during whole-class and small group discussions;
- Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding;
- Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teachers and peers;
- Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using new vocabulary;
- Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of new vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate;
- Express their ideas using full sentences, with modelling and support from their teacher.

You can help your child's development at home by: sharing stories and non-fiction books, develop vocabulary and ask them to talk about their experiences, help them to follow simple instructions whilst baking, helping around the house etc.

Literacy

- Demonstrate understanding of what they have read and what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and new vocabulary;
- Anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems;
- Use new vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play;
- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs;
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending;
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including common exception words;
- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed;
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters;
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.



You can help your child's development at home by: reading, sharing stories, singing rhymes, asking questions about stories, introducing new vocabulary, practising reading common exception words etc.

Mathematics



- Understand numbers to 10, linking names of numbers, numerals, their value, and their position in the counting order;
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5;
- Automatically recall number bonds for numbers 0-5 and for 10, including corresponding partitioning facts;
- Automatically recall double facts up to 5+5;
- Compare sets of objects up to 10 in different contexts, considering size and difference;
- Explore patterns of numbers within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds.

You can help your child's development at home by: counting in sequence, talk about numbers in the environment, order numbers, counting household items etc.

Understanding of the World



- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society; know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Recall some important narratives, characters and figures from the past encountered in books read in class;
- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps;
- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps;
- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants;
- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Understand the effect of the changing seasons on the natural world around them.

You can help your child's development at home by: talking about where they live, learn their house number/street name, look at old photos and talk about past events, go on nature walks etc.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Draw and paint using a range of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function;
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used;
- Make use of props and materials when role-playing characters in narratives and stories;
- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs;
- Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and – when appropriate – move in time with music;
- Co-construct, invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.



You can help your child's development at home by: singing songs, singing nursery rhymes, sharing poems, sharing stories, listening to music, making music using pots/pans/household items, creating dances, making TikTok videos, encouraging role play by playing shops/setting up a school/doctors surgery, making dens etc.

School Timings

Doors Open: 8.30AM ready for school to start at 8.45PM

Lunch time: 11.15AM for 1 hour and 15 minutes

Doors reopen: 3.15PM for the end of the school day

At Longhill Primary School we are strongly committed to working in partnership with parents and know the importance of relationships in providing the best learning experience for your child. Therefore, 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 on to your child's teacher. Due to the new guidance on social distancing this may need to change initially but we will keep you updated.

The F2 team are available to answer any questions and provide regular updates on how your child is doing. You will receive most information face to face with a member of staff, via email or through half termly newsletters. We also regularly share your child's learning on Tapestry (our online assessment tool) and Twitter. 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 enjoying during the school day and share home learning.

If there is something particular you wish to discuss, the end of the day - after the rest of the children are safely dismissed - is the best time to have a longer conversation with a member of the F2 team.

Parents' Evening

These will take place twice during the year; usually in November and March. These sessions will be held after school and are a great opportunity to discuss how your child is settling in and how they are developing holistically.

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 before 2.30pm (unless there is an emergency) so that we can ensure they are safely collected from school.

Important Information About F2

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.

A Day in F2

8:30-8:45	Greeted at the door and Linked Provision activity
8:45-9:10	Registration and class circle
9:10-9:30	Phonics
9:30-10:45	Play and adult led session
10:45-11:10	Big Maths
11:15-12:30	Lunchtime
12:30-1:00	Peer Massage/R.E./Charanga/yoga and mindfulness etc
1:00-2:45	Play and adult led session
2:45-3:15	Closing circle and story time

Arrival at School

The children will be greeted at the door by a member of the F2 team. To encourage independence, we ask the children to hang up their coats, put their packed lunches away and self-register. They will then join their class on the carpet for Linked Provision. Linked Provision is a chance for your child to practise an identified need e.g. name writing, cutting etc.

Circle Time

We have a class circle at the start and end of our day and throughout the day as needed. Circles are used to build our community and provide a space where the children can share their thoughts, feelings, interests and ideas.

Phonics

Your child will have daily phonics sessions to develop their skills to listen carefully and identify the sounds that make up words - this helps children to learn to read and spell words. Our children love phonics sessions because they are made up of games, songs and actions.

Play

Play is so important, and your child will have the freedom to follow their own interests as they engage in free choice activities. During free play, your child will be invited to complete activities in small groups or on a 1:1 basis.

Big Maths

Your child will have daily *Big Maths* sessions during which they will practise counting, learn number facts, make links and use their number skills to solve calculations. All our maths sessions are practical; involving songs, physical movement, actions and tactile resources.

Reading Books and Home Learning

Book Bags

Your child will be given a book bag in September which will contain a homework book, reading record, a school reading book and some additional teaching/learning materials to use at home.

We ask that your child's book bag is returned to school each day so that we can listen to your child read, if the opportunity arises.

Reading Champions

We please ask that you support your child to read their school reading book at home and make a short comment in their school reading record.

One of the most important things you can do to support your child's learning is to read *with* and *to* your child – as often as you can!

Children need to be reading regularly and listening to books – this makes a HUGE difference to their learning!

Your child will get a new book each week to share at home, but they can be encouraged to read anything; menus, signs as you walk to school, number plates etc. They can read to anyone! Granny, sister/brother, teddies – be as creative as you like! Your child might also like to listen to audio stories or reading apps (you will find a list of suggestions inside your child's reading record).

Home Learning

There are many ways that you can help to support your child's learning at home. The children will be given a *Homework Menu* each half term with activities to do at home. We love to see the experiences and special things your child does at home so please share any photos/videos of trips, holidays, special occasions etc with us by sending us an email to Longhillstaffeyfs@hcat.org.uk or posting on Tapestry.

Celebration

Your child will go to *Golden Assembly* each Friday and those children showing outstanding behaviour could be awarded 'Star of the Week'.

Dinner Time

Ordering Meals

To avoid waste and ensure your child enjoys their school meals, all meals are pre-ordered a term in advance. A menu will be sent home with a tick sheet for you to complete with your child and then return to school.

We please ask that you also take note of your child's choices so that you can remind your child in the morning what they will be having for lunch that day.

Lunch Routine

The children will walk down to the dining hall and will be supervised by members of staff. We will encourage your child to use their utensils correctly and monitor how much your child is eating. To promote independence, we will encourage your child to take their own plate to their seat and cut up their food, however we will support them if they are finding this difficult.

Packed Lunch

Your child can bring a packed lunch if they would prefer this, but we do promote healthy eating habits, so we please ask that children only bring water to drink and that their packed lunch contains a healthy, balanced meal.

No nuts are allowed in packed lunches as we have children with severe allergies.

Snacks

In F2 we always have milk and water available for the children 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 please.

There are healthy snacks of fruit and/or vegetables available throughout the day.

School Uniform

Wearing school uniform helps to create a sense of community and pride so it is important that your child arrives for school with the right uniform and equipment ready to learn.

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

P.E. (P.E. will begin during the Spring Term)

- Navy shorts
- A white or pale blue t-shirt with/without school logo
- Black sandshoes for indoor use
- Trainers for outdoor wear

We have a wonderful, all-weather outdoor area that we use daily so please send your child to school with appropriate outdoor clothing e.g. a coat, wellies, a scarf and hat for colder weather periods. We encourage the children to wear aprons when painting, however on some occasion's accidents can happen. All paints are washable and suitable for younger children.

We please stress the importance of adding your child's name to all clothing as unfortunately such young children do lose items of their uniform and this can easily be resolved if items are clearly named.

We thank you for your cooperation with this.



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 call the school office before the school day begins to notify us. If your child requires medication this may be administered by school staff with your consent and a form can be obtained from the school office. Medication must be clearly labelled (pharmacy printed) with dosage. Please **do not** leave any medication with your child. Asthma medication may be stored in the classroom – please discuss this with staff.

Accidents

If your child is taken ill or has an accident during the day, that we feel you need to be notified about, we will make every effort to contact you or your nominated contact. Accidents will be dealt with in school by our team who are first aid trained. We will record any bumps, bruises on a minor incident sheet and you will be informed at the end of the day.

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

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

Head Lice

Although it is not very nice, head lice can be 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.

Assessment and Tapestry



Your child will have a peg in the classroom on which any work they produce independently will be displayed – the children are always so proud when work is added to their peg. Your child will also complete written work, with support from a member of staff, and this work will be kept in their school writing book.

At Longhill Primary School, we also use an online programme called Tapestry to record your child's learning throughout Foundation Stage.

If your child is new to Longhill we will be in touch in September so that you can gain access to Tapestry. If your child has been with us for F1 you should have received a permission slip via email. Once you have read and agreed to the terms you can return this permission slip to us and we will then activate your Tapestry account.

If you have not received an email, please don't hesitate to email us at Longhillstaffeyfs@hcat.org.uk and we will resend your details.

Once your Tapestry account has been activated, you will then be able to view observations added by members of staff during the school day and also share any home learning.

***Please note that your child's photo will be taken to support written observations. ***

First Days in F2

Magical Me!

When your child begins school in September, the first topic will be ***Magical Me!*** During this topic the children will have the opportunity to settle into their first half term at school by sharing information about themselves, their families and their friends. They will follow class routines, learn about our school rules and build friendships. The children will gain confidence talking about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of people that are important to them.

During the second half term, we will talk about what makes us unique, understand similarities and differences between themselves and others and celebrate a variety of festivals and special events.

Although we have an idea of the topics and texts, we may cover in a given term, we follow the children's interests and are always ready to adapt our curriculum in whichever direction the children take it.

Sharing Photos

During this topic, the children will be invited to share photographs of themselves as a baby, photos of their family and anyone/anything that is important to them. We ask that your child please brings photos to school during the first week of school. These photos will be photocopied, and the original copy returned to you at the end of the school day.

Explore Longhill Primary School



This is the front of Longhill Primary School.

Your child will come through this gate in the mornings and at home time.



This is the main reception.

If you have any questions or concerns the friendly staff are always on hand to help.



This is the dining hall.

This is where your child will eat their school dinner or packed lunch.



This is the F2 classroom. This is where your child will play and complete lots of activities.



This is the role play area. We always have a space set up for the children to create their own stories and build their imagination.



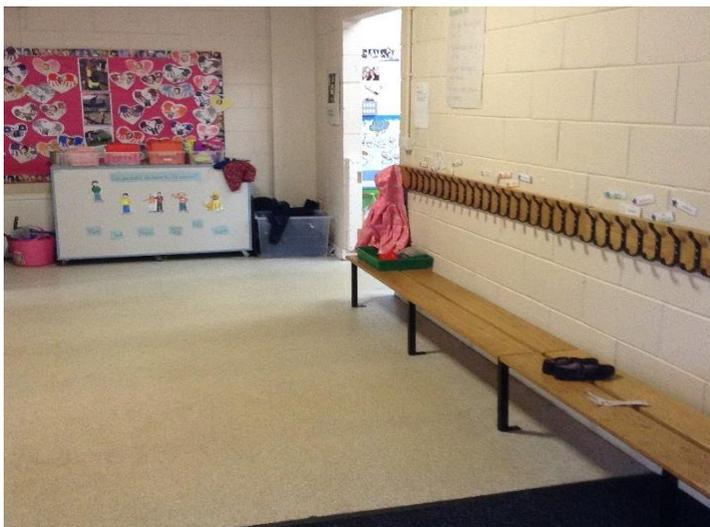
This is one of our carpet areas. Your child will sit here during the register, class circles and when sharing stories.



This is our outdoor area. The climbing frame is always very popular with the children, as are the sand and water trays.



The children often love playing on and inside our wooden pirate ship and exploring our large outdoor area.



This is the cloakroom. Your child will find their peg and hang up their coat.

Meet the F2 Team



Hi, I'm Mrs Cooke and this will be my second year in the foundation stage setting. I really enjoyed last year and I'm very much looking forward to yet another amazing year with a new set of children.

I have a passion for all things creative and love getting into all the messy play we have in our year group. You can often see me doing silly dancing and making the children laugh with it!



Hi I'm Miss Vint. I cannot wait to play with you in our foundation stage classroom! I love being outside and exploring, doing things like building dens and playing on our pirate ship. I also love being creative by painting and colouring too. I can't wait to meet you in September!



Hello, my name is Miss O'Neill and I am very excited to meet you all in September! I love all things nature and animals, so I cannot wait to spend some time outside with you all, especially in autumn, my favourite time of the year! I also enjoy spending time in our fantastic reading area, it is the perfect place to get comfy and read a good book. I am looking forward to hearing all about your favourite stories. 😊



Hello, my name is Miss Boyes and I am so excited for all of the fun, laughter and learning we will have this year. I love adventure and exploring new places. I adore stories and make believe and I have a passion for singing loudly. We really will have such a great time in F2.

Practical Information

Paperless School

To reduce waste, we aim to be as paperless as possible. Letters and newsletters will be shared via email, so please check the office have your current email address.

Cashless School

We are a cashless school, so any school trips etc will be paid for using ParentPay. Please contact the school office if you would like any further information about this.

Photographs

The nature of EYFS is that lots of evidence of learning is collected using photographs and videos. Sometimes we share photos of learning on Twitter. Please let a member of staff know if you do not wish for your child to feature on photos shared on Twitter.

The Playground

We please ask that no bikes/scooters are ridden on the playground, this is to ensure that our children and parents are kept safe.

We also respectfully inform you that our school site is a no smoking zone.

Attendance/Absence

- Good attendance is very important to your child's learning and wellbeing. If your child is ill, please call the school office- press Option 1 to leave a message for the office team.
- If your child has a medical appointment, please provide the school office with evidence of this so that this can be recorded.
- Lateness also impacts hugely on attendance, your child's learning and emotional well-being so we please ask that they arrive on time with their peers ready to start their learning.

Early Help Team

Safeguarding – Mrs Matthews

Emotional Well Being – Mrs Shillito, Mrs Pressick and Mrs Wilkinson

Family Support – Mrs Matthews and Mrs Ombler (school nurse)

Behaviour Support – Miss Gibson-Gibbs and Mr Usher

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) – Mrs Uney

What is next?

We hope this booklet has been useful at providing a brief introduction to our very special school. Please share the photos of the staff members and classroom environments with your child so that they can become familiar with the faces and spaces.

We are so disappointed we are not able to meet you in person yet, but we hope to see you and your child in the not too distant future.

In the next few weeks you will be informed of your child's class teacher and they will give you a call in 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 don't hesitate to contact us by emailing us at the EYFS email address Longhillstaffeyfs@hcat.org.uk. You can also call the school office on **01482 814160** and a member of the team will get back to you.

Thank you for reading this booklet and we look forward to welcoming you and your child into our Longhill family.

Stay safe,

The F2 Team