

→ WELCOME

TO OUR SCHOOL!





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Welcome Booklet

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OUR VISION



Healdswood Infant and Nursery School Curriculum Intent

We believe that our curriculum should be rich and engaging; that it should be skills driven and prepare our children for success in life.

Our school community is passionate about and constantly engaging in professional dialogue to ensure that our curriculum is relevant, rigorous and constantly evolving; to ensure learning ignites curiosity and raises aspirations.

Children learn best when the experiences we offer are first hand and linked to their interests. Our children are encouraged to think creatively, question and explore to become lifelong learners.

We teach each of our learning behaviours systematically, so that our children learn how to develop resilience and creativity, work effectively within a team and become aware of themselves as learners. Our Healdswood Learning Powers: Agent Ideas, Fantastic Focus, Team Effort Expert, Keep It Up Captain, Have A Go Hero and Learning Legend.

Our Rainbow rules intertwine everything that we do, therefore our school has made seven curriculum pledges to our children.

Our Curriculum Pledges

1. To value each child as an individual, striving to provide a curriculum, which is engaging, purposeful and intertwined with knowledge and skills.
2. To provide a curriculum that broadens our children's learning experience both in and beyond the community and school, as our children experience a range of trips, visits and outside visitors.
3. To embed our school values in our curriculum and to educate our children to be individuals; who care and respect each other, the community, the environment and the wider world.
4. To spark curiosity, awe, wonder and enable our children to appreciate and marvel in the world in which they live, through our curriculum.
5. To immerse our children in a language and vocabulary rich curriculum.
6. To foster a school community that values partnerships with parents, who understand and support how our curriculum can foster a love of learning.
7. To nurture our children to become confident and resilient learners, through a curriculum that values our children's well-being.

THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM

The Early Years curriculum is taken from the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage' document, provided by the government. The Early Years Foundation Stage identifies **three Characteristics of Effective Learning**. These characteristics encompass children from birth to the end of the Reception year and children will demonstrate them in different ways.

The Early Learning Goals are divided into **seven areas of learning and development**, they shape our curriculum at Healdswood. These areas of learning ensure a holistic development of children and their skills across the curriculum, building on their previous learning experiences, knowledge and skills.

It is essential that they consolidate their learning through play. This encourages them to play with ideas, experiment, take risks, solve problems, and make decisions.



ENHANCING THE CURRICULUM

We strongly believe that children learn best through first hand, real life experiences. Therefore, this is interwoven carefully in to all aspects of learning. Our children enjoy trips, special visitors and planned events.

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Characteristics of Effective Learning	Areas of Learning and Development	Birth to 5 Matters Aspects
<p>Playing and Exploring</p> <p>ENGAGEMENT Finding out and exploring Playing with what they know Being willing to 'have a go'</p>	<p>Prime Areas</p> <p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> <p>Physical Development</p> <p>Communication and Language</p>	<p>Making Relationships</p> <p>Sense of Self</p> <p>Understanding Feelings</p> <p>Moving and handling</p> <p>Health and Self-care</p> <p>Listening and Attention</p> <p>Understanding</p> <p>Speaking</p>
<p>Active Learning</p> <p>MOTIVATION Being involved and concentrating Keep trying Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p>	<p>Specific Areas</p> <p>Literacy</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Understanding the World</p> <p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>Reading</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>People and Communities</p> <p>The World</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Creating with Materials</p> <p>Being Imaginative and Expressive</p>
<p>Creative and Critical Thinking</p> <p>THINKING Having their own ideas Making links Working with ideas</p>		

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum at

HEALDSWOOD



Parental Involvement at

HEALDSWOOD



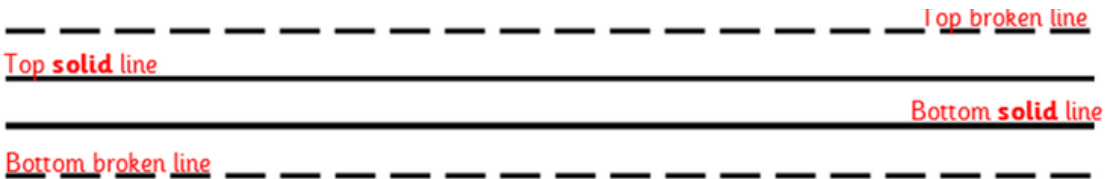
We believe that children learn best when home and school work closely together. At Healdswood we enjoy inviting parents in to school for events and share what we do in school so that you can help at home. Over the next few pages we will share some information about our learning, so that you know how to best support at home.

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

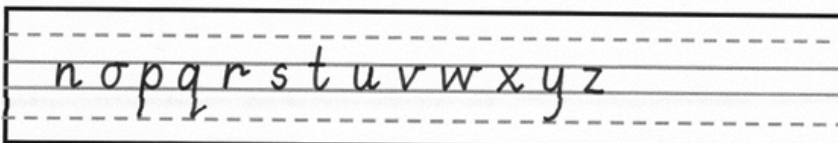
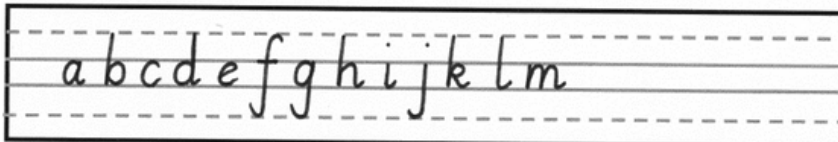
Handwriting

At Healdswood, our handwriting style is based on a semi-cursive style. It does not have any 'loops' or 'lead ins' which are features of more complex handwriting styles. In reception, we teach handwriting throughout our phonics sessions.

To support our handwriting approach, children are introduced to a set of handwriting lines and these stay the same throughout the Key Stages.



Children are taught that there are 'tall letters', 'short letters' and 'tail letters' and are shown where they sit within the 4 lines.



Posture

We encourage the correct posture when writing and use the following abbreviations to ensure children are sitting correctly:

.BBC - Bottom, Back, Chair

.TNT - Tummy Near Table

.6 feet on the floor - all chair feet on the floor as well as children's feet flat.

Reading

Children who read regularly or are read to regularly have the opportunity to open the doors to so many different worlds! More importantly, reading will give your child the tools to become independent life-long learners. We can achieve this together through:

- ELS (Essential Letters and Sounds).
- Encouraging children to develop a love of books by reading to them daily, at home and at school.
- Giving children access to a wide range of books at school and at home.



An essential part of our ELS phonics scheme is practising taught sounds through reading books. Children are expected to read at least 3 times a week at home. All books are linked closely to the sounds that the children already know, making them easy for the children to read themselves. More information about the ELS Phonics Scheme can be found on our website under 'About Us' then 'Curriculum' then 'Reading and Phonics'. Please make sure that your child brings their book bag every day.

Once a week our children visit the school library. Here they get to choose a book that they would like to bring home. We hope that sharing a book of their choosing with their special grown up at home will develop a life-long love of reading. You will also have access to a range of books through Oxford Reading Owl.



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Mathematics

At Healdswood we use the Mathematics scheme White Rose which is rooted in research on the teaching for mastery approach, which means that our children master their work in smaller numbers to transfer these skills when using larger numbers.

Maths is a key skill which children need to acquire for use in their everyday lives. In Reception we teach children to develop number, shape, space and measure skills. We teach children these Maths skills through practical activities and play. These are just some ways in which you can support your child with Maths at home.

- . Encourage your child to count by counting everyday objects such as their toys, pasta, counters, stairs etc.
- . Talk about numbers in the environment e.g. house numbers, bus numbers, telephone numbers and car registration plates.
- . Learn simple number rhymes e.g. '1,2,3,4,5, once I caught a fish alive', '5 current buns in a baking shop'
- . Encourage writing numbers for a purpose e.g. writing their age or door number.
- . Develop number formation skills by writing numbers in sand, flour or glitter.
- . Look for different shapes in the environment eg rectangle windows/doors, circle clocks, triangle traffic signs.



Your Starting School

CHECKLIST

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their names.

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are very proud of the appearance of the children at Healdswood. Our uniform provides children with a sense of belonging and community.

Royal Blue Sweatshirt or Cardigan
White Polo Shirt
Dark Grey Pinafore, Tights, Skirt, Shorts or Trousers
Blue and White Check Dress
Black shoes



PE KIT

On PE days we ask that children arrive at school wearing their PE Kit-

Navy/Black Shorts, Leggings or Joggers
Plain White T-Shirt, no logos
Black/Navy Jumper or Hoodie
Trainers
No Jewellery and Long Hair Tied Back



BACKPACK/BOOKBAG

Please send a backpack with a spare change of clothes.

Bookbags and water bottles are available to purchase from the school office. You may also use your own water bottle. Please ensure that you send these every day.



FOREST SCHOOLS KIT

On Forest Schools days we ask that children arrive at school wearing their Forest Schools kit-

SUMMER KIT

Trousers
Long sleeve T-shirt
Socks
Wellies/walking boots
Unlined waterproofs
Sun hat
Spares including socks, trousers etc

Please no Denim.

WINTER KIT

Base layer (vest)
Warm trousers
Long sleeved top
Hat
Scarf
Gloves
Wellies/walking boots
2 pairs of socks
Lined waterproofs
Spares including socks, trousers etc

PLEASE NOTE

Jewellery is not allowed in school for safety reasons and in accordance with Nottinghamshire County Council Policy. All accidents are recorded on an a system called Medical Tracker, this links to your email address and means that bump notes make their way directly to your inbox.

Please check your child's head every day for head lice, this is the only really successful way of deterring them. If you need any more advice we have leaflets available in school.

Children are welcome to bring in food from a holiday or birthday. This will be sent home at the end of the day, due to potential allergies.

THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Our schools main method of communication is an app called Class Dojo. When your child starts at Healdswood the office will send home a piece of paper which shows you how to sign up to the app for your child/children. On this we share information and you can send messages. In the following circumstances it is important that you contact the school office rather than your class teacher on either Dojo or our phone number 01623 462449:

If you are running late or your child is unable to attend school, please phone or send a Dojo message to the school office first thing in the morning with the reason for absence.

If someone else will be dropping off/collecting your child please phone the school office rather than messaging. If your child needs medication during the school day please go to the school office to complete a form, please note that we can only give children medicine that has been prescribed by a doctor.



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

COOL MILK

Cool Milk

Each child is entitled to a free piece of fruit. Milk or water is available. Parents must register for milk online with Cool Milk, this is free until your child is 5. This can be done on the cool milk website <https://www.coolmilk.com/>

SCHOOL DINNERS

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to 'Universal Free School Meals' which means that they can have a hot school lunch every day for free. A weekly menu can be found on our website. They are also welcome to bring their own lunch, this should encourage a balanced diet. We ask that you choose sandwiches or school dinners, this is not something that you can change daily. The office will need notice if you want to swap, this helps our kitchen to order the correct quantities.

Healdswood is a completely NUT & SEASAME free school. We maintain this in order to protect children and staff with severe allergies to these products. This includes any form of peanut butter and Nutella.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



WELCOMING YOU

SESSION TIMES

Our day runs from 8.55 a.m. to 3:15p.m.

However, the doors open from 8.45 a.m. to allow your child time to settle into their class.

Please make sure your child is on time for school. We start learning straight away and they may miss vital information for the day ahead if they are late.

SETTLING IN

Every child is different. Some will settle straight away, whilst others need varying degrees of time to feel happy and secure in school. We work hard to work in partnership with parents to ensure that every child settles in as smoothly as possible.

When you get to reception please hand your child over to a member of staff, at the classroom door.

When the children enter the classroom they hang up their coat on a named peg and put their book bag into a box.

They then complete a welcome activity.

Don't worry, we will be on hand to help and you will be surprised how quickly children pick up the routines.

GETTING READY

You can work on these things with your child at home. We understand that all children are individuals and may still need help with these things when they start reception.

- Be able to ask for what they need and follow simple instructions

 - Recognise their name

 - Hold a pencil correctly

 - Tidy their toys away

- Take off and put on their clothes, including their socks and shoes

 - Take themselves to the toilet and wash and dry their hands

 - Listen to a story or rhymes and be willing to join in

 - Feed themselves using a knife, fork and spoon

WHAT OUR CHILDREN Say About Healdswood



I lighk to go to
the feeld



"I like playing outside and painting"



"I like phonics because I get to learn. I just like everything!"

I lighk to play
ant sighd.

"I like hot dinners and playing when it's dinner time"

HEALDSWOOD INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL
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