



Realising of potential, Respect for others, Responsibility for own actions, Honesty, Co-operation



Foundation Stage Information Booklet

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Welcome

Welcome to St. Michael's C of E Primary School
Foundation Stage.

A Foundation Stage full of care, fun and excitement, providing a wonderful learning environment for children.

A Foundation Stage where:

- ♦ happiness shines through
- ♦ children learn through practical, challenging activities
- ♦ respect for the child as an individual is of paramount importance
- ♦ the individual child is catered for both in planning of the curriculum and assessment
- ♦ each child's progress is carefully monitored and recorded
- ♦ strong links are formed between home/school/Church and the wider community

***** PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME INFORMATION CONTAINED
IN THIS BOOKLET IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING THE
CURRENT COVID-19 SITUATION.
YOU WILL BE INFORMED BY THE SCHOOL OF CHANGES AS
AND WHEN THEY OCCUR DURING THIS PERIOD *****

What is the Foundation Stage?

The Foundation Stage is the period of education from age three to five.

During the first year the children may be in a range of settings such as nursery schools or childminder provision.

The second year of the Foundation Stage is often called the reception year as the majority of children join a school reception class during this time. Children at St. Michael's join the reception class in the September of the academic year when they become five.



Why is it important?

Early experiences affect children's attitudes to learning so it is vitally important we get it right.

Play is crucial to the way young children learn. Through play, children can develop in all areas of the curriculum.

The children will be given the opportunity to learn through a carefully planned, well-balanced, topic-based curriculum, tailored to the needs of each individual child.



The Early Years Curriculum

There are seven areas of learning in the Foundation Stage, these are split into three Prime areas and four Specific areas.

The three Prime areas are:

Communication and Language will help develop listening and concentration and encourage children to develop conversational skills.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development which encourages children to be independent and to interact with other children and adults. It helps children to become confident, safe and secure, and ready to learn from new experiences. This area of learning also includes learning about healthy eating and managing dressing and toileting independently.



Physical Development which provides opportunities for using a range of large and small equipment and helps children develop a sense of space around themselves and others.



The Four Specific areas are:

Literacy: which covers reading and writing.



Mathematics: covering numbers and shape, space and measure.



Understanding the World: involves learning about our physical world, local community and the diverse world around us.



Expressive Arts and Design: involves exploring, using media and materials and being imaginative.



Children learn through a wide range of experiences in our reception class and often the seven areas of learning are intertwined.

The School Day

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THE SCHOOL OF CHANGES TO TIMINGS FOR THE
SCHOOL DAY DURING THIS PERIOD *****

School Times

School opens at	8.40 am
Registration is at	<u>8.50</u> am
Morning session begins	9.00am - 12.00pm
Lunch	12.00pm - 1.00pm
Afternoon session	1.00pm - 3.20 pm

Please note, those children arriving after 8.50am can enter the school through the top main gate and will need to be signed in at the main school office. The first few minutes of each day are an extremely important time for settling the children and explaining the day ahead. Please make every effort to be on time in order to avoid any unnecessary upset or disruption. Any child arriving after 8.50am will be marked in as late.

Home Time

School finishes at 3.20pm each day. The children will not be allowed to go unless there is a known adult waiting for them.

Please inform the class teacher if a different adult will be collecting your child.

Healthy Eating

St Michael's school is an accredited member of Healthy Schools and promotes healthy eating and drinking behaviours.



Healthy Schools
CORNWALL

Dinners

All infant children are eligible for a free school meal or, if they prefer, you may send them in with a packed lunch. Menus are available for school meals and parents are required to book their child's meal choices in advance on our online booking system via ParentPay (see pg12). If children prefer a packed lunch from home please encourage them to choose a healthy option for their lunch boxes. Due to nut allergies we request that children do not bring peanuts or peanut butter sandwiches to school.

Snack Cafe

During the course of the morning the class snack cafe is open. Children are encouraged to help themselves to a piece of fruit and milk or water. This is free of charge.

Children are also asked to bring to school a named water bottle which they can access whenever required.

Uniform

Please ensure that you label EVERYTHING with your child's name!

Our school uniform is as follows. The items marked with a * can be purchased from our online school uniform shop at www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/stmichaelsprimary

Girls	Boys	P.E kit
St Michael's embroidered royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan*	St Michael's embroidered royal blue sweatshirt*	St Michael's embroidered P.E. T-shirt in house colours*
White blouse or St Michael's embroidered white polo shirt*	White shirt or St Michael's embroidered white polo shirt*	Blue shorts* or black shorts
Grey skirt or pinafore dress with grey or blue tights or white socks. Grey or black trousers	Grey or black trousers or shorts	Pumps or trainers for outdoors

During the Summer, girls may like to wear a blue & white checked dress.

Items of jewellery should not be worn. Ear studs are permissible but may not be worn for P.E. If they cannot be removed they will be taped over. Long hair should be tied up securely.

St Michael's is a cashless school which means that all trips for Reception children need to be paid using our ePayment system, ParentPay. By making cashless payments you know that your money has reached the school safely.



We also operate an online meal booking system which allows parents to view and select their child's meal choices in advance of each day. Meals can be booked up to 9am on the day, or as far in advance as the current menu runs if desired!

Once your child is settled into school, you will be given a unique username and password. You will then need to book meals, pay for school trips and any other items using this system.

You can go online to view your account statement and payment history, check when payments need to be made and set alerts to tell you when to pay.

Find out more online?

To keep up to date with what's going on at school please check out our school website, twitter and Facebook links:



<https://www.st-michaels-helston.org/>



[facebook.com/stmichaelschelston](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelschelston)



[@St_Michaels_VC](https://twitter.com/St_Michaels_VC)

Essential Kit

Below is a list of things your child will need when they start school:

- * Named water bottle
- * Named book bag (can be purchased from the school)
- * Named PE kit in a draw string bag (kept at school on their peg).
- * Named hat for outdoor play
- * Named wellies and a waterproof all in one/coat
- * A spare pair of pants and socks



The children learn outdoors in all weathers and every Wednesday we go up into the woods for a morning session. It is important that the children's wellies and waterproofs are left at school.



Staffing

Reception (RC)

Teacher: Miss Care

T.A: Mrs Hall



Reception (RD)

Teacher: Miss Davies
(EYFS Phase Leader)

T.A: Mrs Boucher



Medical matters

If you have any concerns about your child's health or if he/she has a medical condition that we should be aware of please let us know before he/she starts school. We can then discuss the matter with you and be fully aware of, and prepared for, any possible difficulties.

If your child requires prescribed medication to be administered at school, please fill out a form which is available from the school office.

If your child has a bout of sickness or diarrhoea please keep him/her off school for **48 hours** after the symptoms have stopped. This type of illness spreads very quickly and easily among children and staff!

If your child is ill and cannot come to school, please call **01326 572386** and leave a message on our absence line with your child's name, class and the reason for their absence. Alternatively, you can text these details to **07731 842 640** (this number **only accepts incoming texts**, regarding absence). The office staff will pass this information on to your child's class teacher.

First Day Arrangements

The children will begin the Autumn term on Wednesday 8th September. If you have a child already at St. Michaels please arrive at 8.50 am. The doors will not open until this time. This will allow you to drop off older children and make your child's first day at school a calm and enjoyable one. For families new to St. Michael's, we ask that you arrive at 9.30am. This will allow us time to show your child where to put their belongings and settle into activities in the classroom.

From Wednesday 8th to Friday 10th September ALL children will be at school on a part-time basis.

From Monday 13th to Friday 17th September the children will stay for lunch.

During this time, in the afternoons, the teaching staff will be conducting home visits, to learn a bit more about your child.

Wednesday 8th September	8.50 or 9.30 - 12.00
Thursday 9th September	8.40 - 12.00
Friday 10th September	8.40 - 12.00
Monday 13th September	8.40 - 1.00
Tuesday 14th September	8.40 - 1.00
Wednesday 15th September	8.40 - 1.00
Thursday 16th September	8.40 - 1.00
Friday 17th September	8.40 - 1.00

Activities to share at home

Helpful activities for you and your child to do together:

- * Helping you around the house, e.g. setting the table, washing up, putting the shopping away.
- * Sitting together looking at a book and listening to stories.
- * Visiting places together like the park, supermarket, library etc.
- * Singing rhymes and songs together.
- * Collecting things like buttons, shells, postcards or pebbles.
- * Sit and watch television together.
- * All of these activities provide lots of opportunities for talking and sharing ideas with each other.

Talking together

A child learns a lot from talking. Talk about:

- * What happened today.
- * What you did today.
- * A television programme.
- * Things you like or dislike.
- * The games your child plays with other children.

Listening skills

It is important a child learns to listen. You can help by:

- * Reading stories.
- * Learning rhymes and songs.
- * Showing and explaining how things work.



Activities to share at home.

Some simple games for all the family to play:

- Snakes and Ladders
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Snap or other matching games
- Colour or picture dominoes
- I spy and other guessing games



More things you may like to do and use:

- Ball games
- Singing games
- Plasticine
- Lego
- Sand and water
- Child scissors
- Skipping games



*Remember learning is fun and exciting, involving new experiences.
Always praise and encourage your child's efforts.*

Can your child?

Before school....

When your child starts school it would be helpful if he/ she could do some of these things:



Dress and undress him/herself.



Put on and fasten his/ her coat.



Change his/her own shoes and socks.



Use the toilet properly and flush it.

Can your child?

Before school....

When your child starts school it would be helpful if he/she could do some of these things:



Wash and dry his/her hands and face.



Use a knife and fork.



Tidy away his/her toys.



Blow his/her own nose.

And finally.....

We are very much looking forward to the new term and hope that you all have a happy and safe summer.

If you have any queries or questions, no matter how big or small, then please speak to your child's class teacher, or email stmichaels.advice@celticcross.education and we will get back to you as soon as it is convenient.

"Adults who help children to play are adults who help children to learn"

