



*We consider every child to be a star.  
It is our job to make them shine!*



# Welcome to Cestria Primary School

Firstly, welcome to our school, we can't wait to welcome your child into Reception and begin their learning journey with us...

### Starting School

In view of the age of the children, it is school policy to introduce them gradually into the classroom. Your child will be attending school on the following dates and times.

Please note that Reception children start on the **TUESDAY**

#### Week 1:

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am-2pm - including lunch

During the first week the children will be met at the **main entrance** by the Early Years team. The door will not open until 9.30am.

At the end of the session the children will be brought out via the **main entrance**.

#### Week 2:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September onwards

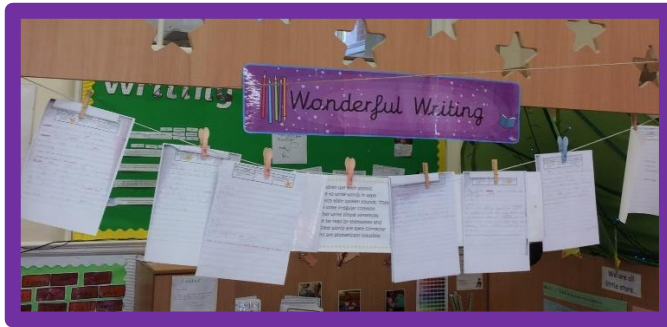
The children will be in school full time from **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September**. Please ensure your child arrives in school between **8.30-8.55am at the middle entrance gates** and they are picked up at 3pm at the **main entrance**.

## How we work

We have two Reception classes (Little Stars and Little Moons) and classes will be allocated at the end of the induction period. All children use the same unit and have access to all of the areas. At Cestria we ensure we offer a high quality and challenging environment which caters to children's needs and the way in which they learn best. We offer a stimulating environment where the children can freely select resources for child-initiated learning, as well as offering a rich curriculum of adult directed teaching by our highly experienced and dedicated staff.

This learning takes place within our reception unit which consists of three classrooms (Little Stars, Little Moons and the Physical Development room) and an outdoor decked area which are all connected to allow the children to flow between them.





Throughout the course of the day they participate in group time which focuses on developing phonics, mathematical, English and physical skills. We do guided reading each week and we follow 'Read Write, Inc Phonics' and 'Big Maths' for these areas \*. More structured activities are introduced as the children develop and their progress is closely monitored so that each child works at an appropriate level and with a curriculum which suits their needs, and work towards all of the early learning goals \*.



\*<https://www.bigmaths.com>

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/parent-tutorial-1-understanding-read-write-inc-phonics/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2>

## Coming to school

Your child will be met at the school gate by a member of school staff. The aim is that all children say their goodbyes at the gate and come into school by themselves. Please clear the outside area as quickly as possible as it is the entrance used by all the children and it becomes very congested.

## Going home

The children will be brought out of school by the Early Year's Team via the main entrance at 3pm. Please wait for your child within the school gates. Only adult's that you have requested will be permitted to collect your child. Please let the office know if there is a change to persons permitted.

## When you need to see the teacher

There will be occasions when you need to meet with the class teacher. You can either:

1. See the class teacher at the end of the day.
2. Email the class teacher or leave a message with the school office for the class teacher to contact you.
3. Use our messaging system via Dojo.
4. If the matter is more complex or confidential, make an appointment with the Early Years Lead or if you need to you can arrange to meet with Head Teacher.

## When your child is ill

If your child is ill, please contact the school office before 9.30am, as any unexplained absence will be marked as unauthorised, i.e. truancy and reported as such.

If you are unsure whether your child can attend school due to an illness please see NHS guidelines on contagiousness.

We can administer medicines but we require a written consent which clearly states the dose and frequency (prescribed medicines only).

Please mark inhalers with your child's name and the dosage details. A note from a parent is required to excuse a child from Physical activity.

## School nurse

During your child's first year in school his/her eyesight and hearing will be tested and you will be informed if there are any problems.

## Parent Support Advisor

Claire Donnelly is our parent support adviser. She works with families to help deal with the challenges that family life can bring. She is available all year round, including school holidays. She offers practical support, advice and guidance on a wide range of issues, such as challenging behaviour, school attendance, supporting your child's learning and any other issues that are important to you and your family. She can be contacted on 07771371391 or her email is [c.donnelly101@peltonroseberry.durham.sch.uk](mailto:c.donnelly101@peltonroseberry.durham.sch.uk)

### Dress Code

Our clothing policy comprises of:

Hawaiian Blue Sweatshirt/hoodie/cardigan

Grey trousers/Jogging pants/Skirt/leggings

White polo shirt

Blue/White Summer Dress (optional)

Grey Shorts

For our younger children, we strongly suggest that the more practical option is more advisable. This consists of

Hawaiian Blue sweatshirt, hoodie or cardigan

White polo shirt

Jogging bottoms or leggings

Black or white trainers

School sweatshirts, hoodies, cardigans, polo shirts, shorts and coats (all with school logo) are available from Salto UK. Order forms can be found on our school website ([www.cestria.durham.sch.uk](http://www.cestria.durham.sch.uk)) or at [www.saltouk.com](http://www.saltouk.com)

We have a new supplier 'Etika', you can order via their website on [www.etikaunifroms.co.uk/cestria-primary-school-dh3](http://www.etikaunifroms.co.uk/cestria-primary-school-dh3)

**We would be grateful if you could label all of your child's property clearly.**

Reception take part in a variety of physical activities. When your child begins school your class teacher will let you know which day we have specified for PE. On this day please can your child come to school wearing jogging bottoms/leggings with their school polo top, jumper/hoody and appropriate footwear.

Children will be outside during all weathers so a pair of wellington boots are advised as well as an appropriate coat-please be aware that these may become muddy/messy.

Please be aware that clothing in Reception will get messy due to the nature of the children's learning.

### Home/School Liaison

Once your child is settled into school we will welcome parents into school for various events such as meetings, concerts, sports and fundraising events. We love to hear about what you have been doing with your children, you can send examples and pictures directly to their class teacher via Dojo. Your child will receive homework once they have settled in.

### School Dinner

School dinners for all infant children are free. However, you may provide your child with a packed lunch but the office must be advised a week in advance. We follow a healthy school policy for a packed lunch-please see the website for further details. Please note that we need at least one week's notice before children change from a school meal to packed lunch and vice versa.

### Snack

Children are provided with a snack. This is a portion of fruit; however, you may provide your child with their own **fruit snack** if you wish.

### Class Dojo

Dojo is an app that can be downloaded to your iPhone or iPad. Teachers send messages, photographs, videos and rewards to celebrate the lovely work and activities that your child does in school, as well as informing you of any events/activities that have taken place. Further information will be sent out once your child has started school.

### Website

Our school website is [www.cestria.durham.sch.uk](http://www.cestria.durham.sch.uk). It holds a whole host of information about the school from diary dates to ways to support your children with their learning.