

*A place where children are inspired by a love of learning and motivated to achieve their dreams.*

***Achieve\* Inspire\* Motivate\****



# **Starting Reception**

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*'At Tonge Moor, our aim is for children to achieve as they are inspired and motivated'*

### **Our Vision Statement**

At Tonge Moor we are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting environment where children develop an enthusiasm for life-long learning. We believe that every child should feel happy, safe and valued so that they gain a respectful, caring attitude towards each other and the environment both locally and globally.

## **About Reception**

The Early Years Foundation Stage at Tonge Moor covers a child's time in Nursery and Reception. We have enthusiastic and dedicated staff who are fully qualified and experienced. We work closely as a team to provide a smooth transition as children progress from Nursery to the Reception classes. As the year advances children will be supported as they move on from the Early Years Foundation Stage ready to start in Key Stage 1.

There are two Reception classes in our large unit. The children have continual access to all areas in their own classroom, the shared area and the outdoor area.

The children in Reception continue to learn through play. Play is a child's work and through this children develop the attitudes and skills to prepare them for different stages. Our aim is to create a happy and stimulating atmosphere.

### **Classroom Organisation**

Children in Reception will have access to a wide range of areas, both indoors and outdoors, to support their learning. This is known as Continuous Provision. These areas are set up in response to observations carried out, carefully linking children's interests and next steps with objectives from the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Areas of Continuous Provision include:

Role Play Area	Construction Area
Creative Area	Malleable Area
Reading/Cosy Area	Investigation Area
Small World Area	Snack Area

All of these areas play a vital part in encouraging children to be independent, confident learners and will be adapted and enhanced in response to the children and their next steps/needs. Reading, Writing and Mathematics are specific areas of the curriculum and will be targeted through all areas of continuous provision.

Outdoor learning is a fantastic way to allow children to access the curriculum, encouraging them to explore and be curious about the world around them. Our outdoor area is an extension of the classroom and will be accessed continuously. In addition to this, Reception children still go into the main school playground for lunch breaks. This is a great opportunity for them to build on social skills with peers in other year groups.

## The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

Children in Reception continue to follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The EYFS curriculum consists of Three Prime areas of learning and Four Specific areas of learning, these are:

<b>Prime Areas</b>	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Making relationships</li><li>• Self-confidence and self-awareness</li><li>• Managing feelings and behaviour</li></ul>
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Moving and handling</li><li>• Health and self-care</li></ul>
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listening and attention</li><li>• Understanding</li><li>• Speaking</li></ul>
<b>Specific Areas</b>	
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading</li><li>• Writing</li></ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Numbers</li><li>• Shape, space and measure</li></ul>
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People and communities</li><li>• The world</li><li>• Technology</li></ul>
Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring and using media and materials</li><li>• Being imaginative</li></ul>

The children will also be assessed against the Characteristics of Effective Learning, with staff considering how your child behaves in relation to the following areas:

Characteristics of Effective Learning
Playing and exploring – engagement
Active learning – motivation
Creating and thinking critically – thinking

Further information explaining the EYFS curriculum will be provided in the Autumn Term.

## **'Learning Journeys' - Keeping You Informed:**

Children are observed at play throughout the year. Information is gathered in a 'scrapbook' style record which helps to inform assessments and reporting. Parents are welcome to see these 'Learning Journey' books at any time.

Your child's Learning Journey celebrates his or her experiences. Over time it will tell a story about your child, his or her learning, friends and experiences he or she enjoys with others.

Staff watch and notice each child at play because it helps us to understand and support their individual well-being and development. The more than we understand your child's interests and preferred learning styles, the more we can support them in a way that is right for them.

We really value parents and carers taking part in the creation of these unique Learning Journeys. We welcome you to share them with your child, talking about special experiences and achievements, adding family photographs and other things of personal significance. Please feel free to join us in watching out for and noting new things. So much happens so quickly! We look forward to sharing the pleasure and excitement of your child's learning. When children are ready, they can also begin to add things that are important to them to their Learning Journey.

## **Bringing your child to school**

At 8.55am the children enter school through the far side entrance, of the Headquarters building, As the Early Years Foundation Stage is all about encouraging children to develop their independence, we ask parents and carers to wait outside of this door and allow the children to enter the classroom and hang their coat up on their own. This also ensures we are following our strict safeguarding procedures.

After registration the children are involved in a 20 minute teaching session, this is vital time and all children should arrive promptly for the start of each session.

Attendance and punctuality is so important because it not only develops good habits for a lifetime, but maximises your child's opportunity to learn.

## **Collecting your child from Reception**

Children in Reception can be collected from 3.10pm. **All children need to have been collected by 3.15pm.** The children will leave by the classroom doors in the outside area. Please wait in this area, when the children are ready inside, a member of staff will stand at the door and call your child's name so that they know they are safe to come out to you. **Please do not allow your child or younger siblings to play with the toys or climb on the wall or railings in this area.**

Children must be brought and collected from school by a person over the age of 16. When you complete the admission forms, you will be asked to provide a password in case someone other than the regular named persons need to collect your child. If this is the case you will still need to ring and inform school that we are to expect someone different. **If somebody unknown comes and they cannot provide the recorded password then they will not be allowed to collect your child.**

## **After School Care**

We have after school care at Tonge Moor Primary Academy. This is term time only until 6.00pm, Monday – Friday.

### **Cost**

3.15 - 6.00pm      **£7.00**

Includes an after school snack (sandwiches, fruit, biscuit/cake)

One off sessions are charged at **£10.00**

**Please Note: There is a reduced rate for siblings; £5.00 if registered or £7.00 per 'one off session'.**

Please see the school office for more information or for a registration form.

## **Half Termly Newsletter**

We publish a half termly newsletter. This contains important information about school life and events.

## **Spare Clothes**

Please send a bag with labelled spare clothes just in case of accidents.



## Our Reception Day

- **Our school day starts at 8.55am**
- We have Dinner time 11.40 am -12.25pm
- **Our school day ends at 3.10pm** – Children can be collected between 3.10 – 3.15pm

### **Circle Time**

Children will take part in adult led circle times each morning and afternoon, these will be carefully planned to support children's learning. Some circle times will focus on Literacy or Mathematics, others will focus on specific interests or Personal, Social and Emotional skills. Many circle times will be a combination of skills and areas of learning, allowing children to reach next steps in learning and develop into well rounded individuals.

### **Focused Activities**

In addition to circle times, continuous provision and phonics sessions, children will also access regular focused activities. These sessions may be indoors or outdoors depending on the target children and objectives. Focused activities allow children to access small group sessions where the adults will work carefully to address interests and extend learning based on their knowledge of the children taking part.

### **Phonics**

Children will take part in daily phonics sessions, at Tonge Moor we follow the Read Write Inc. Phonics Programme. The aim of these sessions is to build on children's speaking and listening skills, introduce them to letters and sounds, promote skills such as blending and segmenting words and support them in using these skills in their writing.

### **Snack Time**

Each day the children are offered a piece of fruit and a carton of milk. Snack is continually available to the children throughout the day.

### **Outdoor Play**

We have a super outdoor area!

The outdoor environment provides us with a useful space in which to extend learning. The children will go outdoors whatever the weather so **it is important that your child brings a warm waterproof coat every day.**

The areas of provision in the outdoor area are an extension of those inside, providing children with opportunities to play and explore on a large scale, in a way that is not possible in the indoor classroom.

### **ICT**

The children have access to computers, interactive whiteboards, remote control toys, roamers, CD players, tills etc., both inside and outside the classroom.

Families can access the Tonge Moor Academy website [www.tongemooracademy.org](http://www.tongemooracademy.org) at home. Here you will find a link to '**Purple Mash**' where children can gain access lots of educational games etc. Your child will be provided with their own log in to do this.

### **Library Time**

Children visit the school library each week. We also encourage parents to bring their children to the school library, look out for opening times and events.

## **P.E**

The children take part in a weekly P.E lesson. Please refer to the school prospectus for information on the school PE kit required. The PE kit can be kept at school. ***Please ensure the kit is named.***

## **Reading Folders**

Reading folders are available to purchase from the school office priced at £3.50. We do encourage the children to have a reading folder as books are sent home from very early on in the year. Lost or missing books will incur a charge. Letters from school are also placed in this folder so that they do not get lost on the way home. Please ensure the reading folder is in school every day and emptied regularly.

## **Educational Visits**

We believe that educational visits provide significant opportunities for learning. We try to keep costs down and want every child to take part.

## **Dojo's**

As part of our behaviour policy, we use the online 'Dojo' system. Dojo points are given to reward good behaviour etc. Parents/Carers are invited to log into their child's class Dojo to see how their child is succeeding (More information will be given).



## **Preparing for Reception**

Moving into a new class can be a daunting experience for a child of any age and at Tonge Moor we work hard to make the transition as easy as possible. We believe the more time your child has to prepare for the change the better and so over the next half term we begin preparations to help them become familiar with both the Reception staff and environments.

Over the next few weeks we will be holding 'transition' events where you and your child will have the opportunity to visit our Reception classrooms. There will be time for your child to explore their new indoor and outdoor surroundings and a chance for you all to meet and talk with staff.

If your child already attends our Nursery, our EYFS environment means that they already spend time outdoors with the Reception teachers. In addition to visiting the Great Hall, reading books about going to school and talking about moving into Reception, over the next few weeks we will arrange times so that children can meet the Reception staff.



## Helping Your Child Get Ready for School

Preparing your child for the changes ahead really can make a difference to how they cope when starting school. Talking to your child about their new class will give them time to process and think about what they can expect.

- Talk to your child about the staff they will meet and help them become familiar with our names.
- If your child isn't used to wearing a uniform make sure you talk about it and let them try it on before their first day. Letting them come with you to buy their uniform can also prove a positive experience.
- If your child has only attended Nursery on a part time basis it can be very confusing for them finding themselves staying at school all day. Talk to your child and explain that they will be staying at school from after breakfast time through dinner time until home time.
- Going to the dinner hall can be equally as daunting, talk to your child about staying for dinner and make sure they know if they will be having a school dinner or packed lunch.
- **All children in EYFS and KS1 are entitled to a free school dinner. See school prospectus or speak to a member of staff in the school office.**
- Encourage your child to dress/undress themselves. Let them practise putting on and taking off their coat on their own.
- Have clear and consistent rules and routines at home to prepare your child for this at school
- Encourage your child to listen to others and to follow instructions. This will help him/her to benefit most from the rich curriculum on offer.

**Continue to share books, sing songs/rhymes together and do lots of counting to encourage them to look for numbers and words in their environment.**

### **Helping your child to settle into Reception**

It is important that we work closely with you during this settling in period and we respond to the needs of your child as an individual.

- Take an interest in what your child is doing every day!
- Display their models and stick their work up at home.

## **Uniform**

Please make sure your child is in the correct uniform every day. Please see the school prospectus for uniform information.

## **Collection of Children**

At the end of the day we ask that you wait outside your child's class, for the class to be dismissed by the teacher. Arriving 5 minutes early is a good way to meet other parents.

Please inform the school if you are going to be late collecting your child to avoid any concerns or if someone new is picking up. Please be aware this person must be prepared to be asked for the child's password, so please make them aware of this.

**If at 3.30 pm your child is still in school, they will be taken to our After School Club and a charge of £10.00 will be incurred.**





## **SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2020-2021**

### **AUTUMN TERM**

Term begins:	Monday 7th September 2020
Half Term:	Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2020
Occasional day:	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020
Term ends:	Thursday 17th December 2020

### **SPRING TERM**

Term begins:	Monday 4th January 2021
Half Term:	Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2021
Term ends:	Thursday 1st April 2021

### **SUMMER TERM**

Term begins:	Monday 12th April 2021
Bank Holiday:	Monday 3rd May 2021
Bank Holiday:	Monday 31st May 2021
Half Term:	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May Friday 4th June 2021
Term ends:	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021

### **Additional Information:**

**Autumn term 2021 will commence Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021**