

BROOKSIDE Primary School

Copse Close, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 4FU

Telephone: 0116 271 3680

Email: office@brookside.leics.sch.uk Website: www.brookside.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss G Brown



April 2020

Dear Parents

Reception Intake 20/21

Firstly, we would like to say a warm welcome and thank you for choosing Brookside. We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your child. Starting school is a big step in your child's life! Some children are excited and can't wait to start school; others can be a little more anxious or nervous. Unfortunately, the current coronavirus pandemic means that we are not able to run our normal transition programme. However, we will do our very best to ensure that we make the transition to school a positive experience for all of our new children.

Under normal circumstances we would be inviting you and your child into School for visits and welcome meetings. We are unable to do this at the moment as School is closed. Staff would also be visiting the children at their pre school setting but unfortunately due to Government guidelines we are unable to do this. Once School re opens we will do our best to accommodate these before we finish for the summer holidays.

To support the transition to School in these difficult times and provide you with information that you may find helpful we are putting a variety of things into place. Please see below.

-We are setting up a closed Facebook group for you to access. (This is solely for Parents of children who are confirmed as Starting at Brookside in Autumn term 2020. School staff will give them permission to join). This will give you the opportunity to keep up to date with any information and resources. It is also a good way for you to get to know the Parents of children who will be starting Brookside at the same time.

-We are creating an area on the School website dedicated to transition to School. On here we will upload information and resources that you may find helpful in supporting your child during these tricky times.

-We have put activities and games onto 'Busy Things'. You can access this from a laptop, tablet or phone. Please use the login details provided on your letter or email office@brookside.leics.sch.uk

-We have included your School admissions pack. Please fill in all the relevant paperwork and return to School as soon as possible. **DO NOT SEND your child's passport or birth certificate.** We will ask you to bring this in when School reopens. You can post the admission forms through the School letterbox or send them via the postal system. This will be crucial to ensure we have all the correct contact details for you. Our family liaison coordinator Mrs Dave, will be in touch with you once school reopens and time permitting you will have the opportunity to come into School, meet her and have a look around School.

-Please visit the following Government websites with information on how to support your child at home during lockdown

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Once School is re-opened we will hopefully be able to invite you to our Parent Information Evening. At this meeting we will tell you everything you need to know about your child starting school. We will give you a booklet that should answer any questions you might have including details about uniform, school dinners and our curriculum. If for any



OAK Multi Academy Trust

(Trading as Brookside Primary School)

Registered Office: Copse Close, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 4FU

Company number: 07695364 (Registered in England and Wales)



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reason we are unable to hold this meeting then we will post this information out to you sometime during late May/June.

Due to the current pandemic it is very difficult to plan ahead but at present the start of the term will look like this:

Wednesday 26th August – Friday 28th August - Home visits

During the first week of the new school term, we are going to offer home visits. We would really like to encourage you to take up this opportunity, particularly if this is your first child coming to Brookside. It is a really good chance for us to build relationships with your child as children are often far more confident in their home environment. The visit will last no longer than 20mins. We will bring a story to read to your child and maybe they could show some of their favourite toys?

Tuesday 1st September – Friday 4th September

Your child will start school on Tuesday 1st September. Children in Reception will be admitted on a part time basis. All children will do two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions. We will give you the dates and times for these sessions at the Parents Information Evening or by post if need be. We do this part time start so we only have one class in at a time; this means we have the whole Reception team available to support the children as they get used to the new routines at school. During some of the sessions your child will stay and have lunch at school. Lunchtimes are often the thing that children find hardest about starting school, so having lunch in a smaller group to begin with, will help to make this a much more positive experience.

We do appreciate that a part time start is inconvenient for working Parents, but experience shows that a gradual start to school helps children to settle much quicker and so is better for everyone in the long run. We are writing to let you know about this as soon as possible, so that you have plenty of time to make the necessary child care arrangements.

We look forward to getting to know you and your child. Please bear with us as we work together to make this transition successful in these changing and difficult times.

If you do have any questions or queries please email the School office- office@brookside.leics.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Kind Regards The Reception Team.



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