



North Road Community Primary
Reception Parents' Information Book 2026 – 2027

Welcome!

On behalf of the staff, governors and pupils of North Road we would like to offer you a warm welcome. North Road is a happy and vibrant small school, and we pride ourselves on offering a unique opportunity to learn and play in a safe, fun and stimulating environment that enables our children to develop a love for learning.



We are a small school where every child is highly valued as an individual. Our priority is the learning and social development of each and every one of our children. We also believe working closely with parents is vital to ensure that children start their school-based education with confidence and we look forward to working with you to make your child's years at North Road a truly happy and memorable time.

Beginning school is a major event in the life of a four-year-old and it won't be long before your child will be starting with us. There will be lots of new things to learn and of course you will want to ensure that your child is well prepared for this important event. We hope that this booklet will provide some useful information that will help your child to settle quickly into school.

Meet the Pluto Class Teaching Team



**Miss Hobbs
Class Teacher**



**Mrs Pearce
Higher Level Teaching
Assistant**



**Miss Fuller
Teaching Assistant
(Wednesday)**

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum

Areas of Learning

There are seven areas of learning and development, they are all important and inter-connected:

Prime Areas

- Communication and language
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical development

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

At the end of your child's reception year, we make a holistic judgement about your child's development using the 'Early Learning Goals' from each of the seven areas and their characteristics of learning. This is used to inform you of your child's progress and to inform Year 1 teachers to support their readiness for the next stage of their learning journey.



Learning in Pluto Class

Your child will predominantly learn through play and are actively encouraged to lead their own learning through their interests. As teachers, we support their learning through providing exciting and enticing environments that allow the children to explore and investigate, supporting them to develop and learn new skills, build on knowledge and foster positive relationships with their peers.

Throughout the day, your child will also learn through directed teaching times such as daily phonics, English and Maths. These teaching sessions may be with the whole class, within small groups or through one-to-one tuition.

Learning is delivered in fun and engaging ways to enthuse and excite children to continue the learning in their own play. Opportunities to learn from experiences are invaluable and we organise different trips out and welcome visitors in.

Your child's development is tracked through observations and interaction. This information is then used to inform next steps in learning and planning of the environment and the provision to be provided.



Parents as Partners

We recognise the importance of parents and carers. As a primary care provider, you are your child's first educators, and we greatly value your input, opinions and information you can share with us about your child's learning and progress.

We provide many opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. These include:

- Fortnightly School newsletters
- Termly Class newsletters
- Open afternoons
- Class Dojo App
- School X feed updates
- Parent's evenings
- End of term assemblies
- Whole school Family Events
- Christmas Nativity / performances
- Sports Day
- Curriculum workshops



By working together, we are constantly striving to improve our school for the children, their families and the whole school community.

Our family ethos is central to our school and as such, we operate an 'Open-Door Policy' where parents are actively encouraged to meet with staff to ask any questions or discuss any concerns at the earliest opportunity. We are always available at the start of the school day, as well as after school to answer any questions or queries. (No question is too silly!)

THE SCHOOL DAY

Gates open: 8:35am

Start of School Day: 8:45am

Lunch: 12:00pm

Afternoon registration: 12:55pm

End of School Day: 3:15pm

Morning Procedures

A member of staff will open the main playground gate at 8:35am. All children then proceed to their own classrooms. Pluto Class and Mars class children enter through the fenced gateway and into the main building together. The bell will ring at 8:45am to signal the start of school.

Please note: Whilst the children are becoming used to starting school, the children will enter to the right of the main entrance, past the bike storage and through our reception outdoor area.

Collecting your child

At the end of the school day, you can access the school playground from 3:05pm. When the school bell rings at 3:15pm, children will wait with their class teacher at the end of the ramp, behind the fenced area and sent to parents one at a time. It is vital that you inform us if someone different is collecting your child. We will not let your child go with any other person unless we have your consent. This can be done by contacting the school office. If it will be a regular occurrence, that another relative or family friend will be picking up, then please add these details onto your Arbor account.

Milk and Snack

In Reception, we have a dedicated snack time before going out to play. They are positively encouraged to wash their hands before they eat, sit down and socialise with their friends, this supports building relationships and enhancing speaking and listening opportunities. They will tidy away and learn to be independent and responsible member of the class and wider school community. Fruit is provided free of charge and toast is currently charged termly through Arbor.

Every child under the age of five is eligible to receive free school milk. Once children reach their fifth birthday, you can choose to pay for your child to continue having milk. This can be order and paid for via School Milk Services (<https://www.schoolmilkservices.co.uk/>).

A Healthy School

We hold a Gold Award for Health in School. It is very important that your child brings a named water bottle (with a straw or sports cap) to school every day. Water is essential to hydrate your child's brain and to help them to learn. Bottles must only contain water. Juice and flavoured waters are actively discouraged. Your child will have access to their water bottle throughout the day and will be refilled accordingly.

School Dinners

We are proud to be able to provide healthy school dinners, freshly cooked on site by our catering team and served in the school hall. The termly menu can be found on the school website.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 get a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM). These are free of charge and not linked to any benefits a family may claim. (If you are on a low income, you should still apply for free school meals so that we, as your child's school, can claim the Pupil Premium. This extra money is paid direct to schools for each child eligible for free school meals and used to support your child's education. Please see Pupil Premium section in this document for more details.)



At the start of reception, we encourage all children to try school dinners. Teaching staff accompany the children to dinner for the first few weeks and will be able to tell you how well your child has eaten. If staff have any concerns, we will speak with you directly.

If you do wish to provide a packed lunch, please do check our website for healthy lunch ideas. Please also note, that for the safety of all children and staff, we are a nut-free school.

School Uniform

All children wear school uniform as this helps children develop a sense of belonging. We have two uniforms – a PE uniform and a school uniform. PE uniform is worn all day on the child's PE day. (We will notify of these once the class has settled and are attending full days.)

Bottle green sweatshirt/cardigan

Bottle green fleece (to be worn as an outer garment only)

Bottle green polo shirt or white shirt

Black or grey skirt, pinafore, trousers or shorts

Green and white check summer dress

Black/grey or white socks

Black shoes

P. E

Bottle green t-shirt/green school sports t-shirt

Black shorts

Black jogging bottoms or leggings

Black trainers

Bottle green hoodie

Black/grey or white socks



All these items are available to buy from our school wear supplier – TAYZ.

<https://tayz.co.uk/collections/north-road-primary-school-yate>

Please label your child's clothing, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats

Nail varnish and make-up are not permitted. Jewellery should not be worn to school, except stud earrings, which your child should be able to remove themselves for PE or are to be covered with tape. Hair should be worn up, especially on PE Days.



As our learning environment are both indoors and outdoors, we ask that you make sure your child is equipped for these areas at all times of the year. Please provide your child with a pair of wellies that can stay in school.

Book Bags

We strongly recommend all children to have a book bag for their reading record, reading book and homework. Please ensure your child's name is clearly written on the bag to ensure that it can be easily identified. Please check your child's book bag for letters each day. Book bags with the school logo are also available from our uniform supplier - TAYZ. No back packs please.



First Aid / Medication

Paediatric first aid trained staff are available to attend to your child in the event of an accident. If first aid is given, your child will come home with a green or yellow band on their wrist. This will detail the time/ date of the incident, what the injury was and how it had been treated. Yellow bands indicate an injury to the head or face and will be accompanied with a head bump letter and a text message to notify the parent/carer.

If your child uses an inhaler, please provide us with an inhaler and spacer device that we can keep and use in school. If it has been administered, your child will come home with a sticker with the date and time that it was given.

To administer any medication, we need to seek consent and will ask you to complete a consent form detailing the medication and dosage / times to be given. These forms are available from the school office.

Absences

We need to know each day if a child is absent, so please telephone between 8.00 and 9.00am if your child is ill.

Lateness - School starts at 8.45 am. After this, your child should be signed in at the Office, then the register can be updated and a school meal booked if necessary. Lessons start promptly and your child will miss important instructions if they miss the beginning.

Holiday Absences - The Department for Education has set new Education Regulations. Our School Policy (in line with the DFE Education Regulations and local schools) states that parents may request a holiday if there are exceptional circumstances. This request must be put in writing to the Head Teacher, at least 2 weeks before, fully explaining the reason for the request. A form can be requested from the office. The Head Teacher will consider each request carefully and will look at the child's attendance over the last 12 months.

Permission for absence will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, when the reason for the request is very clear.

If the holiday absence is not authorised and the holiday is taken anyway, a Penalty Notice may be issued.

Houses

We have four houses, which all children are placed into when they start with us. They remain in the same house throughout their school journey. Each house is named after a significant local person and a colour is associated.

Cabot - Red
Tyndale - Green
Brunel - Blue
Jenner - Yellow

Through whole school assemblies, children learn about their House namesake and why they are significant. They join in events and activities within their houses such as faith days, sports day, well-being afternoons and many more. This gives the children opportunity to learn with others beyond their class, form different relationships and supports a healthy competitive culture.

House Points

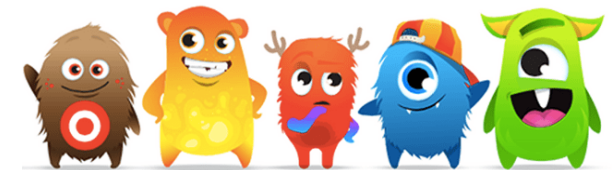
Alongside the events and activities, every child can earn house points. These are a positive reward for children across the school. They can earn house points by adhering to class and school rules; completing set tasks; showing positive behaviours in their learning and towards others. House points are awarded to individual children but are collated within the house in each classroom. Every Friday, in our celebration assembly, we total up each classes' house points and celebrate the winning house. These totals are displayed in the main corridor and on our website. Each term the house with the most points wins an extra playtime!

Dojos

Our school values are very important to us and are ingrained in everything we do at North Road. We use 'Class dojo' online system to encourage and celebrate our values. Each time your child shows a school value, they receive a 'dojo'. This is displayed in the moment on the interactive whiteboard within the classroom and a coloured sticker is awarded to the child to be displayed in the class. Each week the children try to get as many dojos as they can and are celebrated on a Friday with the most earned receiving a reward in their class and the top class celebrated in whole school assembly.

Please download the 'Class dojo' app (an invite will be sent during the first week in September) and share in the success of your child, as each time a dojo is awarded in the class you will receive a notification on your phone. We also use this app as a primary method of communication between the class teachers and parents. You can use it to send us photos or messages about activities that show our values at home or just to send us a quick message.

Please note: All messages regarding absenteeism must go through the main school office.



Breakfast Club and ROLEY'S Afterschool Childcare Club

At North Road Community Primary School, we offer a daily Breakfast Club which opens at 8:00am. It is run by our Breakfast Club Supervisor and our Play Leaders, all of whom are lunchbreak supervisors and/or Teaching Assistants at our school.

Breakfast Club costs £3.00 per child, per day, which includes the cost of a healthy breakfast. Children can choose from a variety of cereals, toast with a selection of toppings, fruit juices and milk. Fresh fruit is also available every day.

We run an 'active' Breakfast Club where children can enjoy activities such as table tennis, outdoor toys, wheeled vehicles and team games. Children can also enjoy art and craft activities, construction kits, board games, books and much more!



In addition, we offer an after-school club called Roley's Childcare Club. This runs from 3:15pm – 5:45pm Monday to Thursday.

Roley's Club is £9.50 per session and includes two snacks during each session, a savoury snack and a sweet snack. Children enjoy activities based on a weekly theme, which include crafts, construction, games, cooking and an outdoor play time.

To register your child for either of our wrap around care clubs, please complete the relevant registration form. Please see the links on our school website; <https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/wrap-around-childcare/> Once your child is registered, you will be able to book and pay for your session on Arbor.

Ad hoc sessions can be booked, subject to availability. These sessions must be booked and paid for by the end of the school day prior to the required session.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are proud at North Road to be able to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, both after school and at lunchtimes. These have included outdoor play club, choir, construction club, netball, computing, arts and crafts, piano and multi-sports. These vary from term to term, are key stage specific and most will have limited places. They are allocated on a first come first served basis. We are also very fortunate to be able to host sporting clubs run by Proformance Coaching. These clubs are available to book via their website.

Details of all the clubs available are sent home at the beginning of term and places are booked via Arbor, our online system.

Pupil Premium Funding

Pupil Premium funding is additional money provided to schools in England to support disadvantaged pupils and close achievement gaps. This funding is not directly given to parents, but rather to the schools they attend to help address the specific needs of their children who qualify for the funding.

Pupil Premium is allocated to schools based on the number of pupils who meet the following criteria:

- Free School Meals: Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, please see below.
- Looked After Children: Children who have been looked after by a local authority for one day or more, or who have been adopted from care.
- Service Children: Pupils whose parents are serving in the Armed Forces.

If you believe your child qualifies for Pupil Premium based on the criteria listed above, please let us know.

Free school meals

All children and young people

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods, and your monthly average income over three assessment periods should be no more than £616.67)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Applying for free school meals

If you are eligible for free school meals, you need to apply for each child when they start school.

If your child is starting school then please submit your application in August, the month before your child is due to start.

You can check if you are eligible for free school meals by using the online application form on the South Gloucestershire Council Citizen Portal.

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/advice-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

At North Road Primary School, we strive to support all children to enable them to achieve at school. To do this, many steps are taken to support them through their learning journey. Quality teaching is vital; however, for some children there are occasions when further additional support may be needed to help them achieve their targets. We will discuss and liaise with you if your child requires any further support.

For all information about our SEND support, please download our School Offer and Report from our school website:

<https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/special-educational-needs/>

Mental Health and Well Being

We pride ourselves at North Road for being leaders of mental health awareness and education. We have dedicated staff who are trained to deliver therapies and opportunities to support our children here at North Road. Our curriculum and environment offer activities and spaces for children to explore their mental health and well-being. To find out more about the therapies and support we offer please visit our website page.

<https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/pastoral-care-at-north-road/>



Preparing Your Child for School

Starting school is exciting milestone in the life of your child but for some it can also be an anxious time. We are all here to support you and your child. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you are concerned about your child's transition into school.

Some things to try:

- Share 'starting school' story books.
- Take a look at the Pluto Class (Reception) September 2026 page on our school website and have fun with the Shoe Box Challenge.
<https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/pluto-class-reception-september-2026/>
- Talk to your child about your own school days. Emphasise the opportunities for making friends and getting involved in new activities.
- Involve your child in school purchases and label all your children's clothes and belongings clearly and help them to identify their own belongings.
- Allow your child to do things independently, encourage confidence and always praise their efforts.

There are a number of key skills that will help your child to manage some of the situations they will face during a normal school day. The following statements are a guide to the kind of skills you can help your child develop before they start school in September.

Eating	Sharing and Turn Taking	Routines	Getting dressed and undressed	Self-Care	Going to the toilet	Self confidence
I can use a knife and fork.	I can share toys and take turns.	I have practised putting on my uniform and getting ready to leave on time.	I can recognise my name on my clothes.	I know how to wash my hands	I can go to the toilet on my own.	I can say goodbye to my mummy, daddy or my main carer.
I can peel a piece of fruit.	I like playing games with others.	I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not feeling tired for school.	I can put on my own shoes and socks.	I can blow and wipe my nose	I can wipe myself and flush.	I can tidy my belongings and look after my things.
	I can interact with other children.		I can put my coat on and zip, unzip it.	I can ask for help if I don't feel very well.	I can wash and dry my hands.	I know I can ask an adult for help.

Transition and Phased Entry

We are very excited to be welcoming you and your child to our school very soon. Transition into school is very important and we work tirelessly to ensure your child feels welcome, happy and excited to start their learning journey here. We have already been in contact with yourselves and shared dates to support the transition. We are in the process of contacting your child's preschool setting and are looking forward to meeting your child in person and getting to know them.

We have a phased entry programme in place for September, and a timetable is available on our website page. The programme will gradually build the number of hours they spend at school at one time and introduce them appropriately to the routines and events of the school day. Most children will be ready to be full time by the 4th full week in school but for some, it may be more appropriate to extend the phased entry programme.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 W/C 31 st Aug		INSET Day	INSET Day	Home Visits Start of term for Years 1 - 6 only	Home Visits
Week 2 W/C 7 th Sept	8:45 - 12pm Start of term for Reception Pupils	8:45 - 12pm	8:45 - 12pm	8:45 - 12pm	8:45 - 12pm
Week 3 W/C 14 th Sept	8:45 - 1pm Stay for lunch	8:45- 3:15pm Stay all day	8:45 - 1pm Stay for lunch	8:45 - 3:15pm Stay all day	8:45- 1pm Stay for lunch
Week 4 W/C 21 st Sept	Full time (8:45 - 3:15pm) from this week onwards				

Please keep checking our school website; Children tab, to find a section all about starting in Pluto Class this September. We will be uploading documents and videos to support both you and your child in the transition to school.

We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child and welcoming you to our North Road family.

If you have a queries or concerns about your child starting school, please do contact us:

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