



**NORTH NIBLEY SCHOOL -
A QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS!
SEPTEMBER 2021**

This leaflet is intended to provide a short practical guide, from a parent's point of view, to help you prepare for the first days at school. It may save you having to make frantic notes during your Introductory Parents Evening!

Our "Prospectus and Parent Handbook" is available online and recommended reading!

SCHOOL TIMES

The school day is 8:55 am – 3:15 pm, but for at least the first few weeks your child will attend a half-day session. There is a member of staff on duty in the classroom from 8.40 am and your child may come straight in from 8:40 onwards.

First days at school can be anxious times for parents. Tempting though it is to prolong the goodbyes, it is better in the long term to get you both used to saying goodbye first thing in the morning. For the first few days, however, we ask that you say goodbye at Classroom 1's side door (at the top of the slope) where Miss Allen or another friendly face will be ready to receive them. In this way we can ensure that they can start their school day calmly.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

To increase your chances of seeing items again, label or mark everything! Name everything clearly otherwise we cannot guarantee that children will get the right uniform. The uniform is grey or black trousers, shorts or skirts with white tops (shirt or polo shirts), white or grey socks or tights (on PE days socks are easier). Bottle green sweatshirts/cardigans, sensible shoes/sandals and a coat with a loop to hang on a peg. (Sweatshirts with the school logo can be ordered through our website). North Nibley playground is rather exposed so please give children hats and gloves in cold weather and sunhats in summer.

Your first 'book bag' is provided free of charge by the school. Letters home are put into the children's book bags, so do check these on a daily basis. All slips and money must be sent in via the book bags, money in named envelopes.

P.E. KIT

Navy shorts (not cycling shorts), a white round-neck T shirt and shorts for indoor PE sessions. For outdoor games, you will need trainers (not daps/pumps) and jogging bottoms.

PACKED LUNCHES

If you decide to send a packed lunch, please use a named plastic box and a leak proof drinks container that your child can open. No glass bottles, cans or fizzy drinks please.

Please remember that healthy eating leads to healthy bodies and minds that are ready to learn.

DINNERS

All infant children are entitled to take a free school meal if desired. Your child can still bring a packed lunch if you prefer this. School dinners for children in Y3 and above are currently less than £2.40 per day which should be paid in advance, and can be paid in advance. We prefer the online use of ParentPay and in due course we will provide details to enable you to manage your meal account online if you wish. Cheques should be made payable to North Nibley School.

MILK AND SNACKS

Milk can be ordered directly from the Cool Milk Company. We eat snacks with our milk. Fruit is provided for Infant aged children as part of the Government's fruit scheme. We actively encourage healthy eating and only fruit is allowed for Friday break – Fruity Friday! Please check regularly if your child is drinking their milk. When they stop, you will need to cancel your order!

WATER

Children are given a water bottle when they start school. Children are allowed water throughout the day. Drinking water has great benefits for children's health and learning. We actively encourage drinking water as "soggy brains make healthy, quick learners."

MONEY

When sending money to the school, please put it in an envelope marked with the child's name and identify what the money is for on the outside, so the Administrator can quickly identify envelopes.

SPEAKING TO THE TEACHER

Please try to do this after school when there is more time. Before school we are very busy preparing for the day ahead.

If you have any concerns, please make an appointment with Miss Allen or Mr Batchelor and we will readily speak to you. Occasionally we may be on courses. Our staff meetings are directly after school on Mondays.

THE CURRICULUM

Children attending school in their Reception Year are taught (and assessed against) the Early Years Foundation Stage. This will be a continuation of their pre-school curriculum. Their learning in school will follow the Early Learning Goals in 7 areas of Learning, and they will be working at the pace and challenge tailored to their own strengths and areas for development.

READING AND MATHS

Our primary concern during the first few days in school is to ensure that your child settles well, and has a positive experience of the staff and classroom. Our policy on reading and maths is explained in a separate booklet which will be distributed to you when your child starts school. We will hold an information evening about reading early in the first term and your attendance at this is strongly encouraged.

TIREDFNESS!

Even if your child has been used to attending Nursery or Playgroup on a daily basis, the pace of life in an Infant Class is always a surprise to our Reception children. School is a very busy place, and the pace of activities compared with pre-school settings can lead to tiredness, to an extent that some parents find difficult to believe! Within a few weeks Miss Allen will begin a discussion with you about a likely timetable for integration into full-time school, depending on how well your child has adapted.

SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROSPECTUS

Our prospectus, also entitled the 'Parent Handbook' is updated every year and available on our school website. We have a vast number of policies on all important areas of school life. These may also be found on the school's website or obtained from Mrs Kirby, the Administrator.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Someone is near the office each day from 8:30am until well after school. Outside of those times an answer phone takes messages, or other staff may be able to help. Emails arriving after 2:30 may not be picked up until after the end of school. The school's phone number is 01453 542600. The school's website is a useful source of news, information and support. Current and past newsletters can also be found at www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk

WELFARE

Your child's safety is our absolute priority. We MUST be informed, by 2:00 pm if someone other than a parent is collecting your child. Please let school know before 9:30am on the first day if your child is ill or unable to attend any club or similar commitment, and on EVERY DAY thereafter. We will chase you for confirmation every time!

PARKING

You will find there are a lot of cars in the area at the start and end of school – perhaps more than you imagined – and that these cars represent a significant risk to children's safety. Please be sensitive to other drivers and the schools' neighbours by parking away from drives and the grass in front of the church. Please do not use the staff car park for parking or turning, as this is dangerous.

BEHAVIOUR CODE

I will do my best to:

- **Respect myself and all others;**
- **Act with kindness and consideration;**
- **Behave in a sensible and responsible way at all times.**

I will do my best by:

- **Listening carefully;**
- **Thinking of others when working or moving around the school;**
- **Taking responsibility for my own belongings and those of others;**
- **Respecting the point of view of others.**