

# **Vernon Park Primary School**



“An exciting  
place to learn,  
an exciting  
place to be!”

# **Welcome to** The Early Years Foundation Stage



# Welcome to the EYFS

At Vernon Park, we believe a child's learning experience should be happy, active, exciting and fun. It should support their development, care and learning needs. From birth to the age of five, children in the Early Years Foundation Stage learn by playing and exploring, by being active and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. The Early Years are an exciting time for you and your family and they are very important stages of your child's school journey.

## The Curriculum

The EYFS curriculum is split into seven areas of learning. We provide our children with exciting, engaging activities to promote learning in all areas and to develop a lifelong love of learning. Offering each child the opportunity to learn indoors and outdoors by planning the most appropriate curriculum for their stage of development.

Prime Areas of Learning			
Communication and Language	Physical Development		Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Specific Areas of Learning			
Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design

For Nursery children, practitioners focus strongly on the three prime areas – communication and language, physical and personal, social and emotional development. At Vernon Park we ensure children are ready to learn by measuring their emotional wellbeing and involvement using the Leuven Scale tool, once pupils are ready we gradually shift towards a more equal focus on all areas, as children grow and develop.














Our curriculum has been designed to ensure that it is relevant to local surroundings and draws upon the resources available in the community to strengthen cultural capital and help diminish any disadvantage gap.

In the Reception year, children have daily direct teaching of mathematics, literacy and phonics. There is a strong emphasis on laying the foundations of literacy and numeracy, whilst striving to develop fluency and reasoning, and deepening understanding.

## Lunch

School dinners are free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. School dinners are ordered from the website <https://live-kitchen.co.uk/cashless/login.aspx> and from the SchoolGrid app. Please select your child's meals in advance. If your child does not enjoy a particular meal choice, your class teacher will let you know or you will receive a slip from the lunchtime staff. Children do not need to bring a snack to school as fruit and milk are provided.

# Meet the Team

			
Mrs Clare Cheetham (Co-Head Teacher Monday- Wednesday)	Mrs Claire Lee (Co-Head Teacher Wednesday-Friday)	Miss Elizabeth Green (Deputy Head Teacher)	Mrs Katy Mickle (Assistant Head Teacher)
			
Mrs Kerry-Lea Edmundson (EYFS Lead and Reception Teacher)	Mrs Ellen Owens (Reception Teacher)	Mrs Leanne Poyner (Nursery/Reception Teacher in the Speech and Language Centre)	Miss Alicia O'Hara (Nursery Class Teacher)
			
Miss Gemma Humphrey (Teaching Assistant)	Miss Jane Atkins (Teaching Assistant)	Mrs Angela Arthington (Teaching Assistant)	Miss Natasha Pelmeor (Teaching Assistant)
			
Miss Ame Lee (HLTA- whole school)	Miss Liz Bohuslaw (HLTA- whole school)	Mrs Pauline Armstrong (HLTA- whole school)	Mr Stuart Roscoe (HLTA- whole school)



# School Uniform

At Vernon Park Primary School, we expect our children to maintain a high standard of appearance by wearing the correct school uniform.

## Nursery



- Grey trousers/ navy jogging bottoms/ shorts
- Grey or navy skirt/ grey or navy pinafore dress
- Yellow polo t-shirt
- Yellow sweatshirt
- Yellow and white checked summer dress
- Grey/ white/ navy socks or tights
- Black shoes (not trainers or canvas shoes), with Velcro fastenings unless your child can fasten shoelaces independently.

## Reception



- Grey trousers/ shorts
- Grey or navy skirt/ grey or navy pinafore dress
- White or navy polo shirt (No tailored shirts or pale blue polo shirts)
- Navy sweatshirt/ navy cardigan
- Grey/ white/ navy socks or tights
- Black shoes (not trainers or canvas shoes), with Velcro fastenings unless your child can fasten shoelaces independently.

## All



We learn outdoors daily, in all weather. Therefore, it is important that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing.

They will need:

- A warm, waterproof coat with a hood.
- In Winter, a woolly hat and mittens.
- In Summer, a sunhat which also covers the back of the neck and sun cream.
- Wellington boots and an all-in-one waterproof for our visits to the school woods. These will be kept in school.

At Vernon Park our policy for jewellery is that it is not allowed, except small studs for children with their ears pierced. These must be removed for PE and woodland days.

As a school we also ask, for hygiene reasons, that hair which is long enough must be worn tied back.

We ask that all items of clothing and equipment are **clearly labelled** with your child's name, including coats, lunch boxes and shoes. Lost items can then be returned easily.

On Mondays EYFS visit the woods and take part in PE lessons. On this day children should come to school in old clothes that cover their arms and legs and trainers.



## Spare Clothing

Please provide a whole set of named clothing (including underwear, socks and shoes), so that we can change children in case of accidents or after messy play. These clothes do not need to be school uniform. Please send these to school in a named bag as they will be kept on your child's coat peg.



## Water Bottles

Children have access to drinking water throughout the day. Please send a water bottle to school each day with your child's name clearly labelled. We ask that you do not put this into their book bag in case of leakages and only put plain water in the bottle, no juice or flavoured water please.



## Book Bags

All children will need a book bag, which will come to school with them every day. If you would like a school emblem book bag, these can be purchased through the office. Please ensure that your child's book bag is envelope style as we keep our bags in drawers and other bag styles do not fit. Through the book bag we will send home letters, children's work, a library book, early reading support materials and, when the children are developmentally ready, a reading book in the book bag, so please check it daily for anything new and empty it regularly. Please can these also be keyring/toy free due to limited space.



## Inhalers and Medication

If your child has asthma, please ensure that they bring an inhaler and spacer into school on their first day. These will be kept in school, so if you require an extra inhaler and spacer, please speak to your doctor. The inhaler must be kept in its original packaging with your child's name on. We will send them home at the end of each term for you to check how much is left, monitor use by dates and to clean the spacer.

An adult must bring any other medication prescribed to your child to the school office. All medicines must be kept in their original packaging and be labelled with your child's name.



## Toileting

We expect that all children will be fully toilet trained, although we appreciate that some children may have medical difficulties. Support for toilet training can be found at [www.eric.org.uk](http://www.eric.org.uk) Please inform us if your child has any issue with regard to toileting themselves independently and we can share with you our Intimate Care Policy and put you in contact with our School Nurse or other support networks if appropriate.





## Dropping off and collecting your child.

At Vernon Park Primary School, the school day runs from 8.45am – 3.25pm, with drop-off running from 8.45am to 8.55am. Nursery half days will run until 11.55am in the morning and afternoon sessions will begin at 12.25pm.

All Early Years children come into school through the small gate on the left-hand side of the main school building. Families should say goodbye at the gate where members of school staff will be waiting to greet your child.

At the end of the day, families are invited into the school grounds to collect their children. Nursery families are asked to line up along the ramp and children will be released to you when you reach the door. In Reception, families are asked to come into the playground and wait around the sandpit for children to be released. Please be patient as we learn everyone's family members to release children. It can take some time to begin with as we have lots of new faces to learn- we will speed up!

We will ask you for a list of people who are allowed to collect your child from school. If anyone other than the people on this list are coming to collect, please let the office know so that they can pass this message on to the class teacher.

We have a Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club in our school hall. Information about this wraparound care is available from the school office for those families who need it. Breakfast Club starts at 8am and After School Club ends at 5.30pm.

# Support for families

## Class Dojo: 🐸

We use Class Dojo across the school as a classroom reward system. You can download the Class Dojo app to share your child's achievements. We will also use Class Dojo to send messages to families.

## Seesaw: 💰

Our record of children's learning in the EYFS is collated in the form of an online journal called Seesaw. You can download the Seesaw app. We will be providing you with more information about this in September and we will be asking you to support us and contribute to your child's journal from home.

## Website:

[www.vernonpark.stockport.sch.uk](http://www.vernonpark.stockport.sch.uk) is our school website where you can find curriculum information, copies of school correspondence and the school calendar of dates.

The Early Years Team are here to support you and your family. If you have any questions or comments, please speak to us. We are usually available in the playground at the end of the day once the children have all been released, you can contact us using the messaging option on the Class Dojo app or email queries to [co-headteachers@vernonpark.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:co-headteachers@vernonpark.stockport.sch.uk)



Miss Brough is our Pastoral Manager and is available to support children and their families.



Mrs Mickle is our Special Educational Needs/Disability and Inclusion Lead. She will liaise with families of children with SEND or English as an additional language (EAL).