



Welcome to St Margaret's C of E Primary School

Reception

EYFS Starting School Information Pack

*A learning community sharing God's
faith, hope and love.
A place to B.E.C.O.M.E.*

Reception School Day

8.45am – 3.15pm

Please arrive on time, but not too early,
as EYFS staff need time to prepare the
classroom and learning areas.

Starting School 2026-27



Starting Reception marks a new and exciting stage for both children and their families.

This booklet provides key information about starting Reception at St Margaret's C of E Primary School. We want Reception to be a happy, positive and enjoyable experience from the very beginning.

Children enter EYFS with different backgrounds and pre-school experiences. Some children settle quickly, while others may need a little more time and reassurance. We will work closely with families to help every child feel safe, secure and ready to learn.



Arrival, collection and safety

Parents and carers are asked to collect children promptly at the end of the school day, as young children can become upset if they are left waiting.

If you are going to be delayed for any reason, please telephone the school office as soon as possible.

Children must be brought into school and collected by an adult. If someone different is collecting your child, please inform a member of staff.

The safety of children on the way to and from school remains the responsibility of parents and carers.

EYFS Curriculum

Children learn through the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. There are seven areas of learning and development. These areas are all important and closely connected.

Prime areas: Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Specific areas: Literacy; Mathematics; Understanding the World; Expressive Arts and Design.

Children learn through play, exploration, stories, songs, practical activities, adult-led learning and child-initiated play.



Curriculum links

Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2>

Development Matters:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/development-matters--2>

Uniform

We pride ourselves on our smart appearance. Reception children wear a simple, practical school uniform. Please label every item clearly with your child's full name.

Girls	Boys
Pale blue polo shirt	Pale blue polo shirt
Navy blue V-neck jumper or cardigan	Navy blue V-neck jumper
Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers	Grey trousers or shorts
Grey socks or grey tights	Black or grey socks
Black school shoes	Black school shoes

Please choose shoes that your child can manage as independently as possible. Velcro fastenings are often best for Reception children.

P.E. Kit

Children should come into school dressed in their P.E. kit on their P.E. day. The school P.E. kit is:

- Light blue t-shirt
- School jumper or cardigan
- Navy, black or dark grey leggings, jogging bottoms or shorts
- Trainers

Outdoor Clothing

Children use the outdoor area throughout the year. Please make sure your child has clothing suitable for outdoor play and weather changes.

If your child comes to school in Wellington boots, please also send a pair of school shoes for them to change into.





Toileting

Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible when using the toilet. This includes managing clothing, flushing the toilet and washing and drying their hands.

If there are any issues with toileting, please discuss these with a member of staff. We will always do our best to be sensitive and supportive.



Spare Clothing

Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's full name.

Accidents can happen. If you feel this is a possibility for your child, please send spare clothes in a named P.E. style bag.

We have a small amount of spare clothing available. If your child comes home in school clothes, please wash and return them as soon as possible.



What should children try to do for themselves?

Starting school means your child will begin to be more independent. Children should be encouraged to:

- Undress and dress themselves so they can cope with toileting.
- Put on their coat and try to fasten it.
- Put on their shoes and manage simple fastenings. We do not expect children to tie shoelaces at this stage.
- Slip-on shoes or Velcro fastenings are ideal.
- Use the toilet, flush it and wash and dry their hands.
- Use a handkerchief or tissue to blow their nose and cover their mouth when coughing.
- Ask an adult for help politely when they find something difficult.

These skills take time to develop, and staff will continue to support children as they become more independent.



Healthy Snack

During each Nursery session, children are offered a healthy snack, usually consisting of milk or water and fruit or vegetables.

Please let staff know if your child has any allergies, dietary requirements or cannot drink milk.

Children are welcome to bring a named water bottle each day. Water bottles must contain water only - no juice please. This helps us to keep all children safe, especially those with allergies.



Health and Illness

If your child becomes unwell during the day, we will contact you so that your child can be collected.

Please make sure school has up-to-date contact details for parents, carers and an emergency contact.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home until they are better. Please let the school office know as soon as you can that your child will not be attending school due to illness.





How can parents help?

Parents and carers play a very important role in helping children to be ready for Reception. You can help by:

- Talking to your child during everyday routines, such as shopping, walking, cooking or playing outside.
- Playing simple games together, such as Lotto, Pairs, turn-taking games or ball games.
- Reading stories, singing songs and saying nursery rhymes.
- Encouraging your child to draw, paint, colour, build and make things using play dough or junk modelling.
- Encouraging your child to tidy up their toys and belongings.
- Helping your child to use polite words such as please and thank you.

EYFS Structure

Nursery Class

Reception 1 - Phoenix Class

Reception 2 - Raven Class

School Address

St Margaret's C of E Primary School
Hive Street
Hollinwood
Oldham
OL8 4QS

Telephone: 0161 770 5900

Email: info@stmargarets.oldham.sch.uk

Useful Links

School website

St Margaret's C of E Primary School Oldham
- Home Page

EYFS statutory framework:

[GOV.UK - EYFS statutory framework](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eearly-years-framework)

Development Matters:

[GOV.UK - Development Matters](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/development-matters)

Birth to 5 Matters:

[birthto5matters.org.uk](https://www.birthto5matters.org.uk)

● We look forward to welcoming your child into our Reception family.

