



Chislet Church of England Primary School



Early Years Foundation Stage Prospectus 2025-26

A journey of learning for all, within God's guiding hands





The Early Years Foundation Stage

At Chislet Church of England Primary School we believe that the Early Years are vital in setting the essential foundations for children's life, learning and success. Our aim is to provide warm, happy, safe and stimulating environments throughout our Nursery and Reception learning areas where all children are encouraged to develop lively minds, active skilful bodies, confidence, independence and caring attitudes towards others and their environment. Emotional well-being and warm, caring relationships in which children can flourish are given our highest priority and are at the heart of all that we do.

Our Early Years practitioners are highly qualified and skilled in facilitating a wide range of enjoyable and stimulating activities and environments, through which children can learn about and build social skills, explore and experience the world around them, develop their own innate creativity and curiosity and gain new skills and understanding. Our staff pride themselves on knowing each and every child extremely well so that they can cater for their individual needs and carefully plan for playful, practical and purposeful learning opportunities.

We provide for play of many different types, both indoors and out, in open-ended, child initiated and structured activities. This ensures that our Early Years children move on to the next stage in their learning journey with social awareness, confidence and a readiness to learn.



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The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework is a statutory document which sets the standards that schools and childcare providers must meet for the learning, development, safeguarding and welfare of children from birth to 5. It underpins the Learning and Development of all by covering two distinct areas:

The Prime Areas – these are considered fundamental to children’s healthy development and in gaining the necessary skills for future learning and for life. These areas begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences. They are:

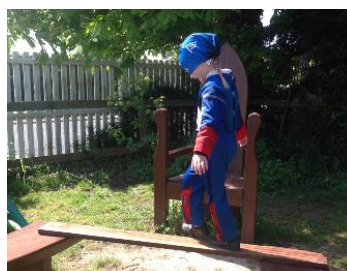
- o Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Self Regulation, Managing Self and Building Relationships
- o Communication and Language - Attention, Listening and Understanding, Speaking
- o Physical Development – Gross and Fine Motor Skills



The Specific Areas – These include essential skills and knowledge.

They grow out of the prime areas and provide important contexts for learning. They are:

- o Literacy – Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing
- o Mathematics – Number and Numerical Patterns
- o Understanding the World – Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities, The Natural World
- o Expressive Arts and Design – Creating with Materials, Being Imaginative and Expressive.



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Forest and Beach School

At Chislet we have access to both Forest School and Beach School environments. Forest and Beach Schools are an approach to learning which encourages children to experience the outdoors in a safe environment which is intertwined with the ever-changing potential and challenges which the weather and the changing seasons provide. Here the children discover, take risks, challenge their physical skills, learn to keep themselves safe, imagine, make friends, build or just 'be', soaking up the calming effects of the natural environment.

We also have an environment area within our school grounds. Here our children learn about caring for our environment and explore the mini beasts, their habitats as well as planting and harvesting our own fruit and vegetables.



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Life in Class 1

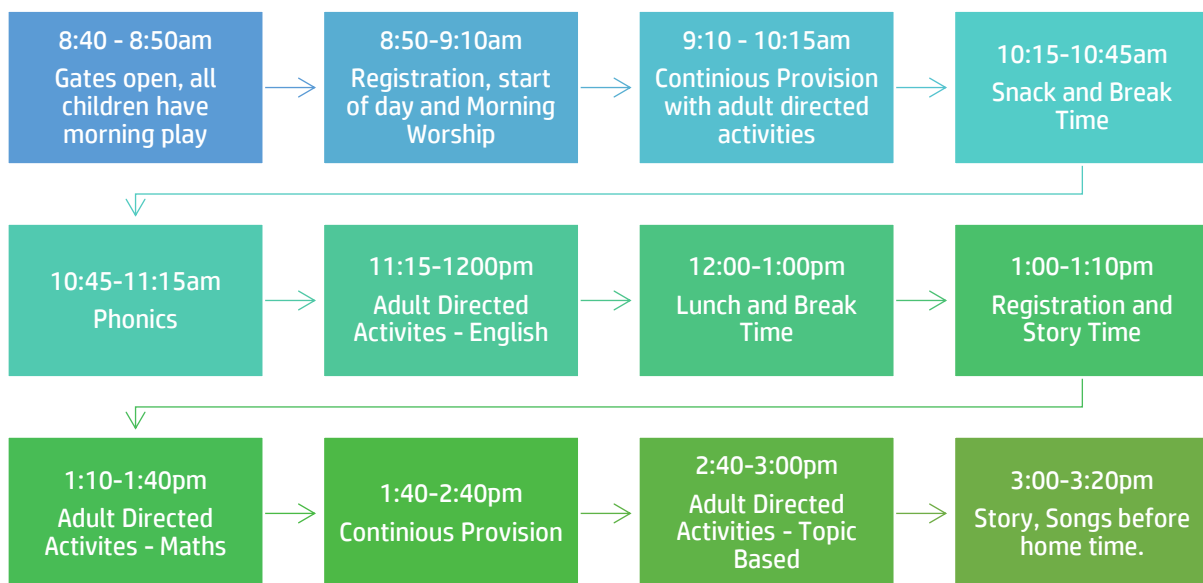
When a child enters reception, they go into Class 1, our first and smallest class in the school. With a maximum of 15 children and a good child to staff ratio, we are able to support, nurture and help develop the individual child, using their interests to enhance our curriculum and provide opportunities.

At the start of Term 1 all our children in reception receive a home visit. This give us the opportunity to meet in an environment that is familiar to them, to chat and play and check everyone is ready to start.

We then have a staggered entry, with the children coming part-time (mornings only) for a few days. This gradually gets lengthened so that by the third week of term everyone will be in school for a full day.

The Daily Routine

Once the children are in full time our routine will look something like this:



This routine will change to take other activities, such as PE, Forest Schools and Worship into consideration.



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Continuous Provision

Learning Through Play

Continuous Provision, often called Child Initiated Activities or Learning Through Play is entirely initiated and directed by the child. The adult's role is to observe and interact if the opportunity arises to extend learning, following the child's interests. Children learn best when it's something a child is attracted to. This could be a child's choice in playing in a certain environment or space, with a certain toy. They might want to include rubber spiders in their kitchen play area, or read in the sandpit. The possibilities are endless, and it's about them mixing things up however they like - within reason! Adults will be responsive to the things that the child does or says, in order to keep their attention focused for an extended period of time. The adult will plan next steps in learning and may add new resources or activities to provide opportunities for the child to deepen their learning and consolidate their skills.

Learning Through Play is a crucial part of children's development, where children learn to make sense of the world around them through play. Play is one of the essential ways in which young children gain essential knowledge and skills. Play is a fun and meaningful way to learn. It enables children to learn at their own level and pace while making connections. When they play, children are developing their cognitive, physical and communication skills.



Partnership with Parents

In order to achieve the highest standards for our children and for them to be happy and flourish in our care, we have to garner the support of the most important people in a child's life – their parents and carers! Parents are a very important asset to any school and are vital to their child's success. We know, both from experience and from research, that, where parents and carers are actively engaged in participating positively and confidently in their children's learning and healthy development, the outcomes for children will be at their best.

We, at Chislet, are committed to establishing an effective working relationship with all of our families. We have an open-door policy, regular parent forums and offer a wide range of opportunities for parents to engage in their child's learning and journey through school.

We offer parents the opportunity to see their child's learning experiences in school through their Learning Log. This is their personalised record of their experiences and achievements throughout the year presenting in a learning journey style. Additionally, we use Class Dojo to allow frequent, informal communication between home and school as well as give parents updates about our day in school, known as our Class Story.



ClassDojo



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PE

At Chislet we recognise the importance and benefits that physical activity has, not only on overall health, growth and development but also the contribution and positive impact it has on mental health.

In Class 1 we have two weekly PE lessons, the first is delivered by our PE teacher Mrs. Briant. These lessons focus on developing games skills, dance, gymnastics, athletics and outdoor adventure. Additionally, through our classroom provision, children have daily opportunities to be active - to climb, run, jump, swing, balance, dance, move to music, ride bikes and develop basic ball skills. Forest and Beach School sessions, which last a full day, are weekly during the Summer Term.

On our timetabled PE days children will be asked to come into school in their PE kits



Food and Drink

Fruit, water and milk are provided on a daily basis for our healthy snack time. Fresh water is available throughout the day for children to help themselves. Children are asked to bring in their own water bottles for use in class. We encourage all children to try our school meals which are delivered to us on site and eaten in the Barn with the children from across the school. Your child is welcome to have a packed lunch, however we ask this is a healthy, nut free lunch and does not contain any sweets or fizzy drinks. All children in Class 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal.

Children regularly participate in cooking activities. They learn about healthy food choices, use maths skills to weigh and measure, reading skills to follow instructions and fine motor skills to cut, chop, mix and stir. Cooking also provides opportunities to use fresh ingredients, learn how meals are made and introduce the children to new tastes and textures.

Helping Your Child Settle into School Life

During the first year of school, we aim to develop independence for all our children. To help us to do this, please encourage your child to be able to:

- Use the toilet independently (we do understand that accidents can happen)
- Use a knife and fork (this is more important for children having school dinners)
- Do up / undo their coat fastenings
- Do up / undo their shoe fastenings
- Dress / undress into their school uniform
- Making sure their names are on everything and that they can recognise their own name.

Throughout the year we will hold parent information events to show you what we are learning and how you can help your child secure their knowledge at home. Please don't feel pressured to work with your child every night practicing writing or learning their letters. Every child has a different way of learning, and they all learn at various speeds. They will learn if they are comfortable, relaxed and ready. Activities such as playing games, going shopping and reading as often as you can, are the most valuable learning resource to children this age.



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Chislet Church of England Primary School

We are really looking forward to welcoming you
into Class 1.

Chislet Church of England Primary School

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