



# De Beauvoir Primary School Important Information and Frequently Asked Questions



## Nursery and Reception 2021-2022



Welcome to Early Years at De Beauvoir Primary School. We are really excited that you are going to be joining us in September and look forward to welcoming you and your family into our school.



## The Vision of Early Years at De Beauvoir

*“When wellbeing is high, everything else follows”*

In the Early Years, we recognise the starting points of pupils new to Nursery and Reception and have developed a curriculum which is ambitious, creative, interesting and designed to provide the building blocks for future learning. We create a safe, stimulating, engaging environment which allows for meaningful learning across all seven areas of the curriculum and activities and tasks are often centred around a book / theme or linked to pupils' interests.

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum has been designed to ensure children become lifelong learners and through holistic teaching and rich learning opportunities, we develop the children academically, socially and emotionally and provide stepping stones that will help them throughout their schooling experience. We have high expectations and aspirations for all our children and the classroom and learning reflects and celebrates the diversity within our school.

An Early Years classroom, combining Nursery and Reception children, allows for high quality interactions between peers. It allows for the development of the prime areas, increased levels of well-being, self-regulation, independence and resilience. For Nursery aged children, skills and learning are demonstrated and supported by older peers, providing modelling and mentoring, as well as helping with the development of language, peer interaction and social communication. For Reception children, the mixed age group supports their personal, social and emotional development, their understanding of compassion, empathy, co-operation, patience and teamwork, as well as developing their language and explanation skills. Reception children will also have opportunities to become models for their younger peers, which in turn will develop their confidence.



## Attendance

It is statutory that a child attends school when they turn five and children will make the most progress when they are in school on time every day. For children in Early Years, the school day runs from 8.45am – 3.30pm. Registers are taken at 9.00am, and a child arriving after this time will be categorised as late. School absences, due to illness, should be reported to the school office before the start of the school day. Whilst Nursery is non-statutory, we encourage all pupils in Early Years to attend school every day.



## De Beauvoir Behaviours

We are **respectful** and use kind words and actions

We are **confident** and aim high

We are **inclusive** and celebrate everyone's differences

We are **tenacious** and never give up





## Behaviour Management

In the classroom, there is a 'Stay on Green' rocket display. During the lesson, children's behaviour will be celebrated by moving up the rocket (to bronze, silver or gold). They may need a reminder about their behaviour, and this might involve moving to yellow or red. Stickers are used to share behaviour management with parents/carers.

For some children, when they are moved down the rocket, they may need some time to reflect on their behaviour on the thinking chair. The thinking chair allows time to think about their behaviour and how it has affected others. An adult will then support them to problem-solve a solution and restore the situation.

## Continuous Provision



In an Early Years setting, continuous provision and adult interactions are at the heart of everything we do. Continuous Provision includes the resources and areas which are thoughtfully laid out and carefully planned to allow children the freedom to become independent choice makers when exploring and learning. Continuous Provision supports children's learning and development across all seven areas of the EYFS Curriculum, and supports the three characteristics of effective learning. It enables children to shape their own thinking and learning, as well as challenging and consolidating their knowledge.

Throughout the day, children will have whole group sessions, as well as small adult-led focus groups, to support their individual needs and stage of development and opportunities to initiate child-led activities. In addition, resources within the indoor and outdoor classroom are accessible and children are taught to select and use resources to build on their experiences and play.

Areas in the provision will include:

- A mud kitchen;
- Sand area;
- Malleable area;
- Creative station (often indoors and outdoors);
- Music area;
- Reading corner;
- Role play area (either indoors or outdoors);
- Mark making and writing area – there will be resources for mark making throughout the provision;
- Construction area;
- Water tray;
- Maths area.

All areas will have prompts for the children, including key words and visuals, which are accessible for both Nursery and Reception learners. Activities will be planned according to the needs of the children, learning in class, class theme, as well as children's interests.

## The Curriculum



*A play based curriculum with quality learning inside and outside the classroom.*

The **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)** is how the government and early years' professionals describe the time in your child's life between birth and age 5.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

- **Communication and language;**
- **Physical development; and**
- **Personal, social and emotional development.**

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- **Literacy;**
- **Mathematics;**
- **Understanding the world; and**
- **Expressive arts and design.**

The **three characteristics of effective learning** are embedded in all areas of the provision. Children in the EYFS learn by **playing and exploring, active learning**, and through **creating and thinking critically**, which takes place both indoors and outside.

## Daily Timetable



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 8.45am            | <b>Start of Day</b>   |
| 9.00am            | <b>Phonics</b><br>At De Beauvoir, we teach using Read Write Inc <sup>®</sup> .  |
| 10.00 – 11.45am   | <b>Choosing and Jobs</b><br>Children will have whole group sessions, small adult-led focus groups to support their individual needs and stage of development and opportunities to initiate child-led activities. These activities will be indoors and outdoors. |
| 11.45am – 12.45pm | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 12.45pm – 3.00pm  | <b>Choosing and Jobs</b><br>Children will have whole group sessions, small adult-led focus groups to support their individual needs and stage of development and opportunities to initiate child-led activities. These activities will be indoors and outdoors. |
| 3.00pm            | <b>Assembly/Shared Story and Hometime</b>   |

## Uniform



- Standard school dark grey trousers, skirt or pinafore;
- Plain white polo shirt, t-shirt or shirt;
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan – with / without the school logo;
- Plain black, closed toe school shoes;
- Small plain silver or gold studs in pierced ears are the only pieces of jewellery that should be worn;
- Hair accessories should be grey, navy or black only.

Please ensure that all clothes are clearly **marked with your child's name**.

Uniform orders can be placed in the office and book bags are priced from £3.50.

## Useful Contact Information



Executive Principal: Sian Davies

Head of School: Daniela Rader

Headteacher: Rebecca Mackenzie (on secondment)

De Beauvoir Primary School, Tottenham Road, London, N1 4BS

Tel: 020 7254 2517

**Email:** [admin@debeauvoir.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:admin@debeauvoir.hackney.sch.uk)

**Twitter:** @DeBeauvoirSch

**Instagram:** DeBeauvoirPrimary

**Website:** <https://www.debeauvoir.hackney.sch.uk/>

**Blog:** <https://receptiondebeauvoirprimaryschool.blogspot.com/>



## Frequently Asked Questions



### How will I know what my child is learning at school?

Curriculum information is shared with parents / carers in writing at the beginning of each term, explaining what children will be learning and how parents can support their child at home. These will inform you of the topics and themes for your child and will include the learning across the seven areas of the Early Years Curriculum. The curriculum newsletters are published on the school website each term. Photographs and posts about learning can be seen on Twitter and in the school's weekly newsletter.



### How will I know how my child is getting on?

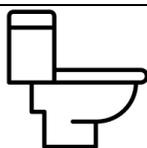
We are hoping to move back to an open-door policy when coronavirus restrictions indicate this will be safe. However, Early Years staff are always available at drop off and pick up times to talk to parents and carers. It is important that we all work together to best support your child. You need to feel comfortable about exchanging information and discussing things that will benefit your child.

There are two parent/carer evenings, one in Autumn Term and one in Spring Term. You will receive an end of year report. Meetings can be arranged if you have anything to discuss throughout the year.



### Where do I drop my child off and pick them up?

Children are dropped off and collected by parents/carers from the gate by their classroom. If there is somebody different collecting your child, it is essential that you inform a member of staff when dropping them off or call the school office on 02072542517.



### Should my child be toilet trained?

**All** children entering Nursery/Reception should be toilet trained and should be able to independently use the toilet, including wiping. If your child is not yet toilet trained, please spend the summer teaching your child. If your child has additional needs regarding toileting, please contact the school.

Toileting accidents might happen. Your child will be supervised and assisted when changing into dry clothes provided by parents or spare clothes by the school. Spare clothes should be washed and returned to school.



### Do you have coffee mornings and parent/carer events?

Yes, coffee mornings are arranged throughout the year and will be publicised by the class teacher. We are hoping that when Covid restrictions are further eased, we may be able to start stay-and-play mornings and parents will be invited to stay at school to support their child in the classroom and find out more about their learning. We will inform you when this is starting.



### How do I check if I am eligible for 30 hours in Nursery?

All children are eligible to 15 hours, however, your child may be eligible for 30 hours. You need to sign up online and, if eligible, will get a code that needs to be given to school.

If you think you may be eligible please go onto the website [www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account](http://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account). If you do not have a government gateway login you can create one through this link. Once you find out if you are eligible please contact the school office and give us the 11 digit code.

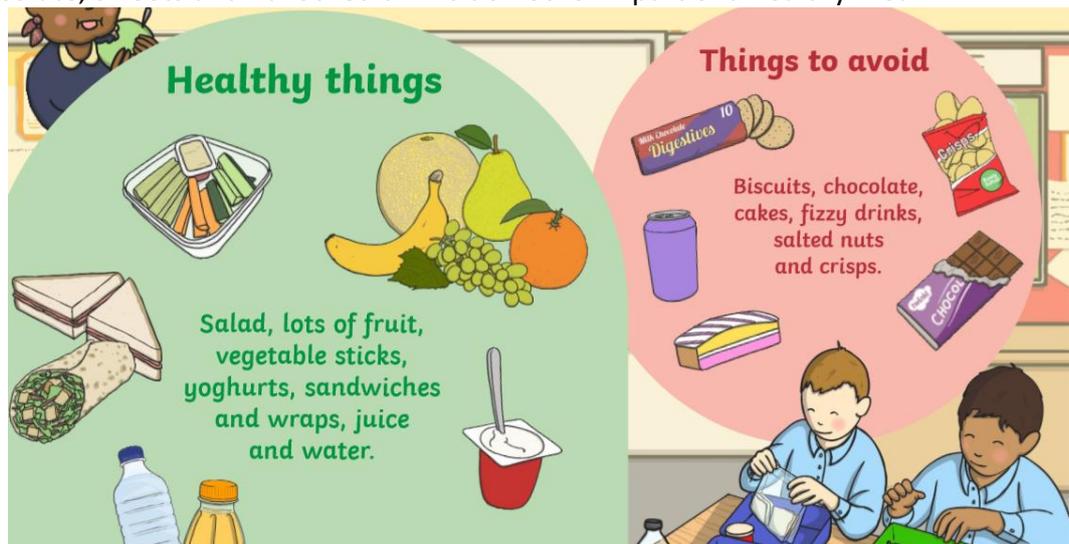
You will need to **reconfirm your eligibility every three months** and will receive a reminder text message or email from the government before the deadline.



## Can my child have school dinners?

Yes, a hot meal is available daily and it is cooked on site by our lovely cook and her team. The menu is available from the school office and will explain all the food options. **Universal free school meals** are available for all children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**, however, children in **Nursery** will have to **pay for meals** unless they are eligible for FSM. Free school meals can be applied for if you meet the criteria (see below). If you are not eligible for Free School Meals, meals cost £2.20 per day.

Packed lunches can also be brought to school. Packed lunches should be healthy and we are a water only school. Please ensure your child does not bring items containing nuts and only brings healthy snacks. E.g. A sandwich, bottle of water and piece of fruit. Crisps, chocolate, sweets and flavoured drinks do not form part of a healthy meal.



## How do I apply for Free School Meals?

Universal free school meals are available for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Registering for free meals could also raise an **extra £1,345** for the school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

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

- 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're 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 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit;
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think you may be eligible please go onto the website.

<https://www.learningtrust.co.uk/content/apply-free-school-meals>



## Can I give my child a snack?

Children will have access to a snack area with fruit and water throughout the day. Please do not provide your child with additional snacks, as there may be allergies in the class.



### **Are you a nut free school?**

Yes, we are! We have children in school with nut allergies and therefore we are a nut free school. We will not serve any food with nuts within school, and ask all parents/carers to refrain from giving children foods containing nuts.



### **Do you offer breakfast club and after school provision?**

From September 2021, we will be partnering with another school within our Federation, Holy Trinity CE School, for breakfast club, afterp school enrichment and extended day care. Information on the range of clubs they offer can be found on their website. Pupils who are attending club will be collected/dropped off at Holy Trinity CE School (Dalston Square) by De Beauvoir staff. See additional flyer.

<https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/parents/extended-provision/breakfast-club/>

<https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/parents/extended-provision/after-school-enrichment/>

<https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/parents/extended-provision/extended-day-care/>

More information will be available and shared with parents about the signing up process, logistics and options available.

*Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any other questions.*