



# Fairchildes Primary School



## New to Reception 2024

Thank you for choosing Fairchildes for your child. We pride ourselves on being a school focused on inclusion, and do everything we can to support not just the child, but the whole family, in order for the child to be the very best they can.

We want our pupils to have a love of learning, to be enthused and excited about every lesson. We want them to be sociable, friendly and empathic; to be good citizens; to speak and perform with confidence in every situation. We want our pupils to love coming to school!

To do this we have a dedicated, hard-working and talented staff.

Below is some key information you may need on starting a new school. If there is anything you are unsure of, please just ask a member of staff.

Jane Byers and Mark Gyford  
Co -Heads of School

### The School Day

8.35am- School opens

8.45am-Register

11.5-Lunch

3.15pm-Home Time

School dates will be sent via Weduc (see below) and can be found on the school website.

### How can you help your child?

- Allow your child to practise dressing and undressing at home.
- Can they do up the zip, buttons, put on their shoes?
- Discuss choices with your child for their lunch and dinner, encouraging them to make a decision. On a daily basis your child will have a variety of food options e.g. a main, sides, dessert and salad bar. It is important that your child is able to choose what they want to eat.
- If your child is having a packed lunch, practise using their lunch box at home. Can they open it, get their sandwiches and fruit and know what to eat first?
- Please only send children to school with water. They can only drink water or milk at school.
- Please support us by paying the £1 weekly donation or £5 every half term- this funds additional snacks, such as crackers and cooking and creative activities.
- We are a water only school- no water flavours, juices etc

### Attendance

Children cannot do their very best unless they are in school and on time each day. As parents/carers you have a **Legal Responsibility** to ensure your child attends school.

- It is common for children to pick up coughs and colds during their Reception year, this is how they build up their immune system. So instead of keeping them at home **SEND THEM IN**. If the school have concerns they will always call you to collect them.
- If your child is unwell in the morning but seems better later on **SEND THEM IN**. Better not to lose a whole day of learning.
- If your child has 4 days of consecutive illness absence or if they have had multiple absences in a term, you will be asked to provide full medical evidence in order for the absence to be authorised. This can be a prescription, consultation log from the GP or an appointment card. Failing to provide this information can lead to unauthorised absences.
- We do not authorise term time holidays

## The school Reading

Reading in Reception is crucial for your child's early development, laying a strong foundation for their future learning. By engaging in reading activities **at least four times a week for a minimum of 10 minutes**, you help enhance their language skills, boost their vocabulary, and stimulate their imagination. This regular practice not only supports their literacy but also fosters a love for books, making reading a joyful and integral part of their daily routine.

Your involvement and encouragement during these sessions can make a significant difference in their educational journey, setting them up for success in school and beyond.

- Children will be sent home 2 books per week. 1 book is matched to their phonic ability and one is for reading for pleasure. Children **MUST** have a dedicated book bag for these to go in.
- Fairchildes book bags are available to purchase for £4.50
- Each phonic book needs to be read a minimum of 3 times to develop fluency. Each entry must be recorded in their reading records.
- Any books that are not returned or damaged beyond repair will be charged at £5

## Children with Additional Needs

All of our teachers and teaching assistant's offer quality first teaching and are well trained to support all children, including those with additional needs.

At some point during their time at school, children may need support in order to help them in their learning. This may be additional learning interventions such as reading or maths, or for speech and communication or to support sensory needs. However, in some cases further support is required. In which case our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) will work with the child and their teacher to assess their needs.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning needs, then please speak to their class teacher, who will refer you to the SENCo if necessary.

## EAL (English as an Additional Language) Support

This includes:

- Helping the children to develop their English language skills.
- Modelling the accurate use of English, noting the children's spoken vocabulary and building on what they already know.
- Support for multilingual children and create learning opportunities that are not dependent on the child's English ability.
- Encourage the children's wellbeing and achievements in learning.

## **Pastoral Support**

We offer a range of support to children and families, Mentoring, Counselling and Parent support. These can take many forms, from signposting to external support services, working with children in small groups or one to one weekly support. Our aim is to offer support when it is most in need. We offer a non-judgement open door policy, with a friendly approach that is child centred, which promotes their well-being and enables them to come to school ready to learn. We understand the many challenges that children and parents/carers can face on a daily basis and the ever changing demands that families have to cope with. We offer a listening ear and a supportive shoulder.

Mrs England and Miss Gifford are our mentors and Mrs Lacy is our safeguarding lead. All of them can offer advice and support.

## **Lunchtime**

- All primary children can currently get a free school meal
- If you are eligible for benefit related free school meals, please apply as you can get holiday vouchers and school gets extra money- which is what we use to pay for our support staff! Please pick up a form from a member of staff if you think this applies to you and we will send you a link. Applying is very simple.
- All meals are made fresh on site. As the kitchen is run by the school and not a contracted company, we are able to be inclusive to all children, especially those with allergies and intolerances.
- Sauces are made from scratch to reduce sugar and salt content and increase vegetable intake.
- The menu for each term can be found on the school website.
- If you want your child to have packed lunch, it needs to contain healthy options and no product to contain nuts.

## **Free School Milk**

- All children under the age of five are eligible to have free milk. The school will apply for this on your behalf
- When your child reaches their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday the free milk will stop.
- You will have to fill out a form and pay or claim if you are entitled to the free school meals as above.

## **Allergies and Medication**

Staff can only administer prescription medicines, which must be clearly labelled by the pharmacist. Please complete a form (Just ask the class teacher or at the office)

### **Breakfast Club**

To book a place at our Breakfast Club please email [bc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:bc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk) or speak to Mrs Howland and make payment via Parent Pay.

- 7.30am - 8.45am - £3.00
- 8.00am - 8.45am - £2.00

### **After School Club**

To book a place at our After School Club please email [ASC@Fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:ASC@Fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk) or call 07534 211 198 and make payment via Parent Pay.

- £12.00 3:15-5.30pm. £60 per week
- £10.00 3:15-5.00pm. £50 per week
- £3.00 3:15-4.05pm. £15 per week.
- Late fines: £5.00 for every 15 minutes entered into from 5 or 6pm.

### **Weduc and Parent Pay payment**

Once your child has started you will receive a Weduc email, telling you how to download the app and sending you a code to set it up. **All communication from the school such as messages, emails, newsletters etc are sent via this app.**

School meals, After School Club and Breakfast Club will be via ParentPay, you will receive a code and information for setting up an account. ( These will be activated from the 1<sup>st</sup> September. )

### **Uniform**

Uniform can be purchased via [www.mapac.com](http://www.mapac.com)

Additionally, we also sell pre-loved uniform at various points throughout the year (Dates will be sent out via Weduc). Uniform can be bought from as little as 50p! Please make sure that you bring in a bag with spare clothes including underwear and socks. Also please bring in a pair of labelled wellies in a bag to go on their pegs for them to use in the garden areas everyday.

All uniform needs to be clearly labelled. Washable clothing labels can be bought from the school office for 20p per sheet.

### **School Street**

Fairchildes is located on a Healthy School Street. This means that anyone driving on the road during the hours of 8-9.30am and 2-4pm will be fined, unless they are exempt. Please see the school website for further details.

### **Communicating with School**

- You can speak to staff as you bring your child in or collect them each day
- You can send us a message via Weduc

If you need to speak with someone outside of this time, you can telephone 01689 842268 or you can email- see below

### **Email Addresses**

Co-head: Jane Byers and Mark Gyford:

[co-heads@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:co-heads@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Reception teachers: Rachel Bishop & Kasia Wiernek:

[reception@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:reception@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

School Office: Michelle Saunders:

[office@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:office@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Attendance- Danielle Dymott:

[attendance@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

SENCo: Jo Lillo:

[senco@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:senco@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Pastoral support: Anna Lacy, Nicky England, Jolene Gifford:

[mentors@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:mentors@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Safeguarding: Anna Lacy:

[safeguarding@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Medical and Health Care: Maureen Duffield:

[medical@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:medical@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Breakfast Club: Lorraine Howland:

[bc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:bc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

After School Club: Lorraine Howland and Mandy Newton:

[asc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:asc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

School Kitchen: Tracey Andrews:

[kitchen@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:kitchen@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk)

Communication Lead: Tina Wicker:

[twicker.306@lgflmail.org](mailto:twicker.306@lgflmail.org)