



St. Nicholas Church School
Kilmersdon Road
Radstock
BA3 3QH

Tel 01761 432101

May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

WELCOME TO ST NICHOLAS CHURCH SCHOOL

We are delighted that your child will be joining our school in September and warmly welcome you to our fantastic St Nicholas community.

Starting Reception is a huge milestone for both children and parents and at St Nicholas we aim to make this transition as smooth as possible. It is such a special time, a time for new experiences, new friends, and a step towards more independence for your child. We understand that this may be a bit daunting for all of you. However, your child is about to begin a very exciting journey and we are looking forward to getting to know all our new families and welcome the children into our school family.

TRANSITION

The aim of our transition programme is for all children to settle in well, embrace their new environment and to feel happy and secure at school. We want them to have the very best start to their school life. We will therefore be holding several sessions in the summer term to help your child settle into life at St Nicholas.

During these **Stay and Play** events, children will be able to explore our amazing EYFS environment and meet their teachers and make new friends. There will also be opportunities for the EYFS team to share information with you regarding starting school and most importantly answer any questions you may have. During our first Stay and Play session, everyone will be given a welcome pack containing all the information you need for your child starting school.

As part of our transition programme, we also offer several **lunch dates** for your child to attend, **home visits** and a **teddy bear's picnic** once they have completed their first week in school.

HOME VISITS

Home visits will take place on **Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th September**. This visit is so your child can meet their teacher and teaching assistant in their home environment where they feel most comfortable and confident. This will also give you a further opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

The attached poster gives details of these transition events.

STARTING DATES

The children will all start full-time on **Thursday 7th September**. We recognise that many will have been full-time at nursery and having taken this approach for several years we have found this to be the most successful transition to school for most children. The Reception day is very busy but during the first term we make sure there are plenty of opportunities for periods of rest.

However, at St Nicholas, we see you as the experts at knowing your child, so come September we are very flexible about settling so that everybody has the best start possible. If you do not feel that the full-time start will not work for your child, then please speak to their teacher and we can work out a more staggered settling period for them. All children will be expected to do full days from **Monday 25th September**.

CLASS TEACHER

There will be one class with Reception children in next year. This will be taught by **Mrs Warde**. Mrs Warde will visit your child at their pre-schools and nurseries during the summer term to gain an insight into your child, their interests, talents, and any other information that will support the transition to school. Mrs Warde will also visit your child during the home visits in September which take place in the days prior to them starting school. This is to ensure your child has the best start possible to St Nicholas Church School.

We look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lisa Warde
EYFS Lead

Mrs Kirsty Biss
Co Head of School

Mr Will Low
Co-Head of School