



RECEPTION BROCHURE

Welcome to St Joseph's!

School begins at 8.55am. Children should not arrive before 8.40am unless they are attending the breakfast club as supervision does not begin until this time. It is important that children are punctual, if they do arrive late, they must use the main entrance as all other doors will be locked. Parents are respectfully asked to wait outside to ease congestion in the corridors and ensure our children's safety.

If your child is unable to attend school we must know the reason why, as

this has to be recorded in the register. Please either telephone or email the school and give your child a letter of explanation to hand to the teacher when he / she returns. If your child has to be taken out of school for an appointment please inform the Headteacher beforehand. When you come to collect your child for the appointment, please inform the Head teacher (who must know who is in or out of school at all times to comply with fire regulations).

A minibus provided by Durham County Council runs from Bowburn, Shincliffe, Sherburn and Sherburn Hill to St Joseph's. Children are not guaranteed a place but can apply for a seat. The cost of which will be announced. The bus leaves Bowburn at 8.30am and returns at 3.40pm.

Parents collecting children should wait inside the school gates. If you travel by car please remember it is illegal to park on the yellow zig zag lines. You are welcome to use the church car park.

School Uniform Price List

- *Sweatshirt - £9.50
- *Sweat cardigan - £ 11.00
- *Gold & White Polo - £8.50
- *Storm proof coat - £18.00
- *Full P E Kit & Bag - £11.00
- *Coloured PE T-Shirt - £5.50
- *Navy Shorts - £4.75



Uniform

Please label all your child's clothing and shoes clearly. Children will need a P.E. bag containing shorts, tee shirt and black gym shoes. They will also need an outdoor P.E. kit as, weather permitting, some P.E.

lessons take place outdoors. For outdoor P.E. the children will need jogging bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers.



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Breakfast Club, School Meals and After School Provision

Our breakfast club runs from 8.00am every morning. Children can attend everyday or just occasionally. A healthy breakfast of cereal, toast with various spreads and fruit juice is provided. There are lots of toys and games. Breakfast Club costs 50p per day which can be paid daily or weekly.

The majority of children stay in school during the lunchtime break and have either a cooked school dinner or bring a healthy packed lunch. School dinners

are currently free for children in their first 3 years at school.

Taylor Shaw Catering provides a well balanced and varied choice of meals which are cooked on the premises.

After school childcare is provided at our Tea time club which runs every Day from 3.30 -5.30. This costs £2.50 per hour or part of an hour and includes a snack and a drink. Children

can attend regularly or just occasionally and no advance booking is required—just call us if you would like your child to stay. Bills are sent out monthly. We also offer a variety of after school clubs. Some clubs run throughout the year while others change with the seasons or the availability of club leaders. Most clubs cost £1 per child per session. Most clubs are held from 3.20- 4.20pm

Parent Consultations, Credit Union and Library Books

During each school year we hold parent consultations when parents are warmly invited to come and talk about as well as see what has been going on in the school. You will be able to look at your child's work and discuss his / her progress with the class teacher and head teacher.

The Credit Union savings scheme is operated on a Thursday. This is a good way for your child to save money for holidays and special occasions A child can pay in as little money as desired.

We operate a school library every week. Children are encouraged to choose two books which they will take home to read with parents.

These should be returned the following week.



Helping your child at home

Do not underestimate yourself and your ability. Parents are the first educators of their children. Education begins and continues at home, the child who gets the most support at home is likely to get the most out of school.

1. Talk to your child as much as possible, listen to what he / she has to say. Include your child in conversation.
2. Do not use "baby talk", give everything it's correct name and help your child with his / her pronunciation.

3. Use new and different words in a way your child will understand—this will encourage a good vocabulary.
4. Give time to read to your child every day. You read the story. Indicate left to right movement using your finger. Allow your child to enjoy the story books.
5. Encourage your child to draw and write. Do not use capital letters except for the first letter of a name.
6. Conversation is a skill—it does not come naturally. Conversation is vital not only to reading and writing but to your child's complete learning so talk, talk and discuss holidays, trips, shopping, the reason for doing things.



Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Encourage your child to be observant and to use his / her senses. How do things feel, smell and taste etc.

1. Talk about materials things are made of e.g. paper, wood, plastic.
2. Talk about the weather and how it rains.



3. Talk about the things we need to use electricity.
4. Talk about how important food is and a healthy diet.
5. Talk about forces the things we push and pull.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

You are probably helping your child already for maths without realising it. Here are some activities you can do with your child.

1. **Laying the table**—counting how many forks. Have we enough plates? How many more do we need?
2. **Shopping**—handling money, sorting coins into 1p, 2p etc.

3. **Sorting washing**—light / dark clothes, Mum's / Dad's clothes etc... the more often he / she plays sorting games the more observant he / she will become.

4. **Dressing / undressing**—what goes first? Last? Why? What goes on over your head? How many buttons? Long or short sleeves?

5. **Cooking**—wet / dry ingredients. What do we have more of flour or sugar? Liquids, solids, spoonful, cupfuls etc.

6. **Water play in the bath**—floating, sinking, which holds the most / least?

7. **Tidying up toys**—fitting things into correct size and shape boxes.

8. **Shapes**—looking around us at signs, windows and wheels.

The Reading Scheme

Read, Write inc. is the phonics programme used within school. It starts by teaching "pure sounds", this means that instead of teaching B as "Buh", the teacher says "b" without the "uh", just sounding the explosive sound. So when they learn to put the sounds together to make a word, they say "b" "a" "t" instead of "BUT" "AH" "TUH" (as BUHAHTUH doesn't sound like BAT!)

Your child will be bringing a storybook home for you to read together. Here is what to do:

- Choose a quiet time to share a story.
- Look at the cover. Talk about what the story might be about.
- Look at the pictures in the storybook. Talk about them and tell the story together.
- If the storybook has sentences on the page, ask the child to point at the words as he / she reads them.
- Ask the child questions at the end of the story to check their comprehension.

We would be most grateful if all parents could write down in their child's reading record book the pages which they have read. Could you please also add a short comment about your child's reading and initial it.

Examples of comments you may make are:

- Is able to tell the story accurately in their own words;
- has used knowledge of key words when using this book;
- Found some parts of this book difficult because ...

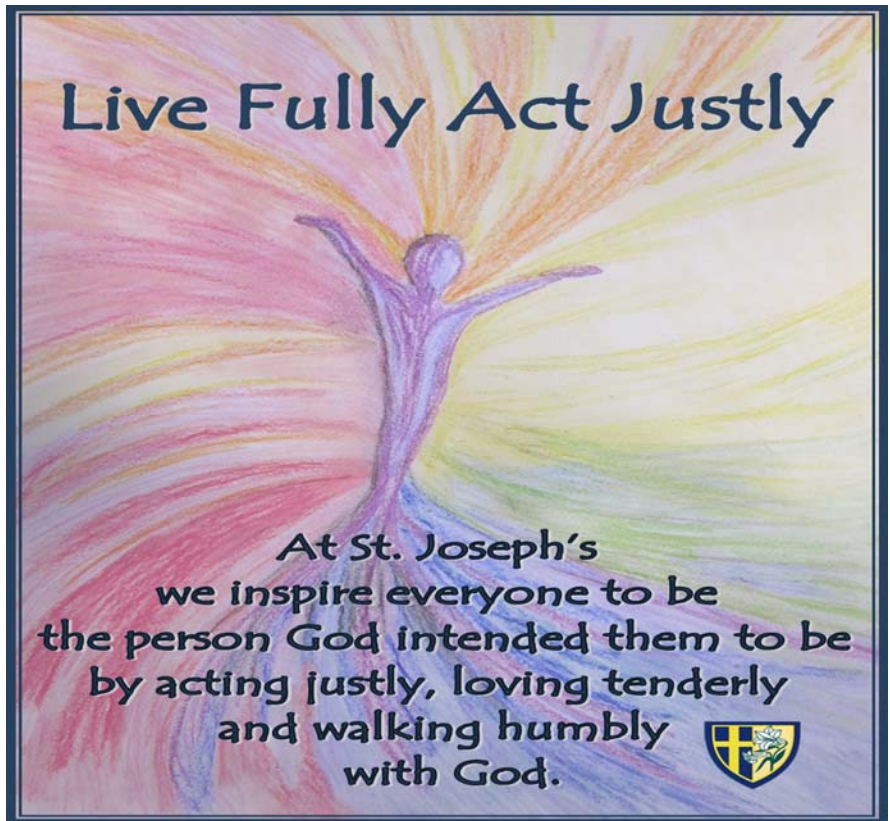
In addition to this, the children will bring home vocabulary cards, to help your child to learn words.



St Joseph's R.C. V.A.
Primary School

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MILK & FRUIT

Milk is available in school every day. It is free for all children until their fifth birthday. After children are 5 it continues to be free for those who are entitled to free school meals and costs about 6p for a third of a pint for other children.

The milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk at School. You can register your child:

- online at their website (link above) which also accepts credit card payments our school number which you will need to register is 800.
- download a form on the school website and return it by post to 'Cool milk at school Ltd, Freepost NEA4852, Lincoln, LN3 5BR. The Freepost address means you don't need a stamp.
- collect a form from the office and return it for us to post for you.

When Cool milk receive the posted forms you will be sent an invoice and details of how to pay. Your child will only begin to receive milk when your payment has been received. No money for milk should be sent to school.

Fresh fruit is available every day for all children in Key Stage 1—this is paid for by the Government.

The fruits normally provided are apple, pears, bananas, satsumas, carrots, and tomatoes. Occasionally there are strawberries in the summer.

