

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

School Starter Pack



Learn well - Have Fun - Be Safe



Welcome to School



Every day is filled with fun and excitement in EYFS!

We are delighted that your child is joining us and hope they will enjoy their time here at Alford Primary School. We are a thriving school community where high aspirations and a caring family ethos are at the heart of what we do.

At Alford Primary School we pride ourselves on our proven ability to ensure all our children are happy, safe and reach their individual potential. We understand new beginnings, such as starting school is a big step for both you and your child. We are committed to doing everything we can to ensure that children settle into their new surroundings easily and happily.

Please take time to read through this pack as it contains a great deal of information to assist with the transition process.

At Alford Primary School, children in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follow the

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. The Early Years curriculum is grounded in active learning.

More information about our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is available on the DfE website:

www.education.gov.uk/publications



Yours sincerely

Mrs V. Ross

Mrs V Ross
Headteacher

Meet The Team



Mrs Hales - Miss Newton
EYFS
Teaching Assistant EYFS Team Leader + Teacher

Mrs Allen - Miss Hydes
EYFS
Teaching Assistant EYFS Teacher

In our EYFS the Ladybirds and Butterflies all work together and have free access to all of the classroom areas throughout the day. We also have a large secure outside area which we are able to enjoy all year round.

We offer a safe, caring, stimulating and happy learning environment full of wonder and excitement , where children are given sense of belonging and a love of learning. Learning is made fun and practical. Children will have opportunities to work in large and small groups with a key person, as well as being able to access a range of resources independently.

We have high ambitions for all our children and recognise that children have different starting points to their learning. We plan according to children's stage of development so all children thrive and develop. We aim for children to be well-rounded individuals who are independent, resilient and confident in themselves and with others.

We will use our communication tool 'Parent Hub' to keep you up to date with what's going on at school. Meanwhile, if you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact our EYFS Team Leader via email EYFS@alford.lincs.sch.uk

"My Promise To You"

I promise you every day your child will learn something.

Some days they will bring it home in their
HANDS.

Some days they will bring it home in their
HEADS,
and some days they will bring it home in their
HEARTS.

By Valerie Welk

Our School Day



TELL ME AND I
FORGET.
TEACH ME AND I
REMEMBER.
INVOLVE ME AND I
LEARN.
By Benjamin Franklin

Learn Well, Have Fun, Be Safe

Autumn Term Starts on
Thursday 3rd September

The door will be open from **8.50am**

Learning begins at **9.00am**

EYFS children finish at **3.15pm**

(Term dates available on our school website)



Autumn Term

During the Autumn Term you will be invited into school for an individual chat with your child's class teacher. This will give you an opportunity to find out more about how your child will be learning and also to talk about how your child is settling in. More information will be available in September.

Lunchtime

In EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, your child's hot lunch is funded as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme. John Spendliffe canteen cook our school lunches each day and you will be able to pick from a choice of two hot lunches and 2 dessert options each day. Your child can bring a packed lunch if you prefer this option.

Wrap Around Care



"There are lots of different things to choose from!

My favourite cereal is cheerios" - Liam Y6

Breakfast Club

Why not join our Breakfast Club for a great start to the school day? We offer a variety of nutritious breakfasts, including a choice of cereals, toast, fruit and yoghurts, available daily, and a cooked breakfast option that varies daily. Your child will be supervised by members of our staff and escorted to school in time for registration. Our Breakfast Club is open from 7:45am every day, in term time only. This a pre-book and pay in advance service which is split into two sessions; the first session is for if your child attends from 7:45am and costs just £2. The second session is for if your child attends from 8:15am, which only costs £1. Booking forms are available from the office to fill out and return.

After School Club

We are pleased to offer after-school provision from 3:15pm - 5:30pm at a cost of £5 per session. There are a maximum number of 20 places available. Two teaching assistants will run each session overseen by Senior Management.

The sessions are held in the mobile classroom and a snack and drink is provided. However, children are welcome to bring their own snack. Children will also have access to the school hall and the outdoor area. If you would like your child to attend this provision, please enquire with the school office as to availability and to complete a permission slip. It runs on a first come first served basis, sometimes last minute places are available.

Walking Bus

The walking bus service allows you to "drop and go" in the car park. Your children will meet Mrs Teanby at the car park gates of the school car park at 8:35am.

They will be registered and walk up at 8:45am to be in the playground for 8:50am ready for school.

Mrs Teanby is happy to pass on messages and any dinner money.



Preparing for the Big Day

A child's first day at school
is a day to remember
for the rest of their life.

Uniform

Your child will need to wear:

- a maroon jumper or cardigan;
- a blue or white shirt, blouse or polo shirt;
- black or grey trousers, skirt or dress;
- black, grey or white socks or tights;
- sensible low heel school shoes, no trainers please.

School logoed jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts are available to pre order directly from school.

Please be aware that jewellery should not be worn other than if children have pierced ears. In this circumstance, studs are allowed. Nail varnish should not be worn.

Your child will also need a:

a PE bag containing black shorts only. Your child will require a coloured PE t-shirt to represent their House Team in the Autumn Term. We do PE in bare feet so no plimsoles / trainers are needed initially.

- bag containing a set of spare clothes to be kept in school on his/her peg;
- pair of wellies, which need to stay at school all year;
- warm waterproof coat with a hood.

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name – including shoes.

We will provide your child with a school book bag once they have started.

A huge part of our EYFS curriculum is learning outside. We do this in all weathers: come rain or shine!

At home you can help your child by...

- ensuring he/she can use the toilet properly and flush it. We expect all children to be toilet trained before they start school and to be able to manage their own personal hygiene. This means not only being out of nappies, but also being able to use the toilet independently.
- encouraging your child to dress and undress themselves. Please send your child to school in clothes that they can undo or do up by themselves. Shoes with velcro straps are ideal.

When talking to your child about school and their new teachers, please pass on positive feelings about your child starting school, even though you may be feeling anxious yourself



Tapestry Learning Journal



Learn Well, Have Fun, Be Safe

Tapestry Online Learning Journal

If your child attended a nursery or pre-school then you will be familiar with the special book that celebrated your child's learning experiences during their time at the setting.

At Alford Primary School we create individual learning journals for each child using our online learning journal program called Tapestry. These record your child's achievements and progress.

You will be able to view and contribute to your child's special Learning Journal through a unique password that we will create for you. You will then be able to freely access all of the lovely photographs, videos and quotes showing your child learning through play.

Your child's special Learning Journal builds the story of all of the things that your child can do and is learning to do during their time with us in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We will hold Parent Workshops early in the Autumn Term to demonstrate how to use Tapestry at home.

'Tapestry gives me a real insight into my child's learning at school.' Parent



'A caring atmosphere where staff nurture every child academically and emotionally.' Parent

Additional Information

The door will be open at
8.50am
Learning begins at
9.00am
School finishes at
3.15pm.

Please make sure that your child arrives for the start of the school day and that you pick them up promptly at 3.15pm. Missing the start of the session can unsettle your child and being late to pick them up is likely to make them anxious.

Our first priority is the safety of your child. As an extra safeguarding measure, if someone else is to collect your child from school, please tell us in advance, giving us a password that is also known by the person collecting your child.



ABSENCE

If your child is absent for any reason, please let the school know before 9.30am on that morning. You can do this via the absence module on the Parent Hub App or leaving a message on the school answerphone.

Please note that we have a **48-hour** policy for a bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

The law states that parents do not have the automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time. All schools have received clarification from the Department of Education about children taking holidays during term time. As of September 2013, **Headteachers are not able to authorise any holiday requests** during school time.

If for any reason you need to take your child out of school during term time then you will need to collect a leave of absence form, (at least 2 weeks prior to the date), from the office and return it completed. The Headteacher will then respond to you in writing about your request.

FIRST AID & INJURY

We have named members of staff who hold a Paediatric First Aid Certificate, and have received instruction specifically covering the administering of first aid to infants and children. You will be advised **by Parent Hub Message or phone call if your child has an accident at school.**



If your child has had a physical injury out of school, please see a member of the EYFS Team on arrival to school.

Keeping in Touch



Website:

www.alfordprimary.co.uk

Email:

primaryschool@alford.lincs.sch.uk

Telephone:

01507 463 414

Address:

Alford Primary School
Hanby Lane, Alford
Lincolnshire
LN13 9BJ

Headteacher:

Mrs Vicky Ross

Deputy Headteacher:

Mrs Lisa Button

EYFS Team Leader:

Miss Sarah Newton

Office Staff:

Miss Georgia Clark, Mrs Julie Dale
& Mrs Judy Pickwell

Clerk to Governors:

Mrs Catherine Murray

How we contact you:

It is really important to us at Alford Primary School that we have a good relationship with you and that good communication links are maintained. We use Parent Hub for all of our news sharing, regularly keeping you up to date with any school news and general reminders. Your class channel will also provide you with useful information and fun ideas of ways that you can support your child with their learning at home. We also post to our twitter handle @alfordprimary if you wish to follow us.

Once we have your forms completed with contact details, we will be able to keep you updated with news and information straight to your smart phone or email address.