



**Seal CE Primary**  
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## **Year 1 Welcome Information**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope your child has had a positive start in Year 1 and is enjoying the transition into Key Stage 1. Below, I would like to outline the necessary information which you will need for this year of your child's education.

### **Expectations**

#### **Attendance**

Good school attendance is essential to achieving well at school. Any absence from school will disrupt your child's learning. It is important that this is minimised as much as realistically possible. Pupils with 100% attendance will be rewarded termly. Those pupils who have achieved 100% attendance across the whole school year will receive a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

#### **Punctuality**

It is vital that pupils arrive at school on time. When pupils are late to school, it can feel very unsettling for pupils as they walk into a classroom after their lesson has started. Pupils who miss the start of lessons, can miss vital content necessary to their learning. Pupils **must** be in school by 8:55am.

#### **Uniform**

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform daily. We believe that the children should all look smart and wear the same uniform. Uniform helps pupils to prepare for when they leave school and may have to dress smartly or wear a uniform. Uniforms can raise expectations of themselves; when dressed neatly, pupils tend to behave appropriately as they are taking pride in themselves. One of our core Christian values is community; wearing a uniform helps pupils gain a sense of belonging within a community with equality. Parents will receive a written notice of the incorrect item that the pupil was wearing and given a time period to correct it for any child not wearing the correct school uniform. If this has not been corrected within the stated timescale, parents will be asked to meet with the Head of School to discuss this further.

Please ensure that your child is wearing school uniform **as stated in our school uniform policy.**

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### Daily reading

Learning to read is crucial within Year 1. The more quickly children learn to read, the more they want to read and the more they understand; and the less they struggle with spelling, the more capacity they have for writing what they want to say. Reading is a gateway to learning **anything about everything**. It helps you discover new things and educate yourself in any area of life you are interested in. You can find a book on just about any subject you can imagine, dive in and start learning. In order for your child to progress with learning to read and become a fluent reader, which is required in order to access the curriculum by the end of Year 1/ beginning of Year 2, pupils must practise their reading **daily** at home. Each time a child gets their reading record signed, they will be awarded with a house point, which will contribute towards our rainbow award system; children who receive 400 house points by the end of the year will be awarded a Gold certificate and a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

### Homework

In Year 1, pupils will be expected to read daily, practise their mental maths daily, practise their weekly spellings at home and practise their mental arithmetic. They will also have a weekly quiz to complete which reinforces their prior learning. This homework will be set on Microsoft Teams each Friday and is due in the following Wednesday. If pupils fail to complete homework, parents will be invited into school for a meeting to discuss the reasons for this. Each time a child submits the correct homework, they will be awarded a house point. They may be awarded 2 house points for an exceptional piece of homework.

### Significant events

#### Key Stage 1 Nativity

In December, pupils in Years 1 and 2 will perform their Nativity in a theatre to give the pupils the musical theatre experience. On the day of the nativity, parents are asked to drop their child off to the theatre for rehearsals and parents are invited for the afternoon performance. There will be a subsequent letter providing further details. Any parental support with set and costumes would be greatly appreciated.

#### Phonics Screening Check

In June, pupils in Year 1 sit a statutory phonics screening check. Pupils will be given a list of words, some real and some non-real (alien) words to read. This check is conducted on a 1:1 basis with an adult who is familiar to the child, usually one of the Year 1 class teachers. The purpose of this check is to determine whether the pupils are able to phonetically decode words as a result of learning their phonics. At the end of the academic year, you will receive a report informing you of your child's phonics screening mark and whether they passed or failed the check. Throughout the year, graphemes (the way a sound is written) will be sent home, along with words to practise reading. It is essential that you practise these with your child, to give them every chance of success to pass their phonics screening check in order to be prepared for Year 2.

### Curriculum Information

In Year 1, pupils will have many exciting learning experiences. Some of which will include learning:

- How to select appropriate materials and combine those using textiles to create something purposeful.
- The geographical location of Seal Primary School in relation to their locality and go on to compare this to a contrasting locality. Pupils will also learn about the countries and some major cities which make up the United Kingdom.
- Basic hardware and software within ICT, along with how to use ICT safely.
- Where food comes from and about basic food hygiene.
- How to use scientific observation skills to make comparisons in order to understand seasonal changes.
- The human body, including the basic parts of the body and a variety of animals including their key features.
- Within farm education, pupils will be studying the chickens, gaining further hands on experience of this animal.
- What the 'past' means and study changes within their own life time. They will then go on to study a significant person from the past who has influenced and impacted society.
- How to colour mix, layer and blend paint.
- Key singing skills and about percussion and repeating sounds.
- Greetings from other modern foreign languages and learn numbers 1-10 in French.
- Ball skills, gymnastics, dance, netball, rounders and athletics.

In English and mathematics, pupils will learn a range of content including:

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- How to read texts consistent with their developing phonic knowledge fluently
- How to make plausible predictions using what has happened in the text
- How to infer a character's feelings
- Write coherent sentences which follow on from one another
- Use pre-cursive handwriting
- Use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks
- Count, read and write numbers to 100
- Read and interpret mathematical statements involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Represent and use addition and subtraction facts within 20
- Recognise, find and name one half and one quarter of an object, shape or quantity
- Recognise and know the value of different denominations of coins and notes
- Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour
- Recognise and name common 2D and 3D shapes

In addition, forest school will continue once a week.

We hope your child thoroughly enjoys their Year 1 learning experiences and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

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Best wishes,

Mrs Tamsin Jones

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