



Seaton Primary School

"Caring now, for the future of our community, those in need, our lifestyles, one another, our education and the future itself"

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Friday 3rd July 2020

To: Parents of children starting Seaton Primary School in September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you well.

Firstly, we would like to say a very warm welcome to Seaton Primary School! We are delighted that your child will be joining us in September and are looking forward to meeting them in person once we fully reopen.

We know that starting school is a big step in a young child's life and aim to make the transition into our Reception classes as smooth and supportive as possible. As some of you may know, we usually have a thorough transition process in place and would have met your child many times by now at our story time sessions. We have had to think very differently this year about how we will introduce ourselves and our school and how we are going to get to know a little bit more about you before meeting you in September. Unfortunately, in the interests of social distancing and isolation, we have not been able to arrange our usual July transition visits for your child. Neither is it possible for us to hold our 'Starting EYFS' meeting for parents. After receiving further guidance from the government yesterday, we are now able to secure our arrangements for September. We have outlined these arrangements below.

Transition Afternoons

We will now be holding our transition activities after the summer break and would like to invite your child to three play sessions as part of his/her introduction to Seaton Primary School. They will be able to meet **Miss Mabin** (Team Leader) and **Miss Sloan** (Reception Class Teachers) and **Mrs Wood** and **Mrs Trott** (Classroom Assistants). Your child will find out the name of their class teacher on **15th July 2020**, as well as be allocated a home visit time (more information about home visits is included below).

We have the following play sessions:

Wednesday 9th September, Thursday 10th September and Friday 11th September: Children to visit from 1:30pm – 3:00pm. All children are invited to come and meet the teachers and classroom assistants in the Reception playground. Parents are not expected to stay for this visit – you can come and collect your child at 3:00pm.

Home Visits

We believe very strongly in partnership with parents and so we operate a system of 'home visits'. This will involve your child's class teacher and classroom assistant coming to your house and spending 20 minutes chatting to you and your child about his/her interests and favourite toys/hobbies etc. It will also enable you to ask any questions about the first few weeks in school and discuss any worries you may have. We have found that



this really helps children to feel settled in school and helps us as teachers to form relationships with parents. We will be carrying out home visits all day on **Monday 7th** and **Tuesday 8th September**, as well as the morning of **Wednesday 9th** September. You will be sent your home visit time on 15th July 2020. Unfortunately, we cannot ask you to choose a time as we need to group the appointments so that those who live close to each other have their time slots one after another.

If future government guidelines prevent us from visiting you in your home, we will continue to carry out these meetings in school on the dates specified above.

Starting School

We offer single-point admission each year for all children born in the academic year and are sure that all children will settle quickly and move to full-time education at the earliest opportunity. However, a flexible approach is offered for the youngest children where this is needed, with an extended part-time basis. At the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year, the following dates will be offered:

***All children will start school on Monday 14th September 2020**

***Week beginning 14th September: all children attend for the morning session and stay for lunch (8:55am – 1:30pm)**

***Week beginning 21st September: children move to full-time education (8:55am – 3:15pm)**

We would hope that all children are able to move to **full-time on the 21st September**. However, for summer born children there is an option to continue on a part-time basis until the October half term holiday, after consultation with the class teacher and the head of school.

The part-time option would be on the following basis:

Weeks beginning 21st September, 28th September, 5th October, 12th October and 19th October:

Full-time Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (8:55am – 3:15pm) and part-time on Monday and Friday (8:55am – 12pm)

Week beginning 2nd November: All children in school on a full time basis (8:55am – 3:15pm)

Evidence Me

During school closures, we have been busy creating accounts for all of the new children on our new online learning journey software Evidence Me. We are aiming to use this to aid transition and get to know you over the coming weeks. It will then also be used to share some of your child's learning with you virtually once he/she starts attending school. You should receive an email very soon inviting you to join this app (also available as a website). We will be sharing videos of the Reception teachers and teaching assistants reading stories and, in the future, we will be able to give you some short video tours of our classrooms and the school. The Evidence Me app will also allow you to share your own videos or photos so that we can get to know you and your family a little better during July and August, as well as throughout their time in Reception.

We are also currently busy creating a page for new parents on our website. We will be populating this with all of the information we would usually hand out to you during our parent presentation. A link to this page will be sent out to you soon, so please keep an eye on your emails to ensure that you do not miss this.

We are very much looking forward to meeting you in September and wish you the best for the rest of your summer.

Kind regards,

Miss Mabin (Reception Leader and Teacher)

Miss Sloan (Reception Teacher)

Mrs Wood (Miss Mabin's Classroom Assistant)

Mrs Trott (Miss Sloan's Classroom Assistant)

