

Welcome to

# Tadley Community Primary School

Year R  
Information for Parents  
2025 - 2026



**Tadley Primary School**  
*learning for life*



**Tadley Primary School**  
*Learning for Life*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Tadley School family! We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child and hope you will enjoy being part of our warm and friendly community.

We are passionate about equipping your child with the personal characteristics and educational outcomes for their successful futures. Our vision is to develop your child's active curiosity of their world around them, discover and celebrate their interests and talents and to help them grow in confidence. We aim to provide children with an irresistible invitation to learn through our knowledge-rich and diverse curriculum: Learning for Life - the Tadley Way.

This booklet aims to provide you with a range of useful information about the Early Years department including:

- starting school
- the Early Years curriculum
- how learning is organised
- the school day
- school staff
- how you can help your child
- what your child will need

Every child and adult in our school community are important and special to us and we want to build strong relationships with every family. We know that working together for the best for your child is vital to their success and we hope you will play an active role in your child's education with us.

We look forward to working closely with you in the months and years ahead. Our door is always open, and we are always happy to answer your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries, no matter how small.

Amelia Mohain  
Acting Head Teacher

**Meet the Staff**



Mrs Ebenezer  
Class Teacher 0.8  
(Tuesday – Friday)



Miss Royal  
Class Teacher 0.2  
(Monday)



Mrs Meakes  
LSA



Mrs Howells  
LSA

### Leadership Team



Mrs Bruce-Carter  
Head Teacher



Miss Mohain  
Deputy Head Teacher and SENCo

### Our Learning Areas

## The Classroom and Discovery Room

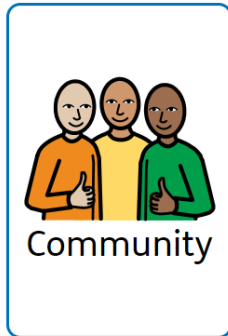
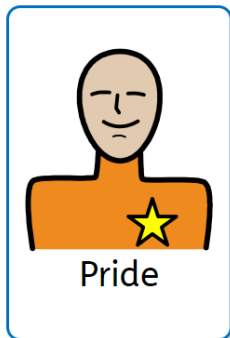


## The Courtyard Playground



## Our Vision and Values

At Tadley Community Primary School, we are passionate about equipping our children with the personal characteristics and educational outcomes for their successful futures.



Our vision for each child is to develop an active curiosity of their world, discover their own interests and talents, and grow in their own confidence and love of learning. We do this by providing children with an irresistible invitation to learn through our knowledge-rich and diverse curriculum – Learning for Life the Tadley Way which incorporates our four key values – Pride, Kindness, Diversity and Community.

It is important to us that we celebrate our differences, and we are a fully inclusive school – welcoming children and adults from all backgrounds, beliefs, cultures and circumstances. Every child and adult in our school community are important and special to us and we always prioritise building strong relationships with every family.

We want our children to develop the key skills to help them learn for life, and so have 6 learning behaviours which underpin our curriculum and help them develop the

skills needed for life-long learning, as well as the understanding of what that means. This helps our children learn how best to learn and our learning behaviours help with this.



## Getting Ready For School

Starting school is an important step for both you and your child. As teachers, our aim is to make this time as happy and reassuring as we can. We believe your child's first year with us is vital, as it will lay the important learning foundations for years to come.

You are the most important person in your child's life. Your interest, praise and encouragement will help them to grow in confidence and therefore learn successfully.

We want to work in partnership with parents, to give your child the very best start in school.

Please talk to your child about starting school and begin to prepare them by, for example, giving them the opportunity to wear their school uniform and walking past the school.

The early years at home are those in which a child learns more than at any other time in his or her life. It would be helpful if when your child starts school that he/she could do some of these things:

- Go to the toilet unaided
- Wash and dry their hands
- Get dressed and undressed
- Do up their shoes
- Put on and take off their coat
- Open and close their lunchbox
- Use a knife, fork and spoon



## How Can I Help?

This section has been written to give you more general ideas on how you can help prepare your child for starting school. You may already use many of the ideas suggested or have ideas of your own.

- Encourage your child to discuss what they are doing or what they have done.
- Play make believe games in which you can act out different roles.
- Read and share books with your child and encourage them to handle books correctly.
- Tell them traditional fairy tales and sing nursery rhymes together.
- Find opportunities to practise counting. Sing number rhymes together.
- Discuss the colour of objects.
- Play games involving memory, matching or finding the odd one out.
- Give your child the opportunity to use scissors, glue, pencils, etc.
- Help them to make friends and become more independent.
- Most importantly – give them confidence! School is great fun and we are sure they will enjoy it!



## The School Day



We know it can be hard to say goodbye to your child, especially on the first day. We ask parents to say goodbye at the school door where we have many adults that can greet your child and support their transition into their classroom.

Children may arrive at school between 8:40am and 8:50am each day. All children should arrive by this time but if they are late they must report to the school office before going to their classroom.

In Year R we endorse coming to school on time, which will ensure that no activities are missed. It will also establish a routine for your child's school life.

School finishes at 3:20pm when your child can be collected outside the classroom door.

### **Illness**

If your child is ill or has an appointment on a school day, please ring the office by 9:30am to notify us of your child's absence. In the case of sickness or diarrhoea, the child needs to stay at home for 48 hours after the last symptoms have been seen. Any further questions on health please speak to the school office.

### **Medicines**

Should your child require to take prescribed medication during the school day you **must** complete an Administration of Medicines form that can be obtained from the school office. All medicines must be handed in to the school office at the beginning of the day and collected from there at the end of the day.

### **Health Questionnaire**

This will be sent home and needs to be completed and returned to school as soon as possible so that we are fully informed of any medical conditions that your child may have. The questionnaire will be sent home annually but should there be any changes to your child's health, it is your responsibility to notify the school.



### **Snack**

In Year R your child is entitled to free milk for snack time up until the day of their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. After this, you will need to contact the office to arrange payment should you wish your child to continue drinking milk. They are also entitled to a free piece of fruit or vegetable (carrots, tomatoes, pears, apples, satsumas, bananas) as part of a government run scheme. The children are given this at snack time so they will not need to bring a snack from home. However, if you know your child may not eat the snacks available in school, then please do provide them with a healthy alternative. You will have completed a food allergy form before your child starts school but if this changes, please inform the school as soon as possible.

Water Bottles – all children will require a water bottle when they start school. These need to be in school every day.

## **Packed Lunch or School Dinners**

All children are entitled to a free school dinner until the end of Year Two. When your child begins to stay for lunch they will either need a packed lunch in a labelled box or to choose the school dinner option. There are a number of different options for your child to choose from and menus will be sent home so that you can discuss these choices together. You can also access the menus on the following website;

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hc3s/education-catering/primary>



## **What Will My Child Need?**

When your child starts school, they will need;

- a blue book bag
- a water bottle

These are all available from SkoolKit in Basingstoke.

## **School Uniform**

### **Daily Wear for All Children:**

- Blue polo-shirt with collar – plain or with the Tadley School Logo
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan – plain or with the Tadley School Logo
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Grey skirt or pinafore
- Light blue and white checked dresses may be worn in warm weather
- Strong sensible plain black school shoes or black trainers

**P.E. Kit:**

- T-shirt in house team colours – plain or with the Tadley School logo
- Navy shorts
- Black plimsolls/Trainers
- Children may wear plain, dark tracksuits/leggings during the cold winter weather.
- Children should wear PE kits to school on their PE day.

The navy sweatshirts, cardigans and coloured PE shirts with the Tadley logo on, are all available from the school office (limited stock) or from 'Skool Kit' in Basingstoke.

**Footwear:**

The school is a working environment and the style of shoes worn must reflect this:

- No platform soles, wedges or high heels are allowed
- Trainers should be black. Any designer logos must be small and discrete
- Plain black leather boots with no heel are permitted – soft fashion boots are not allowed
- Open toe sandals, sports sandals or rubber shoes are not permitted
- Plimsolls may only be worn for PE.

**Socks/Tights:**

Children should wear plain socks or tights that are dark coloured or white.

**Hair:**

Hair should be kept clean and tidy.

All children are requested to tie hair back where it is long enough to do so for PE.

Where hair is shaved it must not be lower than a grade 2.

No extreme hairstyles or coloured dye e.g. blue/pink.

**Outdoor Jackets:**

It is also highly advisable that coats are waterproof as the children often go out to play in inclement conditions. Any form of hooded sweatshirt, zipped or otherwise, is not a suitable alternative to a coat and should not be worn.

**Jewellery**

Jewellery regulations are strict for obvious safety reasons.

The only jewellery permitted in school is:

- a watch – smartwatches are not suitable for school.
- one small ear-ring stud per ear if their ears are pierced.
- small objects of religious significance (with prior written permission from Headteacher).

On health and safety grounds no other jewellery is permitted. This includes wristbands. We ask the children to either remove watches/earrings during PE and games or if ears are newly pierced and earrings cannot be removed, they may be covered with a plaster or tape to prevent them from causing injury. Parents are requested to provide suitable plasters/tape where relevant.

Children are responsible for jewellery worn to school, including watches.

Nail varnish and any other form of make-up are not permitted.

**Bags:**

Tadley School Bags are available from Skool Kit in Basingstoke.

**Water Bottles:**

Children should bring a named water bottle to school each day.

**Please ensure that all items are clearly named so that they can be returned to their owner should they be mislaid.**



## **The Year R Curriculum**

Children in the first year at school follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The curriculum is planned to underpin all future learning by supporting, fostering, promoting and developing the following areas;

### **Prime Areas of Learning**

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Your child will be given the opportunity to become a valued member of a group, develop a strong self-image as well as build upon self-esteem. Opportunities are provided for them to work cooperatively and to develop sharing and turn taking skills.

#### **Communication and Language**

We will be encouraging confidence in speaking in different contexts. Opportunities will be provided for your child to explore, enjoy and learn about new words through a range of rich and exciting experiences.

## **Physical Development**

Through a range of different activities, your child will be given the opportunity to develop their fine and gross motor skills and develop an understanding of how their bodies work.

## **Specific Areas of Learning**

### **Mathematics**

Through a range of daily opportunities, your child will explore numbers, shapes and measure through rhymes, counting and practical activities.

### **Literacy**

Children will explore a variety of mark making experiences before beginning to write short sentences and captions. They will explore a range of books, rhymes and complete daily phonic activities using the Little Wandle Phonics Scheme.

### **Knowledge of the World**

Children will be given the opportunity to consider the world around them, communities, other cultures as well as technology.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Creative development is fostered through dance, music, art and practical activities.

We promote a play-based curriculum throughout the year. This is carefully planned and structured and provides opportunities for teaching and learning in all curriculum areas.

Early Years' experience should build upon what the child already knows; the content will be relevant and appropriate, matched to different levels of the children. Literacy and Numeracy activities take place daily through a range of practical and hands on experiences.





## **Parent Meetings**

We hold parent meetings in the Autumn term and the Spring term so we can discuss how your child is progressing. At the end of the Summer Term, you will receive a written report of your child's achievements over the academic year. Should you have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher who will be happy to make an appointment with you.



## **How Can I Help With Reading, Writing and Numeracy?**

### **Reading**

At Tadley School we teach reading with a variety of approaches. We use a Systematic Synthetic Phonics teaching program called 'Little Wandle' and Cued Articulation to teach reading. Further information about this approach will be sent home in September.

## Writing

When writing with your child, encourage them to write using whichever hand they prefer. It is also important to allow the children to use emergent writing which may look like a scribble or joined up patterns to adults. This is a vital stage of learning the writing process. Please value this effort with your children and only write on their work if they want you to. Let them see that you enjoy writing e.g. lists, letters, notes and tell them what the words say.

## Numeracy

The best way for children to learn number recognition is through practising this in your local environment and encouraging them to identify numbers around them. This can also support their shape and pattern knowledge. Singing songs and rhymes that involve counting and simple addition and subtraction are also great ways that you can help your child's numeracy development.

## Homework

We know many parents wish to carry on the good work your child does at school and provide activities to be done at home as a way of involving you more in your child's development and learning. It is important to refrain from comparing your child with another because s/he is unique and will learn differently.

At this stage in your child's education, we aim for homework to be a short fun task. The children will start to bring homework home once they have settled into the school routine. Initially, the children will bring home phonic sounds each week to consolidate the sounds we are learning in school. They will also bring home a reading book to share with you. Throughout the year we may send home other resources or activities that you can use to support your child's learning.

Give your child the three Es:

- Encouragement – encouraging and praising your child gives him/her confidence
- Example – the best teachers are those who inspire by example - your example is the most powerful of all
- Environment – provide an enabling environment in which learning can thrive

We hope you have found this booklet useful and look forward to welcoming you in September.





**For more information, please contact us:**

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