



Parbold Douglas

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

CLASS INFORMATION LETTER: Reception 2025/26

Dear Parents and Friends,

It is our absolute pleasure to welcome Reception to their first year at PDA. We are looking forward to a wonderful year together and are excited to work in partnership with you to support your child. Below, you will find some helpful information to guide you as we begin this important year.

The Reception team

The teaching team in Reception consists of Miss Anna Crompton, Miss Carol Mawdsley and Miss Kelly Birch.

Our school day

School begins at **8:55am** for all pupils – **please ensure children are consistently punctual so that learning is not missed**. Our classroom door will open from 8:45am where Miss Crompton, Miss Mawdsley and Miss Birch will welcome your children in.

We begin each day with a starter activity on the carpet consisting of various fun challenges, followed by our word of the day and our number of the day.

School ends at **3.20pm**.

Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is vital to securing the greatest possible personal development and academic progress for each child. **As we begin the new school year, we expect all families to be committed to excellent attendance.**

What to bring?

Each day, your child should bring a named water bottle, snack box (including fruit or vegetable) and, if needed, a packed lunch. Other items, such as reading books, will also be brought to school regularly. In winter, children will need additional items such as hats and gloves.

School 'book bags' are available from our uniform suppliers.

Spare clothes/Outdoor Clothing: In your child's book bag please make sure they have a spare set of underwear and socks. Please also make sure your child has a pair of wellies that can be kept in school. This will be used during our Forest school and during outdoor play.

PE days

Our PE days will take place on **Tuesdays**. On these days, pupils should attend school in PE uniform (in line with our policy) – other sports clothing is not uniform and should not be worn to school.

For more information about uniform, please see the school website (or the 'September 2025' information letter circulated at the beginning of the summer holidays).

We encourage children to avoid wearing earrings to school. Children who wear earrings must come into school wearing plasters to cover their earrings.

Homework

Homework is set on a Friday via Showbie. Homework must be completed by the start of the school day on the following Thursday. Homework is not set over school holiday periods. However, we encourage children to continue to read daily.

Each week, the homework expectation for pupils in Reception is daily reading. We ask parents and children to read together every day. This can be either sharing books or hearing children read (depending on children's ability and need). Your child's digital reading record should be updated regularly on Showbie to keep track of this – we suggest at least twice per week (prior to the weekly homework deadline on a Thursday). Our reading record videos are designed to provide inspiration: <https://www.pda.lancs.sch.uk/homework/>

Children may also be asked to practise phonic sounds or early number skills at home. This will be communicated via Showbie.

School reading books

Initially, children will bring home a lilac picture book where they can discuss the story and pictures with an adult. Once your child is confident in blending CVC words (such as CAT and DOG) they will then come home with a Red Ditty reading book. These books are **changed every Wednesday**.

Your child will also be sent home a green Phonics sound book. This includes all the different Phonics sounds we cover in Reception. You will be informed of the Phonics sound your child has learnt during the week via Showbie so they can be practiced at home. Your child will also be assigned an **Ebook** and a pairing quiz to complete on Oxford Owl **every Friday**.

Twitter

You can follow our learning journey as a class family via our Twitter page **@PDA_Rec**. Remember, you don't need to have a Twitter account to view our timeline. Just visit our page: https://twitter.com/PDA_Rec
If you are a Twitter user, be sure to 'follow' us.

Curriculum

The Reception curriculum map is available on the school website: <https://www.pda.lancs.sch.uk/reception/>
We encourage you to refer to the curriculum map so you can talk to your child about their learning.

Communication

We greatly value the relationship we have with you and are usually available at the beginning or end of each day if you wish to speak with us. Please also feel free to email Miss Crompton directly: a.crompton@pda.lancs.sch.uk. We will respond, during the school week, by email or phone (or will speak to you at collection / drop-off if appropriate). **For more urgent messages during the school day, please email or phone the school office** (e.g. if arrangements have changed in relation to who is collecting your child at home time).

Diary dates

Please refer to the calendar on the school website (and the monthly newsletters) for up-to-date information about upcoming events.

Labelling items

Please ensure **all items** sent to school are clearly labelled. This significantly improves the likelihood of items returning to the correct child if they are lost or misplaced.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and the safety of children is our priority. Our partnership with you, as parents, is an essential aspect of this. If the school has a concern in relation to your child, we will contact you to discuss how we may be able to offer help and support. We strongly encourage you to communicate with us if you have any concerns regarding your children's welfare, including their mental health and emotional wellbeing. The school can often offer or signpost support. You can find more information on the safeguarding page on our website. The school also is part of Operation Encompass. This alerts the school to any domestic abuse/ violence within the home to help support both the parents and the children. More information on all the above can be found [HERE](#).

With best wishes,

Miss Crompton, Miss Mawdsley and Miss Birch.

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