

# Welcome to Reception Class 2020






**Appletree Gardens First School motto; “ENJOY, ACHIEVE, SUCCEED!” is at the heart of our Early Years ethos...**

Our dedicated team work enthusiastically to ensure all children **ENJOY** each and every day.

We are passionate about providing a rich and varied environment and curriculum to enable all children to **ACHIEVE** the very best they can.

We are committed to developing confident, successful learners who **SUCCEED** in everything they do.

## Reception Staff

<p><b>Class 1 Teacher - Mrs Emma Mitchell</b></p> 	<p>I have worked in Appletree for eight years and this will be my second year in Reception. I have a specialism in Early Years and am very passionate about providing an environment where children can learn, grow and achieve. Prior to teaching I was a Nursery Nurse working with children in early years and key stage one. My love of working in the classroom inspired me to go onto teaching and achieve my teaching degree. I live with my husband and two sons Charlie and Alfie. We often spend time on the beach, visiting national parks and finding new places to visit. We love going on adventures and exploring the great outdoors! I enjoy cooking, going on bike rides and I love to travel. My favourite destination was Jamaica.</p>
<p><b>Class 1 Teacher - Mrs Phillippa McAvelia</b></p> 	<p>I have worked at Appletree for 9 years after being lucky enough to land long term supply which led to a permanent role in school. This will be my second year in Reception but my twentieth working with young children. I qualified in my native Australia with a specialism in Early Childhood and have taught in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 in various settings. I love teaching young children as their outlook on the world is full of delight and curiosity and everyday is different. I live with my husband and two boys Joseph and Lewis, who keep me busy taxi-ing them between numerous sports and cheering on the side lines. In between that I love doing gym classes, laps of the pool, spending time on the beach and enjoying a nice coffee! I have lived in the UK for 19 years so you may hear an Aussie twang or odd word and I love to get home as often as I can to see my family .</p>
<p><b>Class 2 Teacher - Miss Connie Stamp</b></p> 	<p>I have worked at Appletree for fourteen years and during that time I have taught across all three key stages. This will be my fourth year back in Reception and I feel just as passionately about my job as I did when I first started. I have a specialism in Early Years and love the creative challenge of working with young children. I live locally with my partner, Mark, and our two children, William and Abi, who both attend Appletree Gardens and I can confidently say my first choice of school was an easy one. I enjoy spending time outdoors on the beach or going for long walks and adventures with my family and friends. I love curling up to read a good book, especially crime thrillers although I am passionate about reading story books to my class and I think story time is one of my favourite times of the day!</p>
<p><b>Reception TA - Miss Lauren Herriott</b></p> 	<p>I have worked at Appletree for five years now and have worked throughout the school, including; Little Pips (our two year old provision), Nursery, After School Club and in Year 1. I was lucky enough to start my teaching assistant journey here as a student and feel extremely privileged to now work at Appletree. In my spare time I enjoy being with my friends and family, going out for food and watching television. I especially like to go out for a good coffee - Cake Stories is my favourite place! I love Disney, especially Minnie and Mickey, and can't wait to go back to DisneyLand.</p>
<p><b>Reception TA - Mrs Catherine Costigan</b></p> 	<p>During my ten years at Appletree I have had a huge variety of roles throughout the school. I have supported teaching and learning, taught literacy and maths, and had an opportunity to develop my passion for teaching reading. This will be my second year in Reception and I love working with the younger children in the school. At home I live with my husband, our two teenagers and our two crazy dogs. When I am not out walking with the dogs or visiting friends you'll find me reading, watching comedy, cooking or maybe even gardening.</p>

## Information about Reception

### Organisation

The Foundation Stage at Appletree Gardens First School consists of our two year old provision - 'Little Pips'; our three year old provision; our school nursery and two reception classes. The Foundation Stage ends as the children leave Reception to go into Year 1 (Key Stage 1).

The Reception area consists of two separate classrooms (where the children are based), a shared learning area between the two main classrooms (where the children regularly work and play together) and a richly resourced and inviting outdoor area. Children have the opportunity to play and learn outdoors every day in their secure garden area where they can maintain contact with the Nursery staff and their friends.

The Reception classes and the Nursery share an entrance to the school grounds - Doors to Reception open at **8:55 am** and the school day begins. At the end of the day (**3.20pm**) parents should come to collect their child at the Reception door. The rest of the school finishes at 3.30pm which allows time for you to collect Reception children before any older siblings. Please tell your child who is picking them up each day and **please be on time as children can become distressed if they feel you are late.**

### Adventurous Playtimes supported by OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

Here at Appletree we work with an organisation called OPAL who have supported us over the past year to help improve playtimes for the whole school as we believe that play is essential for children's physical, emotional, social and intellectual development. Through our OPAL provision children have access to a wide range of open ended play resources to encourage them to develop their physical and critical thinking skills, imaginative play, teamwork and collaboration and support their mental well being. OPAL play is fun, adventurous, and allows children to take risks. OPAL playtimes happen whatever the weather and children need to be prepared for the ever changing British weather and the unparalleled fun that is splashing in muddy puddles with waterproof coats and wellies!

### Uniform

School uniform, PE kits and bags can all be purchased through **Emblematic** online. Please note that no Appletree Gardens school uniform will be sold at their shop in Benton.

You can order online at the following link:-

<https://studentuniform.co.uk/appletre177/>

- If you require your uniform order before the new September term, Emblematic recommends ordering before August 1st.
- To help comply with Government Guidance, the free "collect from school" option is currently unavailable.
- **NEW!! - Free Delivery to your home address if you order before the 1st July.**

We also keep a limited stock of uniform in the school office.

Please note that Emblematic now sell online a showerproof reversible fleece jacket for £14 and a storm-proof coat at £18. Both are great quality and offer fantastic value for money.

#### **Girls:**

- Black or Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers
- (Blue and White checked dress in Summer)
- Green polo shirt
- School navy sweatshirt or navy cardigan
- Flat heeled BLACK shoes and Wellies (to keep in school)
- White socks/grey or black tights

#### **Boys:**

- Black or Grey Trousers
- (Black or Grey Shorts in Summer)
- Green polo shirt
- School navy sweatshirt or round neck navy sweatshirt
- BLACK school shoes (not trainers) and Wellies (to keep in school)
- Grey or Black socks

**PE Uniform** - To be kept in school in a Green Drawstring Bag:

- Green drawstring bag
- Black sandshoes
- Black shorts
- Green embroidered Appletree round neck T-Shirt

#### **Shoes**

In Reception we spend a great deal of time outdoors 'whatever the weather' therefore it is essential that your child wears sensible footwear every day. Velcro is ideal as the children can manage it independently, no heels or wedges please. Each child should bring a pair of named Wellington boots to keep in school.

#### **Jewellery**

Although plain stud ear-rings may be worn (removed or covered on P.E. days), we would recommend against wearing them in Reception due to the physical nature of our daily routine. No other jewellery is allowed for health and safety reasons.

#### **Book Bags**

Each child should have a school book bag (£5) which they need to bring to school every day. This is used for their reading books, Reading Record and Home/School Diary but it is also useful for letters which are sent home. Please check it daily.

#### **Fruit**

We take part in the National Fruit Scheme and children are provided with a piece of fruit each day. Children are encouraged to try new fruits.

#### **Milk**

Free milk is provided for all children under the age of 5 (children must be registered by their parents). When your child turns 5, the cost of milk is then £15 per term (free for those eligible). Please visit the website [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) for more details and to register your child for milk in school.

### Water

Water bottles can be purchased from the school office (£1) and children are encouraged to bring in fresh water each day. **Bottles should contain fresh water only, not juice or flavoured water.**

### Lunch Time

Children in Reception eat their lunch in the first sitting each day, when the canteen is less crowded. Each class has a Lunchtime Supervisor who will help all children with the lunchtime routines. The Lunchtime Supervisors support the children in selecting and cutting up their food. The children who have school dinners are provided with water to drink. Children on packed lunches also eat in the canteen with their friends. Please send a child-sized portion of healthy food that the children can manage themselves. We monitor home packed lunches and request that **no nuts, sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks are included.**

All Reception children will receive a school lunch free of charge as part of the Government's Universal Free School Meals offer. We encourage all families who may be eligible for benefit based Free School Meals to apply and register. School receives additional funding for those children who qualify for this entitlement. Please go to [www.northtyneside.gov.uk/schoolmeals](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/schoolmeals) for more details and to register.

### Extra Curricular Activities

From the spring term onwards children in Reception have the opportunity to participate in school clubs (e.g. football, French, dodgeball, multi-skills), usually during lunchtimes.

### Attendance and Illness

We expect your child to attend school every day. However, if they are ill please do not bring them to school. This is to avoid the spread of infection. Sickness and/or diarrhoea need an absence of 24 hours from when the child was last ill. If your child becomes ill during a session parents will be requested to collect their child or a designated emergency contact will be made. When a child is absent please inform the school of the reason as soon as possible.

### Medication

Only prescribed medicines can be administered in school. All medicines must be handed over at the school office and a Medicines form completed by an adult. In most cases medicines can be given by parents before breakfast, after school and before bedtime. If it is deemed necessary to administer a medicine (including inhalers) in school it must be in the original, named container with the dosage clearly marked, handed into the school office and a form signed giving permission. Eye or ear drops are not allowed to be given by staff. Children are not allowed to suck cough sweets.

### Safeguarding and Child Protection

The safety and protection of children, staff, parents / carers and visitors to Appletree is paramount. Every adult in school and within our school community, has a duty of care to the children of Appletree. We have systems in place to protect our children and work closely with North Tyneside Children's Services 'Front Door'. We are also part of 'Operation Encompass' a national initiative to support children living in households with Domestic Abuse. If you have any queries or concerns about a child's welfare or safety do not hesitate to contact school or NT Front Door on 0345 2000 109.

# Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning. All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected and activities often cover more than one area of learning.

**Prime Areas:** These are crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive:

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** - Children develop self confidence, learn to respect themselves and others, and respond to expectations of behaviour. They develop positive relationships, sharing and taking turns and play cooperatively. They have confidence in their own abilities, develop resilience and determination to succeed.

**Communication and Language** - Involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

**Physical Development** - Children learn to move confidently in a range of ways. They begin to handle tools safely and effectively and develop a range of skills with pencils to write recognisable letters. They build with large and small blocks and use construction sets. They learn about how to keep healthy and active. They manage their own personal needs including hand washing, going to the toilet independently and dressing themselves.

**Specific Areas:** These are the areas through which the prime areas of learning are strengthened and applied. These are:

**Literacy** - Involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and developing the skills to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

**Mathematics** - Involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating (including; addition, subtraction, grouping and sharing) and to explore shape and measures (including: size, weight, capacity, time and money).

**Understanding the World** - The children explore different materials, and find out about different animals and plants. They give explanations about why things happen and how things work. They talk about their own families and explore the differences in communities and traditions. They learn about computers and a range of everyday technology.

**Expressive Arts and Design** - Children explore songs, music and musical instruments. They draw, paint and use many different types of media. They explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques. They enjoy drama, role-play and dance. They play cooperatively to develop and act out their own stories and imaginary worlds.