



Pilgrim Academy

Welcome to Early Years Foundation Stage





A Very Warm Welcome to you all...

Here at Pilgrim Academy, we work in partnership with parents and carers to encourage independent, happy learners who thrive in school and reach their full potential from their various starting points.

We hope that you and your child enjoy being in our Early Years Foundation Stage Unit as together we strive towards high standards in education.

The staff are here to help and guide the children during their time at Pilgrim Academy, not only in an academic sense but in areas of social development as well. Positive attitudes will be fostered within a caring and disciplined environment.

Our indoor and outdoor learning environments support children's individual learning needs, providing opportunities for children to achieve and reach their full potential in all seven areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum

In Early Years Foundation Stage, we focus on seven Areas of Learning. These include:

The Prime Areas of learning

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language Development
- Physical Development.

The Specific Areas of learning

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Art and Design





We have a child-centred curriculum based upon children's interests and topics.

Through active child-initiated learning we ensure the children are motivated and interested. We offer a range of stimulating and engaging activities which the children can access independently.

We reflect on the different ways children learn in our practice. All areas of the EYFS curriculum are followed and planned for to ensure there is a broad, balanced and progressive learning environment and curriculum.

The children will learn new skills, acquire knowledge and demonstrate understanding through planned daily activities allowing children to develop their next steps in learning.



Areas of need and next steps are identified for all children to ensure good progress is made.

Children in EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place in our indoors and outside environments.





Parents as partners



We understand the importance of having good partnerships between home and school, as you play a key role being your child's first educators.

Engaging in, and supporting the following, will help your child's learning in school.

- **Parent/carer craft workshops.**
- **Weekly reading bug club sessions for parent/carers**
- **Information workshops to support Bug Club Phonics, Maths and Literacy**
- **Opportunities to take part in class learning sessions**
- **Parents' evenings.**
- **Other occasions we will celebrate in class e.g. Christmas Plays, Easter Parades and End of Year Celebrations.**
- **Half-term challenges linked to the next term's learning.**





Tapestry



TAPESTRY
ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL



We use Tapestry to record children's learning journeys and achievements.

We communicate and encourage parents and carers to share special times and moments from home and these successes are celebrated in school.

Every term, we encourage children to further develop their understanding by setting them challenges through Tapestry. This also keeps parents updated on learning what is happening in Early Years.



Bug Club Phonics

Bug Club Phonics

We follow Bug Club Phonics for reading.

Children in Early Years have daily phonics sessions and activities to apply new knowledge and skills.



Mathematics



We work on providing children with a language rich environment and inspire a love of reading from their very first day in Early Years.

Books can be found in all areas of our classrooms and cosy and calm reading areas provide opportunities for children to read for pleasure during independent learning time.

Daily Maths sessions are taught with the emphasis on children having a greater depth in understanding numbers and patterns around them.

What will your child need for September?

- A warm waterproof coat - we play outside in all weathers!
- A book bag with names clearly written on it.



Full school uniform. Pilgrim Academy has a uniform policy.

This includes...

- Green sweatshirt with embroidered logo.
- Green cardigan with embroidered logo.
- White shirt or blouse, (no polo shirts from Reception Class upwards).
- Grey trousers or skirt.
- Sensible black shoes - no high heels or boots. Please see our school website for examples of suitable shoes for boys and girls.
- White, grey or black tights for girls.
- Grey or black socks for boys.





Our school day



At the start of the day, teachers will greet children at our Early Years doors at **8.45am** for both Nursery and Reception children.

Your child will come into the setting independently and will be supported in preparing for the day by our team.

Please be aware that our routine is subject to change

Timetable

Nursery

8.45am / 12.30pm Children are welcomed into school.

9.00am / 12.40pm Registration and Fine Motor Challenges

9.10am / 12.50pm Welcome time and Corefulness

9.20am / 1.00pm Bug Club Phonics

9.40am / 1.20pm Group time / Independent Learning Time inside and outside

10.50am / 2.50pm Snack / circle time

11.00am / 3.00pm Dough Disco / Rhyme/ Story Time

11.40am / 3.20pm Lunch time /Home Time

Reception

8.45am Children are welcomed into school

9.00am Registration and check in

9.10am Bug Club Phonics

9.30am Maths Session

10.15am Snack /circle time

10.30am Outside Learning

11.00am Literacy Session

11.50am Lunch

At the end of the day, you will collect your child from the same entrance at 3.30pm for both our Nursery and Reception children. Your child will be dismissed by a member of the team.

Please note we will be unable to release children if the person that is collecting is not on the collection list or you have not informed us prior to home time.



How can you help prepare your child for starting school?

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible right from the start. You can help us by:

- Allowing your child to practice getting dressed into their school uniform independently, taking on and off shoes and jumpers. This will really help with changing for PE in the Spring Term (PE kit is only needed for children in Reception Class).
- Encouraging your child to put on and fasten their own coats.
- If your child is going to have a packed lunch, ensure they can open the packets and wrappers.
- Sharing books and stories. Once in Reception, children are encouraged to read at home every night.
- Singing number rhymes and play counting games.
- Playing games to encourage your child to read and write their names.
- Playing turn taking games.
- Encouraging your child to tidy up what they have been playing with.



And finally, the Early Years Team are here to support and help you. Please do not hesitate to see us if you have any concerns or questions.

- Make sure your child is able to be as independent as possible when using the toilet.
- Reminding them to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating a meal.
- Encouraging children to use a knife and fork at meal times.





Play is the highest form of research

Albert Einstein



Pilgrim Academy

Pilgrim Academy Early
Years Team

Pilgrim Academy
Allerton Drive
Immingham
North East Lincolnshire
DN40 2HP

www.pilgrimacademy.co.uk

