



## **Year 2 Parent FAQs and answers concerning transition to Droxford Junior School 2020/2021**



These are frequently asked questions and their subsequent answers from parents/carers which we thought would be beneficial to you at this time. If you have a question which has not been answered below, please do not hesitate to call or email the school at [adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk) or 01489 877537.

### **How are classes organised at Droxford?**

We have three Year 3 and 4 classes which are made up of Droxford Base (Mr Lowndes), Hambledon Base (Miss Barnett) and Meonstoke Base (Miss Kirby). Class sizes are on average 30 children, and we split the Year 3's and 4's as equally as possible. We also take into account boys and girls, SEN and vulnerable children as well as siblings and friendships. Your child will be in this class for everything apart from maths. For maths, we split into 4 classes, two Year 4 classes and two Year 3 classes. This is because the maths curriculum can be quite different across the two year groups and it also makes for slightly smaller classes which is a bonus. The fourth maths class is taught in the ICT suite by Mrs Greenwood (SENCO) and Mr Todd (Year 5/6 teacher and Maths lead). Mr Dampier (HT) often helps 'cover' classes as he still loves teaching.

### **Will my child be put in the same class as their friends?**

To ensure that our Year 3 children are in the same class as someone that they know and get along with, we spend time with the linked infant schools, talking through each child including academic progress, social and emotional needs and friendships. As you can imagine, a lot of thought goes into class lists and we do try our best to ensure your child(ren) are with somebody that they are familiar with and work well alongside.

### **How will we find out our child(ren)'s base and class teacher?**

On the week beginning the 29<sup>th</sup> June, you will be contacted via email/letter by the school office. Videos of each of the Year 3 and 4 teachers have been uploaded onto the Year 2/3 transition tab of the website which you can share with your children to get to know the teachers more and have a look at their new classroom.

### **Where can I buy school uniform?**

Droxford school uniform can be purchased from the SkoolKit website. For more information, please see the Year 2/3 transition tab on the school website. To view the school uniform policy, click here: <http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/School-Uniform-Policy-Jan-2018.pdf>

### **What PE kit is required at Droxford Junior School?**

Children will need trainers for all PE lessons, black shorts or leggings (can wear tracksuit bottoms in the colder months), a blue Droxford PE top and they can also wear a sports jacket/hoodie. Children with ear piercings will need to either remove earrings or wear tape. Hair will need to be tied up and any other jewellery will need to be removed.

### **Will my child need to bring in a packed lunch?**

Children can choose between packed lunch and school dinners. School dinners are provided by Hampshire School Caterers and children can choose from a meat, vegetarian or jacket potato option which is on a 3-week rolling menu. This will be emailed to you as well as a paper copy and will be shown to the children at the beginning of each day. In the summer months, the kitchen can also provide a school packed lunch (blue option). Packed lunches are kept on a trolley in the courtyard/hall and they will either eat in the hall or in the courtyard depending on the weather.

### **Is there an option for my child to buy a snack at school?**

There is a snack trolley every break time where children can buy a healthy snack and drink if they wish. Alternatively, children can bring in their own healthy snack to eat at break time. If buying their own snack, money will be the children's responsibility and will need to be kept in a named purse/wallet in their bags or lockers. Snacks always need to be healthy and nut-free. We have children with severe allergies in school.

### **Where will my child store their belongings at school?**

On the first day of school, each child will be assigned a locker outside their classroom. This is where children will keep their PE kits, coats and bags (lunch boxes will be stored on the lunch trolleys). Teachers will keep a list of whose locker is whose and children will be asked to empty their locker half termly. We also ask children to bring in a spare pair of wellington boots for outdoor play, these can be stored on the wellie racks in the corridors. Pencil cases and equipment will be provided by the school and will stay in the children's trays. We ask that the children do not bring in their own stationary from home.

### **How does my child borrow books from school?**

At Droxford Junior School, we are lucky to have a well-stocked and frequently updated library. Our librarian, Mrs Daniells, works hard to ensure that we have new releases as well as keeping the library organised with her Year 6 helpers. During the first few weeks, your child will be taken down to the library and shown how to find and issue books. Children can take out two books at a time and are encouraged to choose one fiction and one non-fiction text. These books can be kept at school to read during quiet reading time or can be taken home to share with parents/carers. When your child has finished with a particular book, they will need to scan it back in so that this registers on their account. Children will have regular slots where they can visit the library with an adult and can ask at any time if they need help choosing a book. We also have book corners in each classroom where children can choose from a variety of picture books, chapter books, non-fiction, newspapers and magazines.

### **How will my child's teacher know what they have been reading at home?**

On the first week of school, all children will be provided with a school reading diary. This is so that children, parents, teachers and volunteers can keep a record of when, how often and what each child is reading. We encourage each child to read for a minimum of 15 minutes, five times a week, from a selection of genres. Every Monday, children will hand in their reading diaries to be looked at by their class teachers. If they have at least 5 ticks throughout the week, they will be rewarded with a gold star for their star chart. We expect the children write a comment in the box provided about the book and that parents sign each week so that we know reading is being monitored at home. Parents/carers can also choose to write a comment and this can be used for teachers/volunteers to write in also. It is essential that reading diaries come into school each day as they are also used for Early Morning Tasks and during English sessions.

### **What days is homework due in and when will it be given out?**

In the first couple of weeks, children will be provided with English and Maths homework books. In Year 3 and 4, we alternate English and Maths homework each week. The homework will be based on something we have been focusing on in class or will be a revision based task. Homework is given out on a Wednesday and children will be provided with a homework a slip of paper with all the information needed. Homework is due in every Monday along with reading diaries. If your child loses their slip, spare homework slip trays are in every classroom. Homework and spellings are also uploaded to the school website weekly. Spellings are given out on a Friday and tested on the following Friday. In maths, we ask children to fill in their times table booklets (which we provide) each week and these are checked by their class teacher every Friday. We also encourage children to take part in Times Table Rockstars challenge - a safe, education website/App - which they will be given a log-in to. Homework and spellings will not be given out over half terms and holidays, however we do ask that the children continue to read and fill in their reading diaries and there are also optional enrichment tasks on the school website.

### **When will I have the opportunity to meet with my child(ren)'s teacher?**

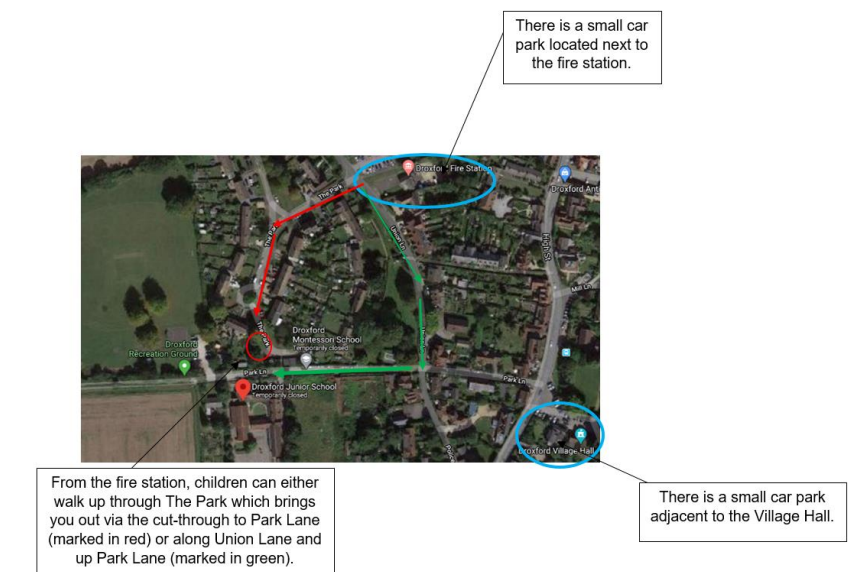
There are many opportunities throughout the year for you to meet with your child's teacher. During their first two weeks, we invite parents to come in for the morning of Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September to see the children settled into their new class and speak to the class teacher. More information will be sent out about this nearer the time. We have two parents' evenings in the year, one in October and one in February where we will formally report on your child's academic progress and discuss any other concerns. Towards the end of each term, we have a parent open afternoon where children can show you what they have been working on that term and you can look through their books. At Droxford, we offer an open door policy and will be happy to meet with you at an agreed time in the week, providing that you have arranged this with the office beforehand. You can also contact the school or class teacher via the school email ([adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk)). Although we aim to check our emails regularly, if it is an urgent matter, please email or phone the school office directly.

## My child is coming to school on the bus, how does this work?

There are two buses that run to and from the school, one for the Newtown Soberton area and one for the Meonstoke area. You should have received an email from the admin office about signing up for the bus but please contact the school if you have any other queries. The children will be dropped off and collected from the square adjacent to the village hall. To ensure the children are safe and monitored carefully, Mrs Lovejoy-Brinkman and Mr Vardy will cross the children in the mornings and afternoons and after school, a class teacher will walk the children down to the bus also.

## I am dropping off and collecting my child from school, where should I park?

We do encourage parents not to drive up Union Lane to drop off their children as it can get quite busy in the mornings with the narrow lane and one way road. Instead, there are a number of different places where you can park or drop off your child as suggested on the map opposite.



## My child would like to attend an after school club, how do I find out more information?

We offer many After School Clubs which run from 3:30pm until 4:30pm. Clubs include Sports, Arts, Science, Writing and STEM. More information on all of our Extra Curricular Activities can be found on our school website <http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/clubs/>.

## **What are the general timings for the school day?**

The school days begins at 8:55. Your child may be dropped at school and wait on the playground at any time after 8:40, we do ask that no children are on site before this time unless they are attending breakfast club. Breakfast club runs from 7:30-8:45 Monday-Friday. More information can be found on our website: <http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/new-breakfast-club/#>

Below is an outline of the school day.

8:55-9:15 Register and early morning activity (EMA)

9:15-10:15 Maths

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 English (including phonics and spellings)

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-3:00 Foundation subjects

3:00-3:20 Assembly

3:20-3:30 EXIT register at home (For safeguarding reasons, all children are signed out at the end of the day by their class teacher to check whether they have an after-school club, are going home on the bus or are being picked up).