

# Monnow Primary School Reception Handbook



## A Warm Welcome to Monnow School

We are so very excited to welcome you and your child to the start of their learning journey here with us at Monnow Primary school.

At Monnow each and every child is valued and respected. We celebrate children's individuality and tailor our provision to meet every child's needs. Your child's wellbeing and involvement is of utmost importance to us. We provide exciting opportunities within a secure environment to enable your child to fly.

This handbook has been put together to help you and your child in preparation for starting the Reception Class at Monnow. Although this is a very exciting time, we appreciate that both parents/carers and children may be experiencing some anxieties. We therefore hope you find this to be an informative guide.

We are thoroughly looking forward to welcoming you and your child to Monnow Primary Reception Classes; Dosbarth Bramble and Dosbarth Fern.

Reception Start time: 9.00am

Reception finishing time: 3.15pm

Monnow Primary

Darent Close

Bettws

Newport

NP20 7SQ

Telephone number 01633 852636



## Starting Reception

*Week 1: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept - 9.00am until 12.00pm*

*Week 2: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept - 9.00am until 1.30pm*

*Week 3: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept - 9.00am until 3.15pm*

This is a phased introduction to school in order support your child's wellbeing and allow a smooth transition into reception. The duration of the sessions will increase from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September, to include school lunch time.

Full school hours will begin on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>.

### *All about us...*

Monnow is a large community primary school with around 350 pupils on role currently. We believe strongly in equal opportunities for all children, and we are passionate to be able to support the inclusion of all children with additional needs in our school. Each and every child is valued and respected. Monnow offers an exciting, creative curriculum, which has been carefully designed to challenge and inspire young children.





## The Senior Leadership Team at Monnow:

Head Teacher: Miss Bowden



Deputy Head: Mr Allcock



Assistant Head & AENCO:  
Mrs. Robinson



Early Years Leader:  
Mrs. Cartmill



## How can we help you to support your child on their learning journey?

Our young children learn best through exploration and play. We encourage curiosity and play both in school and at home, along with our broad, balanced and exciting curriculum, which has the skills of literacy, numeracy running thorough every aspect.

- Regularly read stories and share books with your child. Encourage them to use the pictures in their favourite books to tell stories of their own.



- Painting, drawing and other mark making activities help to develop children's pencil grip and control. This is valuable when they learn to write.
- Encourage children to help you when you are at home – talk about the time, about weighing and measuring, the day of the week, the weather etc...





## Getting to know your child...

You and your child are joining the Monnow family and we promise to treasure them as the jewels that they are. To ensure your child feels safe and nurtured, the class teacher or class teaching assistant will greet and welcome your child into School each day. This will help and support your child to settle into School.

## What exciting things will your child learn in Monnow?



# Learning through Experiential Play

We will create awe and wonder within our school setting to stimulate your child's curiosities. We will share our topics and learning themes with you. You will be able to see your child engaged and exploring in a range of learning opportunities. This will be shared on their class SeeSaw page and Monnow's Twitter page.





## The New Curriculum

Our teaching and learning will focus on developing your child's skills in preparation for lifelong learning. Our topics for learning will develop your child's skills to become the following;

- Ambitious, capable learners
- Ethical, Informed citizens.
- Healthy, confident individuals
- Enterprising, creative contributors

The School's Areas of learning will provide a rich, exiting context to allow for your child to explore and develop these skills. All areas of learning are set up to develop your child's basic skills of Literacy and numeracy.



## Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is a vital part of our provision at Monnow, children are able to access outdoor areas throughout the day. We share passion and vision for making sure that pupils have plenty of opportunities to be physically active and learn outdoors, as this leads to high levels of engagement and involvement from the pupils.



## Routines for dropping off and collecting...

At the start of each session we will welcome you and your child at the Reception outdoor area. At the end of each session, parents/carers are welcomed back to collect your child. To ensure we safeguard all our children at Monnow we ask that your child is collected only by adults named on their admissions forms. If a different adult needs to collect your child, the school office must be informed in advance and they will notify the school staff. We are not permitted to allow our children to be collected and leave with anyone under the age of 18. We thank you for your support.

## Lunch Times

School Lunch is a hot main meal with dessert, with an option for sandwiches, pupils on a vegetarian or halal diet and a selection of vegetables, fresh fruit, yoghurt and cheese is available.

Water is available and all pupils in Foundation Phase receive free milk each day.

**School dinners are FREE for all children in Reception, however these must be applied for.**

Vegetarian and halal options are always available. Pupils with special dietary requirements should ask their family doctor for referral to the paediatric dietician, who will contact the school meal service if necessary. Please let us know of any allergies or intolerances so we can keep your child safe.

## A Sample Menu:



Please visit <https://loveschoolmeals.co.uk/newport-main-primary-english/> for up to date menu options.

Applications for free school meals can be made via the **Newport City Council website:**

<https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Schools-Education/Schools/School-meals/Free-school-meals.aspx>

## ParentPay

For pupils who pay for school lunches, Monnow has a payment system called 'ParentPay'. The school office will provide parents/carers with a unique code in September, which will allow them to access their own area on this payment system.



### Breakfast Club

Monnow Primary runs a Breakfast Club which starts at 8.30am until school opens at 9.00am, Monday to Friday. Applications for this are available from our school office.

### Daily Routines

Staff at School are very happy to support you and your child with any routines, such as toileting. Your child's individual needs will be discussed during the 'settling in' period with their class teacher.

### Illness

Occasionally, children become unwell at school. Please keep us informed of your up-to-date contact details. If we feel your child is too unwell to stay at school for the remainder of the day, we will telephone you, so you are able to come and collect them.

Please keep your child at home if they are feeling unwell. If they have suffered from vomiting and/or diarrhoea they should remain at home for 48 hours after symptoms have stopped, to minimise the risk of the spreading the infection.

Asthma- if your child has asthma and an inhaler is used, we will need to keep one in school. Please send in the inhaler in a clear plastic box with your child's name on. You will need to complete a medical form in the office so we can administer this medication.

Head Lice- it is important to check your child's hair regularly for head lice. If any lice or eggs are found, please treat the whole family and keep your child at home for at least 24 hours.

### [How can I find out what is happening in school?](#)

We have an online learning app called '[Seesaw](#)' at Monnow. It allows teachers and parents/carers to share classroom and home learning, through safe and secure platform. The class teacher can share photos/ videos and information with you, both individually and as a class. It also allows parents/carers to message teachers directly, or share home learning and important information about their child. Families can gain a window into their child's learning and engage in home-to-school connections. Your personal QR code is in this pack.

We also have 'Schoop' - an app for sharing with parents any important, up to date information, from Miss Bowden and our office. The details of this app is included in your transition pack, along with the school code.



## School year 2022-23

Term	Start	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn 2022	2 September	31 October	4 November	23 December
Spring 2023	9 January	20 February	24 February	31 March
Summer 2023	17 April	29 May	2 June	21 July

***INSET Days will be confirmed closer to the time.***

## School Uniform

When dressing your child for school, their comfort is always most important. Please consider that our exciting curriculum often takes the children outside and they regularly engage in 'messy play'.

The School uniform comprises:

Navy sweatshirt

Light blue polo shirt

Dark trousers

Navy skirt

Navy shorts

Blue and white checked summer dress.

Black shoes or trainers

We ask that all children refrain from wearing jewellery. One pair of stud earrings may be worn.





For P.E. days –

White/Navy T-shirt

Dark Shorts

Sweatshirt/ Joggers – outdoor sessions.

It is very helpful if your child is able to put on their own coat, socks and shoes and to pull up their own trousers and/or tights before they come to school. Please label all clothing and footwear with your child's name.

We have some wet weather suits available for the children to wear when using the outdoor area during wet conditions. The children are also welcome to bring their own waterproofs, labelled with their name, to keep in school. A pair of wellies is also useful on wet days. The rain doesn't stop our outdoor learning! If they do wear wellies to school, please could they bring shoes or slippers to change into for their comfort inside? It is also a good idea for your child to bring a sun hat for hot days.



For any other questions about your son or daughter's admission to reception class, please simply call our Office Team on **01633 852636** and they will be happy to help.

**Diolch yn Fawr!**