Western
Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES



Starting School Information 2026





Western
Foundation Stage
SUCCESS FROM THE START

Western
Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES



Our School Vision

At Western, we aim to develop kind, ambitious, curious, confident and successful young people who are excited about their futures.

Educational Needs and Inclusion

Some children and young people need something additional to or different from what is provided for all children in school; this is special educational provision.

More information about our approach to supporting our children and families can be found on the SEND pages of our school website:

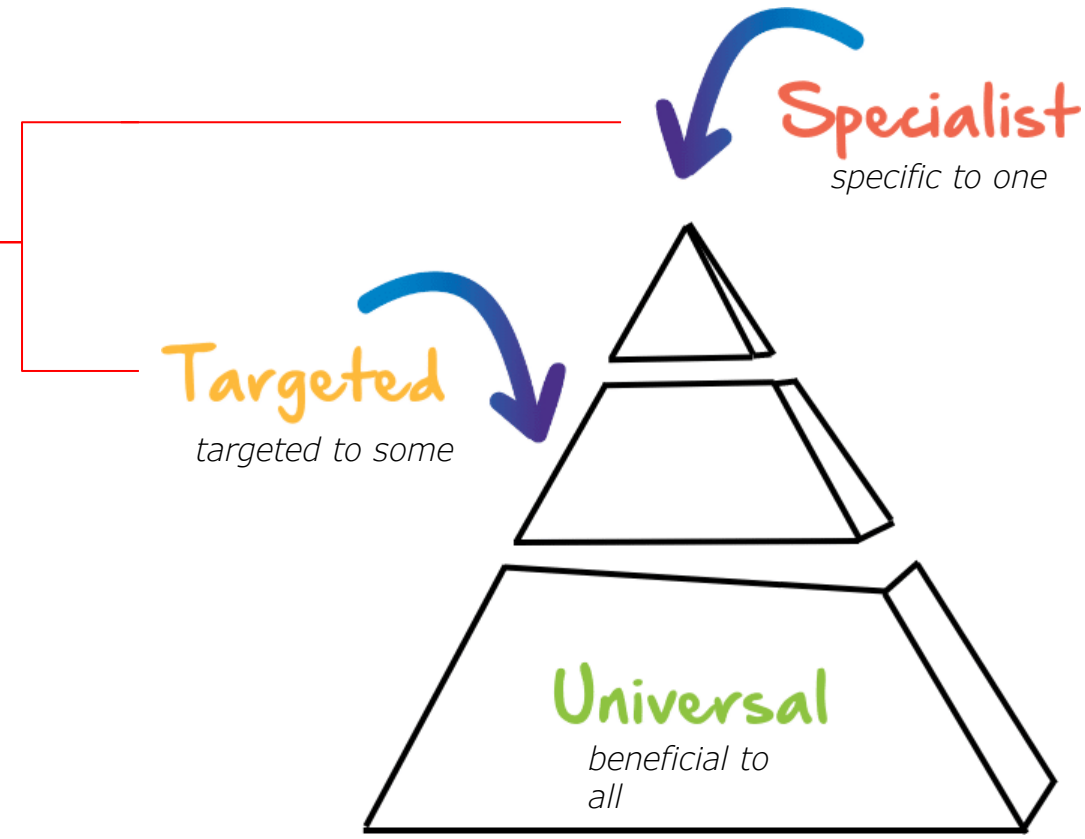
- Graduated Response Road Map
- SEND Policy
- SEND Information Report



Ben Fraser-Smith
Assistant Headteacher
Inclusion Lead and
SENDCO
fraser-smithb@wes.rklt.co.uk

Western Primary School
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Special Educational Provision



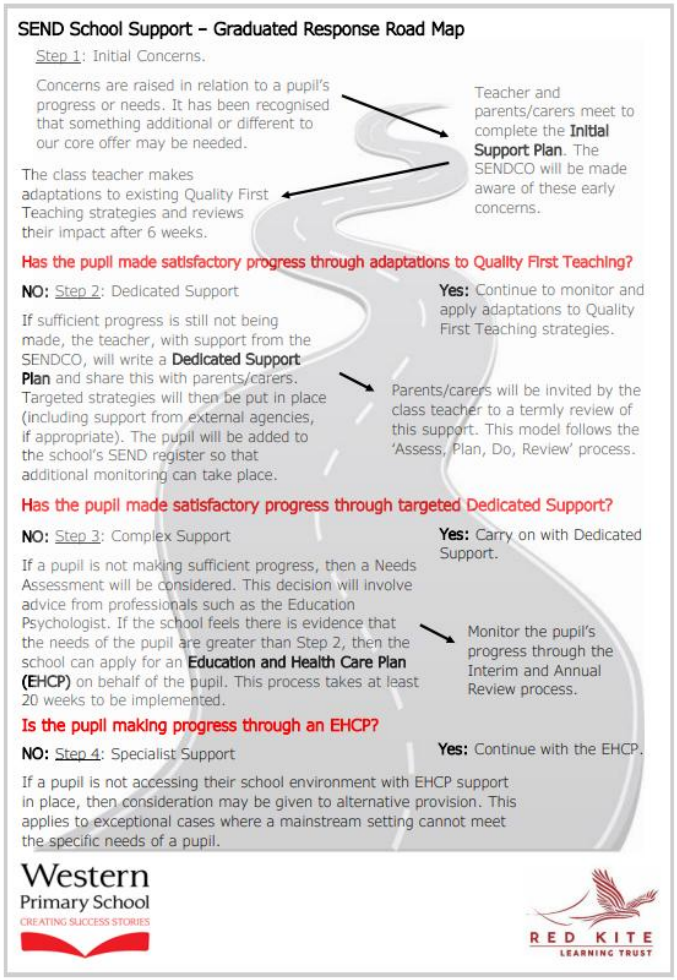
RED KITE LEARNING TRUST

Western Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

Universal

Targeted

Specialist



RED KITE
LEARNING TRUST

Family Support

Our Family Support Worker can provide support, advice and information to families and to listen to any concerns you may have about your child's education, behaviour or wellbeing.

Help and support may include:

- Helping to improve the home/school link
- Strategies for parents/carers to improve behaviour in the home
- Support for those families experiencing change, such as family breakdown/separation and divorce/ill health and bereavement
- Signposting and help to access services from external agencies and community services
- Advising on the process for secondary school/benefits/housing applications
- Support with school attendance and lateness issues

Universal

beneficial to all



Sophy Bland
Family Support Worker
blands@wes.rklt.co.uk
Working pattern: Monday-Thursday
(term time only)

Western Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

Specialist

specific to one

NHS

Harrogate Cluster Support Team

JUST 'B'

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

We work alongside external agencies to deliver more specialist care in school.

RED KITE LEARNING TRUST

Western Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

Specialist

specific to one

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Education, Health and Care Plan

RED KITE LEARNING TRUST

Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

More information about our approach to supporting our children and families can be found on the SEND pages of our school website.

You may also find these documents helpful (available online):

- Graduated Response Road Map
- SEND Policy
- SEND Information Report



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Safeguarding Culture at Western

The safety and wellbeing of our pupils is always the number one priority for everyone working at Western. There is a whole school approach to safeguarding which underpins all aspects of school life.

Staff take part in regular safeguarding training and our comprehensive Safeguarding policy is available for parents and carers on our website.

Mrs Slack is our Designated Safeguarding Lead and is supported by four deputy DSLs.

DSL



Mrs Slack
Headteacher

Deputy DSL



Mrs Magill
Deputy Headtecher

Deputy DSL



Mrs Bland
Family Support Worker
The Junction

Deputy DSL



Miss Thompson
Nursery & The Hive

I-Pad School



We empower our pupils to unlock their potential by using iPads as a pathway to facilitate creativity and achieve their learning goals. We use technology to create a culture of rich, exciting and memorable experiences that inspire and motivate our children to explore and utilise the varied learning opportunities provided by the iPad. This versatility enables teachers to encourage curiosity and an ambitious approach to learning with the aim of creating success stories for all. We use technology not as a substitute for existing practice, but as an inclusive tool to allow all learners to flourish and raise their expectations.

At Western, pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 all have individual i-pads. As part of an i-pad school, your child will be part of this technology journey, helping to develop children who are future ready.

Reception children have access to iPads for in class learning but they do not have an individual iPad.

Western Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

Breakfast and After School Club



The Western Hive

Wrap Around Care

A hive of activity, adventure and fun before and after school



At Western we are able to offer Breakfast and after School Care term-time only.

Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 a.m. until the start of the school day
After School Club runs from the end of the day until either 5.30 p.m. or 6.30 p.m.

This is run from the early years classrooms and is staffed by the Western team.
For booking, information and pricing please email office@wes.rklt.co.uk

RED KITE LEARNING TRUST

Reception Team



Ms Cullis
Reception Teacher



Miss Ward
EY Leader
Reception Teacher

Mrs Bassham
HLTA/ GTA



Mrs Walker
GTA
Mon, Tues, Wed



Mrs Cunningham
GTA



Our Learning

Our curriculum has been designed to engage our children with a breadth of topics and learning reflecting the school's aims and curriculum drivers. We also plan and incorporate the children's questions, interests and fascinations. Our curriculum offers opportunities for children to be curious, reflective and ambitious.

We take the time to play with our children and model good-quality interactions. Play is fundamental to every child's development and we believe that children achieve their potential and succeed when play is an intrinsic part of their school day. Observations and assessments are made of the children as they play. We use this to inform the planning of the curriculum and to ensure we are building on children's strengths, curiosities and fascinations.





Start of the Day

- School starts at 8.50 a.m.
- Children need to be dropped off at the rear of the school at the Reception class entrance at this time.
- The Reception teachers will welcome the children at the door.
- We encourage the children to hang up their coats independently and organise their belongings (although during their first days they may need a little help!).
- It is essential children arrive on time for school.
- The school does have a breakfast club open from 7.30 a.m. for our Early Years children. Please contact the school office if you are interested.



End of the Day

- School finishes at 3.20 p.m.
- Please collect your child promptly at this time. Please queue around the edge of the playground for collection.
- We ask you to inform us if there is anyone else collecting your child. No child will be sent home with anyone who is not their parent or carer if we have not been informed of this.
- The class teachers will send the children out to their parents or carers at the end of the day.(Please bear with us in the first few weeks whilst we learn to recognise the adults!).



A Typical Day

- 8.50 - The children come into school and put away their belongings and do a ‘funky fingers activity’
- 8.55 - Register
- 9.00 - Phonics
- 9.30 - Provision time- this may be indoors or outdoors, there will be a balance of child-initiated activities and some adult led/ focused activities.
- 11.00 - Maths
- 11.20 - Lunch
- 11.45 - Outside Play
- 12.30 - Teaching input
- 12.45-1.40 - Provision time- this may be indoors or outdoors, there will be a balance of child-initiated activities and some adult led/ focused activities.
- 1.40 - Teaching input
- 2.00- 2.55 - Provision time- this may be indoors or outdoors, there will be a balance of child-initiated activities and some adult led/ focused activities.
- 2.55 - Stories/ Singing
- 3.20 - Home-time





What is Provision?

Provision is the environment , activities and equipment that is provided for your child to access on a day-to-day basis.
This may include:

- Role- Play
- Sand
- Water
- Construction
- Paint/ Crafts/ model making
- Fine motor activities
- Outdoors
- Small world play









Lunch time

The school kitchen cooks delicious and healthy school lunches each day. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are all entitled to free school meals. We encourage all our children in Early Years to have a school meal. Menus can be seen on the school website.

If your child would prefer a packed lunch, they can bring a healthy lunchbox to school. We do ask that children have healthy foods, so no fizzy drinks, sweets or nuts in their lunch box, please.

Please note we are a nut-free school.

Reception children eat their school lunch in the canteen and will sit in groups with their classmates. The children are supervised at lunchtimes by our midday staff; many of these staff work within Early Years.

Please inform us before starting, of any specific dietary requirements or allergies.



Snack/ Drink



- Children have a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables available for them every day and therefore do not need to bring their own snacks. IF there is a reason your child may need more, please speak to us.
- There is also fresh water available in the classroom if a child forgets their water bottle.
- The children are offered milk or water to drink in the canteen.

P.E

We have access to outdoors every day in Early Years and we provide a range of equipment and experiences to support children's physical development.

In addition we ask that children come in their P.E kit on a Friday for a P.E session which may take place either in our school hall or playground.

We also use Valley Gardens regularly to play parachute games, ball games and enjoy nature walks.

We hold our Early Years Sports Day on the Stray and enjoy lots of activities to show off our skills.











Preparing for School

Uniform

We expect all our children to wear the EYFS Western uniform, which is:

- A red jumper, hoodie or cardigan with or without the Western logo.
- White or red polo shirts.
- Black tracksuit bottoms.
- Black shorts may be worn in the summer term.
- Waterproof trainers
- No accessories that may be deemed a health and safety risk (including jewellery).

Famly~ Online Learning Journal

Activate your Account

If you are an existing Western parent you will continue to use the same journal and do not need to change anything. New parents will receive an email link to activate your new Famly account. If not, please let us know at eyfs@wes.rklt.co.uk

All About Me

Please return your form so that we can start planning for September.

Home Observations

You can begin to add photographs and comments about your child's adventures over the summer. This will help to give us conversation starters once we meet the children, as well as giving us an insight into your child's interests. We regularly share these with the class too.

School Observations

You will receive Famly notifications when your child's school learning has been shared on Famly.

Messaging

Please do NOT message on Famly as this is not monitored. Please e.mail eyfs@wes.rklt.co.uk

Useful Information

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent, late into school or collected early, please telephone or email the office. You need to call the school office each day that your child is off school, ideally before registers close at 9am. You can leave an answerphone message.

In the event you need to take holiday in term time, you will need to fill in a form from the school office. This will only be authorised at the headteacher's discretion. Holidays in term time are not encouraged and may result in a fine. Attendance is analysed half-termly. We will contact you if your child's attendance drops below 95%.



Useful Information

Illness

Should your child become ill in school, we will telephone you as soon as possible. Please make sure that your child has fully recovered before he/she returns to school. It is important that your emergency contact details are kept up to date in the school office so we are able to contact you at all times in case of an illness or injury.

In instances where your child has diarrhoea or vomiting, they will be required to be away from school for a 48 hour period from the last bout.





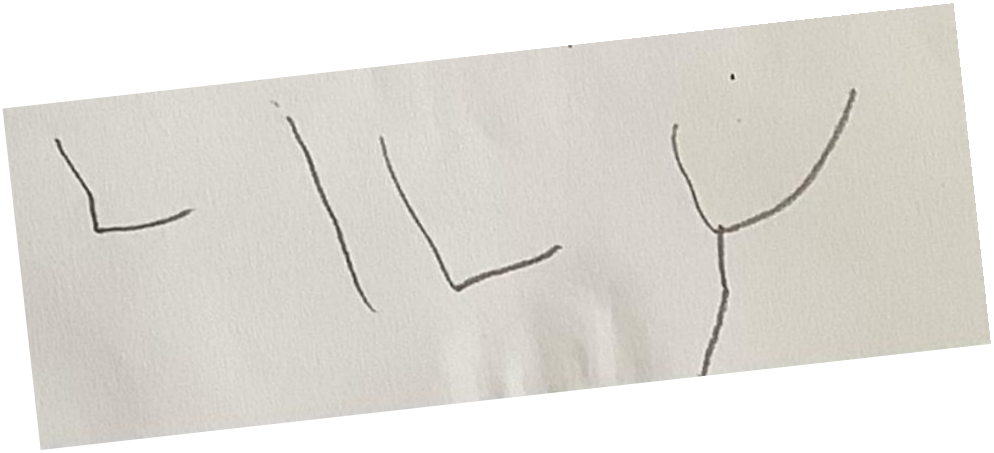


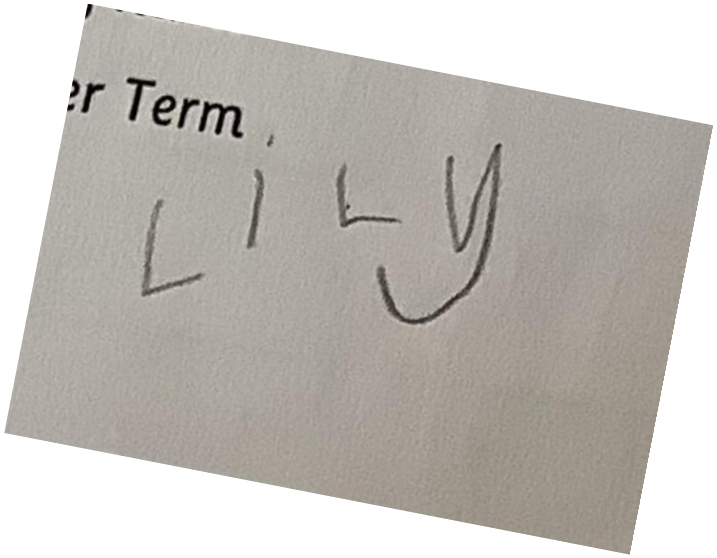
What your child will need to bring every day

- A water bottle clearly labelled with their name filled with water, NOT juice.
- Red book bag (obtained from Emblazon or Rawcliffes). Please do not attach lots of keyrings to these bags as they do not fit in the children's trays.
- Please do not send large rucksacks/ bags as we have limited cloakroom space.
- A suitable waterproof coat and shoes for all weathers - ideally a waterproof suit and wellies. Please send a coat every day as the weather can be changeable; the children are outside for at least 3 hours a day!.

How can you help your child?

Please do not get embroiled in the academics; children writing their names with incorrect letter formation are at a disadvantage.





Engage your child in **conversation** and **read books** to them.

The London Research school 2021 stated" Children with poor vocabulary skills are twice as likely to be unemployed when they reach adulthood"

"Language at age 5 is the single most important factor in influencing literacy levels at age 11"

School Readiness

Tips for Parents

When your child starts Western there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. We are on hand to help with the ones which your child still finds tricky.

Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
- I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well.

Speaking and Literacy

- I am interested in reading stories and looking at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs and feelings
- I am able to recognise my name when it's written down
- I am curious about new words and their meaning.

Getting Dressed and Undressed on my own

- I can button and unbutton my clothes
- I can put my own shoes and socks on
- I can put on my own coat and zip it up

Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I am happy to tidy my belongings and look after things.
- I can recognise my belongings
- I am becoming confident about starting school

Listening and Understanding

- I am starting to sit still and listen for a short time
- I can follow simple instructions
- I understand the need to follow the rules

Sharing and turn taking

- I can share toys and take turns
- I can play games with others
- I can interact with other children

School Readiness

Tips for Parents

When your child starts Western there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. We are on hand to help with the ones which your child still finds tricky.

Interest in the world and new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I am interested in new activities
- I like asking questions

Eating

- I can use a knife and fork
- I can open my own packed lunch box
- I can open my own wrappers and packaging

Writing Skills

- I like tracing and colouring in
- I enjoy experimenting with different patterns/ scribbles
- I am practicing holding a pencil correctly

Counting skills

- I enjoy practising and counting objects
- I know some number rhymes and counting songs
- I can recognise some numbers when they are written down
- I know how old I am

Routines

- I am practising putting my uniform on and getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not too tired for school

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself and flush the toilet
- I can wash my hands after using the toilet

In Summary

We have 60 children to look after so need them to be independent.

Interacting, talking with your child and reading books with them is far more important than getting them to write/read.

Children should be able to sit at a table and feed themselves using a knife and fork

Children should be able to communicate their needs.

Children should be able to identify their coat put it on and do it up. Coats should be weather appropriate.

Children should be able to go to the toilet, wipe themselves and wash their hands independently.

Children should be able to share and take turns.

Everything should be named clearly.

The class reps are organising a picnic to welcome the children and parents. There is a WhatsApp group if you would like to join up to keep in touch with the parents of the reception children.

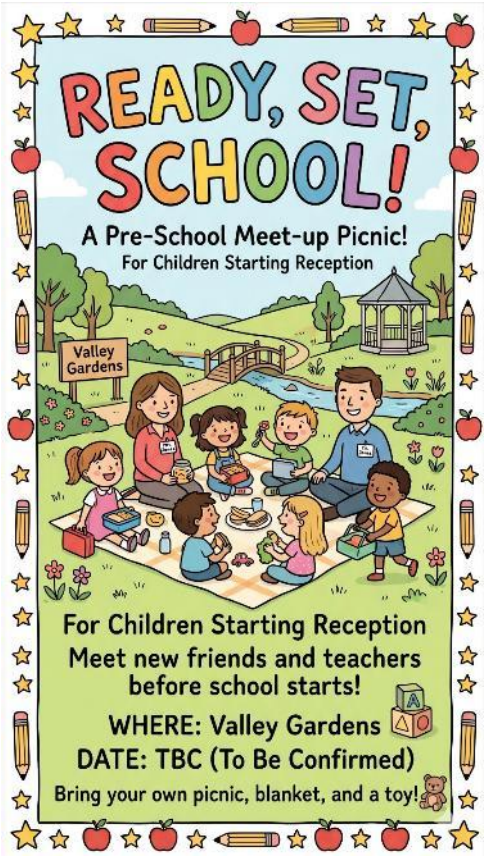
Picnic date – Tuesday 8th September 12.30 – 2.30pm by the band stand in Valley Gardens.



Tuesday 8th September

12.30 - 2.30pm

by the band stand in Valley Gardens



Reception Teachers – to contact us e.mail

eyfs@wes.rklt.co.uk

We all teach all of the children!



Ms Cullis
Reception
Teacher



Miss Ward
EY Leader
Reception Teacher