



Western
Primary School
CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

Starting School Information 2025





Our School Vision

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

Special 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:

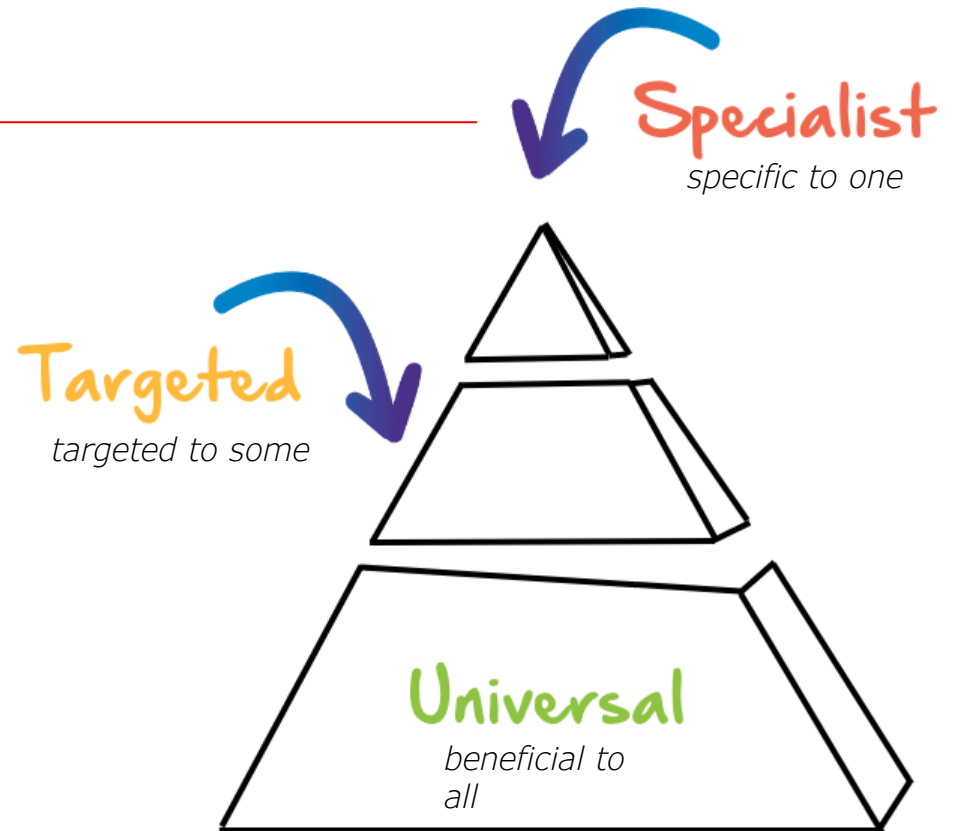
- Graduated Response Road Map
- SEND Policy
- SEND Information Report



Ben Fraser-Smith
Assistant Headteacher
Inclusion Lead and
SENDCO

fraser-smithb@wes.rklt.co.uk

Special Educational Provision



Universal



Targeted



Specialist



SEND School Support - Graduated Response Road Map

Step 1: Initial Concerns

Concerns are raised in relation to a pupil's progress or needs. It has been recognised that something additional or different to our core offer may be needed.

The class teacher makes adaptations to existing Quality First Teaching strategies and reviews their impact after 6 weeks.

Teacher and parents/carers meet to complete the **Initial Support Plan**. The SENDCO will be made aware of these early concerns.

Has the pupil made satisfactory progress through adaptations to Quality First Teaching?

NO: Step 2: Dedicated Support

If sufficient progress is still not being made, the teacher, with support from the SENDCO, will write a **Dedicated Support Plan** and share this with parents/carers. Targeted strategies will then be put in place (including support from external agencies, if appropriate). The pupil will be added to the school's SEND register so that additional monitoring can take place.

Yes: Continue to monitor and apply adaptations to Quality First Teaching strategies.

Parents/carers will be invited by the class teacher to a termly review of this support. This model follows the 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' process.

Has the pupil made satisfactory progress through targeted Dedicated Support?

NO: Step 3: Complex Support

If a pupil is not making sufficient progress, then a Needs Assessment will be considered. This decision will involve advice from professionals such as the Education Psychologist. If the school feels there is evidence that the needs of the pupil are greater than Step 2, then the school can apply for an **Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP)** on behalf of the pupil. This process takes at least 20 weeks to be implemented.

Yes: Carry on with Dedicated Support.

Monitor the pupil's progress through the Interim and Annual Review process.

Is the pupil making progress through an EHCP?

NO: Step 4: Specialist Support

If a pupil is not accessing their school environment with EHCP support in place, then consideration may be given to alternative provision. This applies to exceptional cases where a mainstream setting cannot meet the specific needs of a pupil.

Yes: Continue with the EHCP.

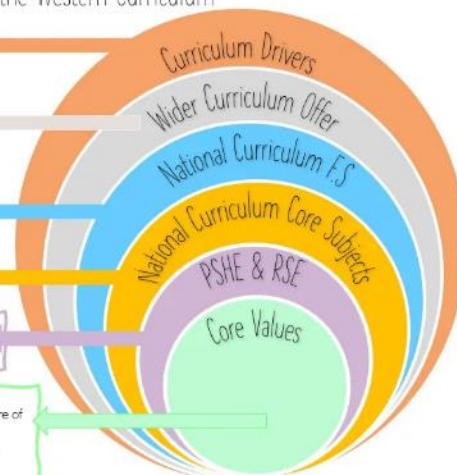


Universal

*beneficial to
all*

There are six key components to the Western Curriculum

- Curriculum Drivers
Technology, Natural World, Diversity, Health and Well-being.
- Wider Curriculum
Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural experiences, Personal Development, Western's 10X.
- The National Curriculum Foundation Subjects
Teaching of the foundation subjects has been designed with our locality in mind. Careful thought has been put into which content is taught at what time in order to help children to develop knowledge and skills in a progressive manner with the aim of promoting greater understanding and retention.
- The National Curriculum Core Subjects
Reading, writing and maths are taught systematically from the very start; knowledge and skills learned in these subjects are applied across all other subjects.
- PSHE and RSE
Personal and social development, relationships and health education, safeguarding, SMSC, British Values and Internet Safety.
- Core Values and Characteristics
Our Core Values of Kindness, Honesty and Respect and British Values are at the centre of everything we do.
We want our children to develop our Characteristics of Effective Learning: Resilience, Collaboration, Ambition, Resourcefulness, Curiosity and Reflection.



Western Primary School

CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

The Quiet Room

The Retreat

The Junction

Signposting you to SUCCESS through...

School & Learning
Support

Emotional Wellbeing

Friendship Guidance &
Restorative Approaches

Staying Safe

Home-School Links



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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

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all*



Sophy Bland
Family Support Worker

blands@wes.rklt.co.uk

Working pattern: Monday-
Thursday
(term time only)

Targeted

targeted to some

Our Learning Support Team work alongside classroom staff to provide additional and different methods, resources and activities to help support children with their specific learning needs.



Our Emotion & Wellbeing Team are trained and access appropriate supervision to deliver a range of targeted interventions.



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Specialist

specific to one



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



Western
Primary School

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NORTH
YORKSHIRE
COUNCIL

Specialist

specific to one

Education, Health and Care Plan



www.westernps.co.uk

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 Headteacher

Deputy DSL



Mr Fraser Smith
SEN/Inclusion Manager

Deputy DSL



Mrs Bland
Family Support Worker
The Junction

Deputy DSL



Miss Thompson
Nursery & The Hive

Reception Team



Mrs Whitelow
Reception Teacher



Mrs Stewart
EY Leader
Reception Teacher

HLTA/ GTA
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GTA
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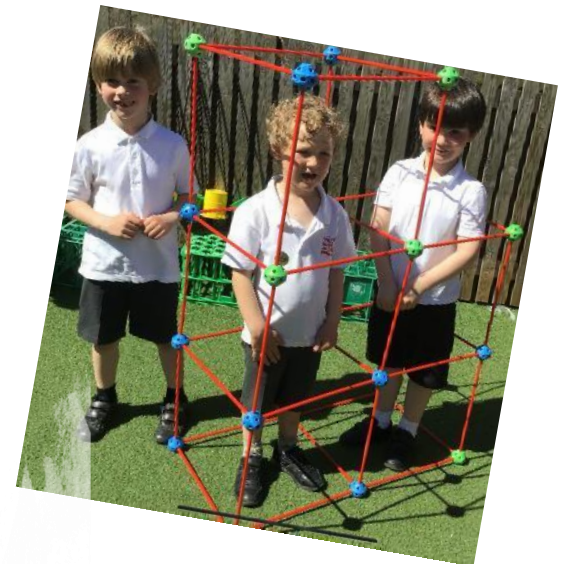
GTA
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Our Learning

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
- 12.00 - Outside Play
- 12.15 - Teaching input
- 12.35-1.40 - 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

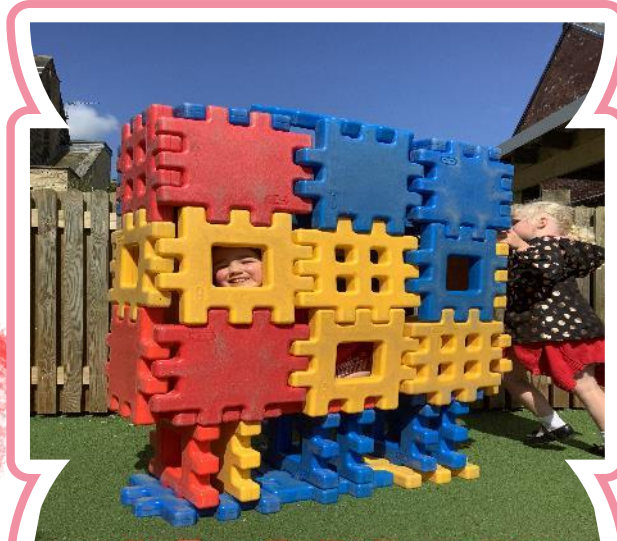


What is Provision?

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.



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 for a P.E session which may take place either in our school hall or playground.

We also use Valley Gardens termly 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 Western uniform, which is:

- A red shirt or cardigan with or without the Western logo.
- White or red polo shirts.
- Grey or black trousers, grey or black pinafore or skirt.
- Grey or black shorts or summer dress (red and white checks) may be worn in the summer months.
- Sensible, black school shoes. (no heels)
- No accessories that may be deemed a health and safety risk (including jewellery).



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.

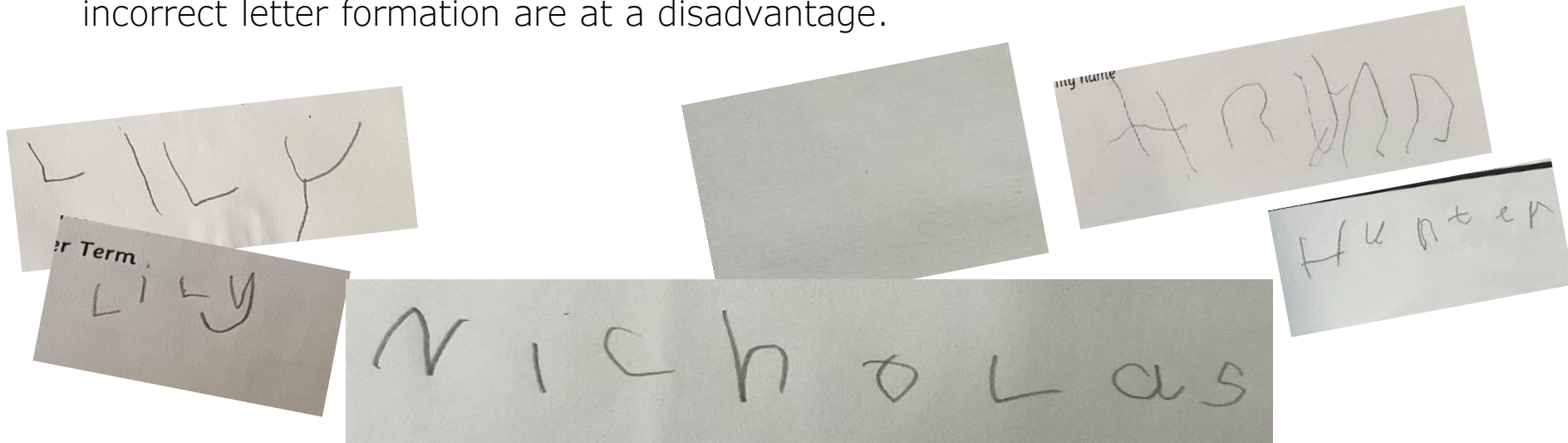


What your child will need to bring every day

- A water bottle clearly labelled with their name
- 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"



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Listening Skills

In reception we encourage the children to put up their thumb when they have something to say and wait their turn. If we cannot stop and listen to them immediately, we will raise our thumb, so they know we have seen them and know they are waiting.

For many children this skill takes time. You can help with this by making your child wait their turn to talk at home when you are talking to someone else. Praise your child for waiting.



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 practising 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 and 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 identify their coat put it on and do it up.
Coats should be weather appropriate.

Children should be able to communicate their needs.

Children should be able to share and take turns.

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

Everything should be named clearly.

Reception Teachers – to contact us e.mail

eyfs@wes.rklt.co.uk

We all teach all of the children!



Mrs Whitelow
Reception
Teacher



Mrs Stewart
EY Leader
Reception Teacher

Arbor - for parents who are brand new to Western, we will only have contact details for the parent who made the original application. We will send out an Arbor activation link tomorrow, so that parent can logon and add a second parent, as well as anyone else who is authorised to collect, i.e. childminder, grandparents, etc.

It is very important that we know of any **medical dietary requirements, allergies, etc** before we break up for summer (our staff do not generally work over the holidays). If your child has any allergies, or special dietary requirements, please complete the form and send back to the school office by hand or by email as soon as possible also on the website here: <https://www.westernps.co.uk/for-parentscarers/lunch-times/>

EAL - please let us know of any additional languages spoken in your house as soon as possible (update on Arbor). Even if your child only speaks English, if there is another language spoken by either parent, this counts as EAL and can bring further funding into school.

All children receive Universal Free School Meals in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. However, we would appreciate if you could also click on this link to see if you are eligible for **free school meals** as your child gets older. It means more funding for school, but also you could receive FEAST vouchers for the school holidays for activities: <https://forms.office.com/e/LiivDUa8Jx>

Daily Update - this is emailed out every day, and contains lots of important information about upcoming events, dates and reminders for each year group as well as for the whole school. You don't need to wait for the email because it's also always live on the website here: <https://www.westernps.co.uk/latest/daily-update/>