



Padstow School

Head of School: Mrs K Whitford

Starting in Reception class, September 2021

Wednesday 26th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

In September we look forward to welcoming you and your child to Padstow School. The transition from Nursery or pre-school settings to Reception is an exciting adventure in your child's education journey and one we plan to make as seamless as possible.

Thank you for already completing the Aspire online admission form. Over the next few weeks, you will receive regular communication from the school, the teachers and staff who work with the Reception Class. A variety of videos, activities and ebooks will be made available for you to share with your child. The first is our READY poster. Please support your child by practising the suggestions regularly with all members of your immediate family. We know that all children are unique. By achieving many of the described READY skills your child will be best placed to succeed in the Early Years curriculum. The READY poster and our Term Dates for the next academic year are both attached to the email with this letter.

We will also arrange an online meeting / phone call to talk to you directly about your child and their needs. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this face to face at present. Our Reception class teacher, Emma McColville, is planning on ringing parents just after the half term holiday, on the 10th and 11th June. We will be in touch with you to arrange a time.

Please look out for our next communication in a few weeks' time when we will be sending you our Welcome Booklet with essential details about the school.

We are hopeful that restrictions will continue to ease and we will continue to update you with any changes in our transition arrangements following government guidelines.

Best wishes

Kate Whitford
Head of School

T: 01841 532510

E: hello@padstowschool.org

W: www.padstowschool.org

Padstow School, Grenville Road, Padstow, Cornwall PL28 8EX

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Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD



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Ready for new challenges?

- Encourage your child to try new activities, embrace new challenges
- Encourage your child to try new foods
- Do some art and craft activities using a range of tools - can they control a pencil, paintbrush, or scissors?
- Ensure your child can use a knife, fork & spoon to eat a range of meals unaided
- Celebrate new attempts at things after making mistakes
- Encourage lots of outdoor activities, taking safe and supervised risks
- Can your child recognise his/her name and try and write it?

Engages in play and conversations with others

- Practise taking turns while playing games and puzzles
- Encourage phone/video calls with family and friends where your child can speak freely
- When you are out for walks, talk to your child about what they can see, hear, smell, or feel
- Encourage new vocabulary e.g. learning the names of different animals and plants
- Use clear and simple instructions for your child to follow alone
- Discuss what your child has enjoyed about their day before bedtime
- Share fiction and non-fiction books and talk about what is happening and what might happen
- Listen to (and join in with) songs and nursery rhymes

Able to ask for help when needed

- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible and to ask for help when they need it
- Encourage them to try once more by themselves before you help
- Explain to your child how to do something themselves by modelling the behaviour yourself
- Ask your child to help you sometimes and thank them for making something easier for you
- Talk to your child about people in the community who are there to help us
- Talk to your child about who will be there to help when they are at school

Dress and go to the toilet independently

- Encourage dressing independently including buttons, zips and putting shoes on and off
- Explain how they can dress rather than doing it for them
- Practise dressing skills with teddies/dolls if you have them
- Practise putting on and taking off school uniform and PE kit
- Ensure that your child can clean themselves independently after going to the toilet
- Ensure they know the importance of washing their hands properly after the toilet and before meals
- Explain that at school you need to ask to go to the toilet so that adults know where you are going

**YOU
ARE
READY
FOR
SCHOOL
AND
WE
ARE
READY
FOR
YOU!**