Roby Park Primary School

Reception Welcome Meeting

2025-26

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School. We are a thriving school community and welcome you and your family with open arms. We look forward to your child starting their school journey with us and getting to know them as the wonderful individuals that they are!

As a school, we are committed to smooth and timely transitions that allow each child to settle in, get to know their teachers and make new friends. We believe parents and carers play a key role in this transition so you too can feel reassured that your children are safe and happy.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

This welcome meeting will give you some insight into our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The EYFS is from 3-5 years of age and covers our Nursery and Reception classes. This stage is of upmost importance in your child's education. We are proud to provide a secure and safe environment for your child to create a solid foundation for them to build on during their years in primary school and beyond.

We hope that you and your child will be very happy at the school and should there be any further information that you require, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Contact Details

Address
Easton Road
Huyton
L36 4NY

The school office is open
from 7.30am - 4.30pm

Tel: 0151 477 8340

Email: robypark@knowsley.co.uk
Website: www.robyparkprimary.co.uk
Facebook: @RobyParkPrimarySchool
Twitter: @RobyParkSchool

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Meet the Team

Head teacher: Mrs Kathryn Allen

Deputy Head teacher, Inclusion Manager & SENDCO: Mrs Kathy Lyon

Reception Teacher and Early Years Leader: Miss Kerri Murphy

Nursery Teacher: Miss Amy Water Jones

Teaching Assistant (Reception Class): Mrs Vicky Taberner

Teaching Assistant (Nursery Class): Miss Rosie Tomes

Teaching Assistant (Nursery Class): Mrs Bomba Bennett

School Business Manager: Mrs Kirstie Carroll

Admin Staff: Miss Lauren Smith & Mrs Alice South

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Ofsted 2024

Ofsted Good Provider

"Children rise to the school's high expectations for their education and achieve well across a range of subjects.'

'Pupils benefit from the many well-considered opportunities that the school provides to build their understanding of different people.'

'Pupils develop a deep understanding of equality. Pupils develop empathy and are keen to help others.'

'Pupils' behaviour indicates that they listen well to staff and are self-disciplined.'

'Pupils are proud of their school. They keenly contribute to improving the school's work through many different roles...'

'At the centre of the school's ongoing success is a firm commitment to equality.'

'Pupils gain the confidence, knowledge and skills that they need to be exceptionally well prepared for their future lives.'

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Ofsted 2024

Ofsted Good Provider

"'It expertly identifies pupils' needs and the obstacles that pupils may face in their learning.'

'Most children in the early years, and pupils across the rest of the school, flourish in their academic, social and emotional development.'

'It has a well-informed understanding of how successfully pupils know and remember crucial knowledge.'

'Pupils, including those with SEND, become confident, competent early readers. The school inspires pupils to read through its use of high-quality fiction and non-fiction books.'

'The school has taken many thoughtful steps to improve pupils' opportunities for play at breaktimes and lunchtimes'

'The school provides impressive extra learning opportunities for pupils in all year groups.'

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

What Makes Us Unique?

We work closely with our families building great relationships.

We provide children with high quality activities and enrichment to inspire and motivate them.

Well resourced areas filled with engaging resources to support learning.

Roby Park

Every child is unique and we value each and every member of our school and community.

We have happy and inviting classrooms, inside and out.

All our staff have a wealth of knowledge and experience in EYFS.

We are a school that values community.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Our Provision

We are extremely lucky to have areas filled with high-quality and engaging resources. The provision open to children daily includes;

- Wet and dry sand trays
- Water area
- Cosy reading nooks
- Role play and puppet theatre
- Crazy creations
- Small and large construction
- Mark making and writing area
- Maths number and investigation
- Art and painting area
- Doh area
- Transient Art
- Music area
- Home corner
- Science and investigation area

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Introduction to the Early Years Foundation Stage

The EYFS underpins the welfare requirements as well as the learning and development requirements for children from birth until the end of Reception Class (5 years old).

It is based on four key principles:

- every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured
- children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**
- children learn and develop well in **enabling environments with teaching and support from adults**, who respond to their individual interests and needs and help them to build their learning over time. Children benefit from a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.
- importance of **learning and development**. Children develop and learn at different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

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Areas of Learning

In the EYFS there are seven areas of learning and development. Our Foundation Stage team carefully plan activities that cover all of the objectives across the seven areas. Three of these areas are called the prime areas. Three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving. These are the **prime areas:**

- **Communication and language** development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

- **Physical development** involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

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Areas of Learning

- **Personal, social and emotional development** involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

The other four areas are called the **specific areas** and these include essential skills and knowledge. They grow out of the prime areas, and provide important contexts for learning;

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

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Areas of Learning

- **Literacy** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

- **Mathematics** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

- **Understanding the world** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

- **Expressive arts and design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role play, and design and technology.

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Areas of Learning

The **Characteristics of Effective Learning** are the ways in which the child engages with other people and their environment – playing and exploring, active learning, and creating and thinking critically. They underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner.

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New EYFS Reforms

More information on the different areas of learning and development can be found at: EYFS Framework - September 2021 onwards

If you would like to know more about the Reception Baseline, you can have a watch of the DfE video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlJFl8NJwe8

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Supporting the EYFS at Home

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school. Making time to do some of the following things with your child will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner:

- Sing and tell nursery rhymes
- Talk about the numbers, colours, words and letters you see when you are out and about
- Allow your child to cut out and stick pictures from magazines
- Cook/bake together
- Plant seeds or bulbs in a pot or garden patch
- Use the weather – shadows, rain puddles, snow, wind, mist and sun – to extend your child's vocabulary
- Explore the park at a different time of the year
- Share a book
- Talking
- Engage in Junior Duke challenges

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Communication

Twitter – We will send weekly tweets to show learning from that week, to celebrate our weekly star pupils and remarkable readers. We will also share any enrichment activities that have happened that week. We share weekly Picture News topics and discussions. Follow our Facebook and Insta page too!

Seesaw – We set homework each Monday on Seesaw, which can be completed at home and then sent back through Seesaw. We aim to show your children's learning journey through Seesaw, sending home weekly updates on learning and activities.

Evidence Me – We use evidence me to celebrate children's learning and to monitor progress against Development Matters objectives. You can also add to Evidence Me from home. Look out for 'next steps' objectives. This is an area of development that your child is working towards. Observations are taken of children's independent learning. We will release Evidence Me observations every two weeks.

Arbor App– all notifications, letters, messages and updates are sent via the Arbor app. Notifications will flash up on your mobile so you don't miss anything important.

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Key Worker System

At Roby Park Primary School, the class teachers are primarily responsible for the progress and development of every child in the class. However, when starting school your child will be allocated a specific member of staff to be your child's key person. This key person will initially be responsible for the settling-in of your child, making sure they feel secure, reassured and familiar with the EYFS activities and facilities.

Your child's key person will get to know your child well, understanding their development, interests and what motivates them. This ensures that the curriculum is being tailored to the needs of each individual child. Although each child is allocated a key person, all staff will be available for your child during every session and the class teacher will lead on the learning for every child.

Tell us if your child does something new or interesting, or visits a place of interest; it will help us plan exciting new activities for them.

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Learning Journeys

Every child's unique ways of learning and developing are observed and recorded using photographs, notes, pictures and quotes all assembled in their own online profile.

We use an app called **Evidence Me** that provides a simple and powerful way to log each child's progress against the EYFS objectives.

You will receive observations fortnightly about your child's progress via email and will also be able to contribute to your child's profile.

It is completely safe and nobody else is able to access your child's profile.

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The Inside and Outside Classrooms

As a key part of the EYFS curriculum, we have an inside and an outside classroom and both are equally important. In each classroom all of the seven areas of learning are represented and children are allowed to choose whether they would prefer to learn inside or outside as there is always an adult in each classroom. Only in extreme weather conditions do we close the outside classroom although we do limit children's time outside in very cold or wet weather and always ensure children are correctly dressed for different weather conditions.

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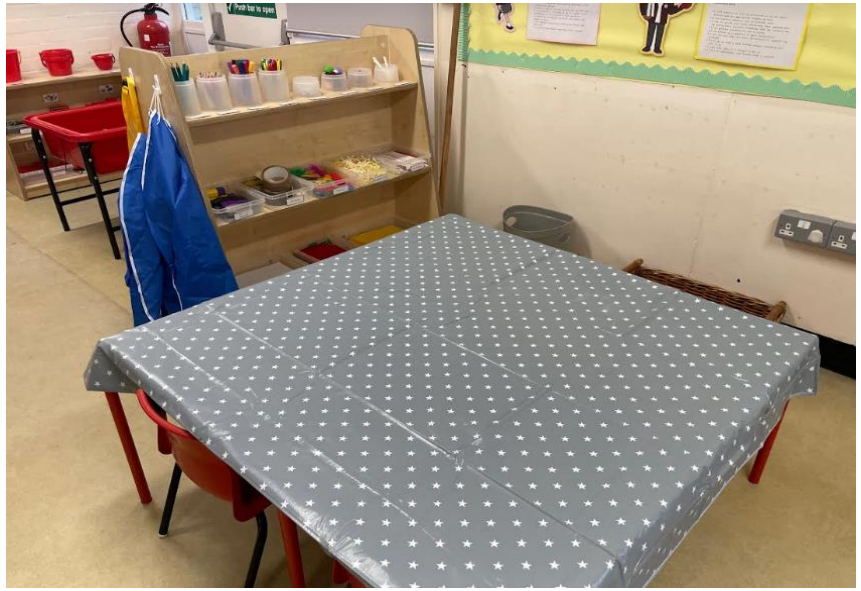

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During the Summer term, Miss Murphy will be arranging transition meetings with Nurseries where children attend. If your child does not attend a Nursery setting, Miss Murphy will be in touch to complete a home visit.

At Roby Park, we aim to build an excellent relationship between home and school. ahead of September, during the Summer term, you will be invited to a welcome meeting when you will have the opportunity to meet the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, your child's teacher and find out key information about the transition arrangements.

We ask all parents to sign up to Evidence Me and school will set challenges for children to respond to, which will help grow and develop relationships and familiarity with staff.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Transition Plans for Reception Pupils - Existing Pupils

For your information, the following dates have been arranged for the new Reception Class starting in September:

Date & Time	Activity
4.6.25 @ 2.00pm	Welcome meeting for all Reception parents
11.6.25 @ 1.30pm	Teddy Bear's Picnic for all Reception children and parents
3.9.25 - 4.9.25	Pupils will attend school for the morning session only from 8 .45am - 11.45am.* *Pupils who currently attend our Roby Park Nursery and take up the 30-hour offer will start full time on 3rd September
5.9.25	Pupils will attend school for the morning session, stay for lunch until 1pm.
8.9.25 @ 8.45am	All Reception pupils will be in school for the full day from 8.45am - 3.00pm.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Transition Plans for Reception Pupils – New Pupils

For your information, the following dates have been arranged for the new Reception Class starting in September:

Date & Time	Activity
Throughout May 2025	For new pupils to Roby Park, Miss Murphy (EYFS Lead) will attend Nursery transition meetings or home visits for new pupils who do not currently attend our Nursery. Mrs Carroll, our School Business Manager, will make contact in the coming weeks to arrange these.
4.6.25 @ 2.00pm	Welcome meeting for all Reception parents
11.6.25 @ 1.30pm	Teddy Bear's Picnic for all Reception children and parents
20.6.25 @ 10.30 – 11.30am	Stay and Play session #1 for children **new** to Roby Park (parents attend with children)
26.6.25 @ 10.30 – 11.30am	Stay and Play session #2 for children **new** to Roby Park (parents enjoy a drink and cake whilst children play)
3.7.25 @ 10.30 – 11.30am	Stay and Play session #3 for **all** children (parents enjoy a drink and cake whilst children play)
3.9.25 – 4.9.25	Pupils will attend school for the morning session only from 8 .45am – 11.45am
5.9.25	Pupils will attend school for the morning session, stay for lunch until 1pm.
8.9.25 @ 8.45am	All Reception pupils will be in school for the full day from 8.45am – 3.00pm.

Uniform

- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore
- School jumper/cardigan
- Plain white polo shirt
- Black shoes with Velcro fasteners

For September 2025-26, all children will be provided with a voucher for a <u>FREE PE kit</u> which includes:

- Roby Park navy blue tracksuit jacket and tracksuit bottoms
- White cotton logo tshirt

- School PE shorts cost £4.
- PE kits need to be collected by <u>4th August</u>.

Our school jumpers, cardigans, school bags, coats and PE kit can be purchased at Schoolwear by Lisa on East Prescot Road **only.**

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Uniform

We will provide waterproof suits for children so they can continue learning outside if it is raining. You will need to provide;

- A pair of labelled wellington boots to stay in school and be worn when necessary.
- A warm coat and hat / gloves / scarf on colder days.
- A change of clothes in a named pump bag to stay in school, with plenty of spare underwear.

Please label everything with your child's name.

Tip: label the inside of children's shoes so they know they need to match the insides up to get them on the correct feet!

Add your child's keyring to their book bag so we can easily identify bags.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Start and End of the Day

The school day begins at 8:45am and finishes at 3.00pm for Reception. Doors open via our Western Avenue entrance at 8.40am for children to enter school.

Should a parent/carer want to speak to a member of staff, there is a key worker available on the EYFS door ready to take any messages and answer any questions, leaving the staff in the classroom to focus on children and ensure robust safeguarding procedures in place,

Please inform the teacher or school beforehand if collection arrangements change for any reason. We will not in any circumstances let your child go home with anyone else unless we have received a message from you and the adult collecting has the password you have specified.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Absences

For the children of Roby Park Primary School to gain the greatest benefit from their education and reach their full potential, it is vital that they have a high level of punctuality and attendance.

To achieve this, they need to arrive at school on time, ready to learn, every day that the school is open; unless the reason for their absence is unavoidable.

Children should be at the classroom entrance, ready for school, at 8.40am ahead of the doors opening.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Understanding Absences

Every half-day absence from school must be classified by the school as either AUTHORISED or UNAUTHORISED. This is the reason why information about the cause of any absence is always required.

Authorised absences are mornings or afternoons away from school for reasons such as illness, medical/dental appointments (which unavoidably fall in school time), emergencies or other unavoidable cause. Medical evidence may be requested to authorise absences.

However, dental and non-emergency medical appointments need to be outside of school time. If this isn't possible, please show appointment cards at the school office, so that we are able to authorise this absence.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Understanding Absences

Unauthorised absences are those which the school does not consider reasonable or for which no reason for absence has been given. It is this type of absence which can lead to the Authority using sanctions and/or legal proceedings such as fixed penalty fines and prosecution, these include:

- Parents/carers keeping children off school unnecessarily
- Truancy
- Absences which have not been properly explained
- Children who arrive at school too late to get a mark after 9.15am.
- Shopping, looking after other children, birthdays and other celebrations
- Day trips and holidays in term time.

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please phone the school before 8.30am on the morning your child is absent.

The school office number is 0151 477 8340 .

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Contact Details

Please ensure the school office has an up-to-date list of phone numbers in case we need to contact you in an emergency. You can update your contact information on our Arbor app. Please remember to inform the school if you change your contact arrangements.

All letters are emailed via Arbor so please be sure to follow the link to set your account up.

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Progress Meetings

These take place several times throughout the year. You will have the opportunity to share your child's work and progress.

However, please do not hesitate to share concerns with your child's teacher at any point during the year.

We also offer regular opportunities for parent/carer workshops.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Behaviour

We have high expectations of behaviour at Roby Park Primary School. Children are recognised and praised for their behaviour and earn their name on their class recognition board. In Early Years, we love to give out stickers, certificates and praise for good behaviour and work.

Learning heroes, attendance recognition prizes and rewards for going above and beyond are recognised in our weekly celebration assemblies. Children may come home with behaviour shout cards so they can tell you about how incredible they have been. These are well publicised across all of our social media channels and newsletters.

More information can be found in our positive relationships policy.

Medication

We administer medication for long-term medical conditions e.g. inhalers and Epi-pens. Please provide us with any necessary medication on your child's first day. Antibiotics given 3 times per day can be administered at home, however we can accommodate antibiotics needing to be given 4 times per day. Please speak to the school office for further information on this. Parents/carers are required to complete a consent letter for us to administer paracetamol if needed. This is always communicated with parents and carers. When medicine is administered, you will be notified via the Arbor app.

First Aid

If your child requires first aid throughout the day, you will receive a notification via the Arbor app so it is important we have up to date contact information for you. You will only receive a call if your child has a head injury or a more serious accident.

Welcome to Roby Park Primary School

Lunch

Full time children can either have a hot school meal or they can bring a packed lunch to school. Children have two hot options and a cold option from our deli bar for lunch. If you would like a copy of the lunches on offer, please ask and we will provide you with a menu. They can also be found on our school website. Lunches are free for Reception – Y2 children under the universal free school meals offer.

In addition to lunches all children are provided with fresh fruit and milk on a daily basis. There is also a **'Snack Shack'** on offer daily providing a variety of snacks such as crumpets, crackers, jelly and yoghurts. We ask for a £1 donation every week, payable to class teachers on a Monday.

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