



## ROWNER INFANT SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Jo Bedson

17<sup>th</sup> April 2024



We want to wish you all a very warm welcome to Rowner Infant School. Choosing the right school for your child is a really important decision. We are really proud that Rowner Infant School is a happy, stimulating and rewarding learning environment. We are a fully inclusive school and we work hard to ensure that every child is respected as a unique individual.

We appreciate that starting school is such an important and special time for you and your child and we would like to do everything we can to prepare and support you between now and your child starting in September.

Firstly, we need you to accept your child's place with us. **Please do this by Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April.** You will need to come into school to do this and bring 2 forms of proof of address (as detailed in your placement letter from the Local Authority). Please bring in a birth certificate or passport if possible.

### Pre-school and Nursery Visits

We receive children from a wide range of pre-schools and nurseries. We will be visiting these settings to meet the children and spend time speaking to key workers and those who know the children best.

### School Readiness workshop

Barnardos and Hampshire Healthy Families, will be holding a school readiness workshop in our hall for new Year R children and their families. This face to face workshop will help the whole family prepare and adjust to school life. You will be able to learn what it really means to be 'school ready'. This will take place on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm**. More detail will follow about how to book your free place.

### Initial parent information session

We are welcoming prospective families to visit our school during a typical school day so you can see first-hand what we can offer your child as they embark on their school learning journey. Our parent information session will happen on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June**. There will be a **10am** session where you can have a guided tour (led by Year 2 pupils) of the school with children engaging with learning in their classrooms. If you are unable to attend during the school day, we are also running a session at **5pm**. You will still be able to have a guided tour (led by staff). This meeting will enable you to meet key members of staff and find out important information about our school and the induction process. We will send you an email to complete, stating which session you would like to attend.

### Drop-in stay and play sessions

We will be holding some stay and play sessions after school between **3:30 and 4:30pm**. You can explore the Year R classrooms with your child, meet the staff, play with new friends and meet other parents. Dates for these are to be confirmed soon.

### Teddy Bear's Picnic

We will be inviting all Year R children and their families to attend a picnic with their favourite teddy bear. This will be another great opportunity to meet other families in the year group and get to know the staff once more. Date for this to be confirmed soon.

### Second parent information session

On the morning of **Thursday 11th July**, we are offering a second information session. We will provide more information about our school policies, including uniform. You will also have the chance to meet a variety of staff and volunteers (such as our ELSA, inclusion lead, office staff and the Year R team, as well as many others that are to be confirmed). Your child will be invited to come and explore their classroom while you have the chance to speak to any of the staff and ask any questions. You will be provided with a pack with key information and a social story for you to read with your child at home.

### Home Visits

This year, home visits will happen in the first week of term in September. The children will then start school the following week. You will receive more information about start dates and times. Home visits are a key opportunity for you to share any relevant information about your child so we can build a clear picture of them before they begin with us. This will ensure we are able to support your child in the best way and create a successful transition into our school.

### Tapestry

At Rowner, we use an online learning journal called Tapestry, which you might be used to using with your child's pre-school or nursery. We will be giving you a Tapestry account before your child starts, to enable us to do additional transition work via this platform.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to welcoming you to our school community. In the meantime, you can visit our school website or take a look at our Facebook page for more information.

We will be in touch again in a couple of weeks to share dates and other information with you.

Jo Bedson

Jade Osborne

Headteacher

Early Years Lead