



Ivy Lane School

Ivy Lane, Chippenham,
Wiltshire, SN15 1HE.
www.ivylane.wilts.sch.uk
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Head of School: Mrs Helen Lammin (BSc Hons QTS)

21st May 2021

«Parents»

«Address_line_1»

«Address_line_2»

«Address_line_3»

«Address_Line_4»

«Address_Line_5»

Dear Parents/Carers of «First_Name» «Surname»

RE: School Starters 2021

We are really pleased you have accepted a place for «First_Name» to join Ivy Lane School and we would like to invite you to our 'Information Evening' for parents only (children visit at other times) on Wednesday 23rd June 2021 in the main building (parking will be available on the school site for this event).

We will be starting the session at 5.00pm until 6.30pm.

This session will give us the opportunity to share what class your child is in as well as their House and class lists, other information (i.e. uniform orders) and key dates for September. In addition, you can meet many Ivy Lane staff (including your child's class teacher) and visit «First_Name»'s future classroom. You will also be able to collect a school pack to ensure your child has a successful move into, and first year in, primary education.

After-School Taster Sessions

We would like «First_Name» and you (or a grandparent or other carer) to come and spend some time in their new classroom while the school is quieter and meet other children who will be in their year group. These sessions are on: Tuesday 29th June, Thursday 1st July, Tuesday 6th July and Thursday 8th July from 3.30pm – 4.15pm. Please feel free for «First_Name» to come along to one or two sessions of your choice. Unfortunately we are unable to offer on-site parking for these sessions. These sessions are for school starters - accompanied by **ONE** adult only (no siblings to attend please, except non-mobile babies!). Please see below the allocated days for your child to attend.

After-School Taster Sessions: 3.30pm – 4.15pm	
Tuesday 29 th June - Surname A - L	Tuesday 6 th July - Surname M - Z
Thursday 1 st July - Surname M - Z	Thursday 8 th July - Surname A - L

'Moving Up' Sessions

«First_Name» is also invited to attend two 90 minute sessions during the whole school 'Move Up'. These will take place on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th July. These sessions will give «First_Name» the chance to experience the school atmosphere and further explore the whole school and meet other children.

School Starters (surname A - L)	School Starters (surname M - Z)
Wednesday 14 th July: 9.00 - 10.30am	Wednesday 14 th July: 1.15 - 2.45pm
Thursday 15 th July: 9.00 - 10.30am	Thursday 15 th July: 1.15 - 2.45pm

(Should the allocated times not be suitable then please contact us to discuss availability of alternative sessions) Note: For these sessions, please wait by the rear gates (by the tunnel) and not the visitor's entrance in the staff car park.



Nursery, Pre-School and Virtual Home Visits

A member of Ivy Lane staff will be visiting «First_Name»'s nursery or pre-school setting before the summer holidays as we prepare for September. We would also like to meet with you, as parents/carers, and your child in your home. This visit will take place virtually due to the current circumstances via a zoom call using a booking system called SchoolCloud.

We will be doing Virtual Home Visits in the first week of the academic year from the 2nd – 3rd September. You will receive an email prior to this date with a link inviting you to book a time slot where two members of the Early Years Team will join you. This is a chance for them to get to know your child and discuss their character, likes/dislikes or any additional needs with you.

If you haven't already informed Wiltshire Council or the school of your child's current nursery or pre-school setting, then please do so via admin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk or ring the school office on 01249 652556

First Day at School and Starting Transition

«First_Name»'s first 'proper' day at Ivy Lane School will be on Monday 6th September 2021 when «Gender» will start part-time.

We follow a 'staged entry' so the children join the class in smaller groups and have shorter sessions to start the term. This enables children to settle in easily and make new friends. Smaller groups for the first week allows the adults to get to know the children quickly. Please see the arrangements below.

STAGE 1 (2 days)	STAGE 2 (5 days)	STAGE 3 (2 days)
Thursday 2 nd - Friday 3 rd September	Monday 6 th - Friday 10 th September	Monday 13 th – Tuesday 14 th September
Virtual Home Visits	Surnames A - L in school 8.40am - 10.30am	ALL: 8.40am - 11.45am
Virtual Home Visits	Surnames M - Z in school 1pm - 3pm	
STAGE 4 (3 days)	STAGE 5	
Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th September	Monday 20 th September onwards	
ALL: 8.40am - 1.15pm including lunch	ALL: 8:40am - 3pm	

Breaktimes, Lunchtimes and Free School Meals

Children are provided with a healthy snack (fresh fruit or vegetables) and milk during morning playtime of their reception year. Hopefully you are aware that all infant children are eligible for a free nutritional hot school meal each day under the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme (there are different daily menu choices). Please see our school website for an example of our Dinner menu. From Monday 20th September «First_Name» will be having lunch at school. Children can either have a free school dinner (these are pre-booked through our dinner booking system) or bring in a healthy packed lunch. Chocolate, sweets or soft drinks are not allowed in lunchboxes. Water is provided on tables for everyone at lunchtime. Children are expected to eat all the items in their lunchbox, so please ensure you provide appropriate amounts for «First_Name»'s appetite.

Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium funding comes directly from the government into school and benefits eligible children (and all others) in many ways. Over 25% of families in the UK meet the requirement for their child's school to get this funding – it is worth £1,300 per eligible child each school year. The school receives this funding for every registered child registered for Pupil Premium who lives in a household that receives certain benefits; for example: Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance and Child Tax Credit (where the annual income does not exceed £16,190 (April 2012)). You only have to register once for the school to receive the funding for 6 years. Please be aware that if you already have a sibling in school who is eligible for Pupil Premium, you will still need to apply for your child entering Reception in September.



Families who successfully register (using the web link below) for pupil premium will receive a free uniform pack.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1669/Free-school-meals>

Parents of all pupil premium eligible children gain a reduction of 50% for school trips, free sets of books annually to support reading for pleasure at home, and in Key Stage 2, subsidised swimming, music lessons and residential trips.

We use the funding in a variety of ways which target children who are eligible, but the benefits are more far reaching. Further information is available on our website.

COFFEE MORNING

On Thursday 23rd September, all parents are invited to a coffee morning straight after drop off which is being organised by FOILS (Friends of Ivy Lane School) in Ivy Hall. This is a great opportunity for our new parents/carers to forge links with other parents/carers and hear more about Ivy Lane School. The Early Years Team will also be popping in to meet you all again.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform can be ordered online through: www.mapaconline.com/schools/ivylane. If you order your school uniform by Tuesday 29th June, you can have this delivered to school free of charge – expected delivery date to school would be on or around Friday 16th July. We are then more than happy for you to collect the uniform during the last week of term. Alternatively, you can pay the postal charges and request delivery to your home address. FOILS will also be selling second hand school uniform at the School Starters Evening which will need to be paid for on the night either by cash or bank card.

Please support us by providing your child with the correct uniform and black shoes or all black trainers (and ensure all items have been clearly named – including PE kit, bags & coats). Please ensure that children wear only uniform items that they can change into and out of independently.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

Outdoor learning is a huge part of the Ivy Lane curriculum, and Reception have access regularly to a fantastic outdoor space. Each Reception child will therefore need their own pair of wellington boots to have in school every day in order to access these facilities.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 23rd June 2021 and the start of «First_Name»'s journey through primary school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs H Lammin
Head of School



