

Cuddington and Dinton C of E School

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents, Written by Parents.

1. Coming into school

We expect children to make their own way through the door each day, to leave coats, lunchboxes, bags and drinks in the appropriate places.

When the children first start in reception, we understand that for the first few days a parent may wish to come in with their child and help them. We would appreciate it if you would do this as quickly as possible and then say goodbye to your children confidently and leave. This will help your child to feel confident in being at school with the teachers. After the first week of school we will expect children to come in on their own.

To help you drop your child off quickly that first day, for reception children, coats and PE kit go on the named pegs in the cloakroom, lunchboxes (for those not having a hot meal) on the shelf above the peg, water bottles on the table in the classroom and book bags in the plastic boxes just inside the classroom door.

2. Library

Each class will have an opportunity to choose a book from the school library every week. The book should be returned on the same day the following week. For the Infant children, library books are currently exchanged on Tuesdays. Please would you ensure that the previous week's library book is in your child's book bag/rucksack on the relevant day.

3. Spencer Bear

Spencer Bear will come and stay with reception children overnight throughout the year. Spencer is our class bear who loves visiting the children. He comes with his diary. We would love you to fill it in and let us know what you got up to with Spencer. Over time, we hope that the children will do more of the diary writing than the parents!

When a child has had Spencer Bear the previous night, at snack time this child gets to sit in the teachers' chair and tell the class what Spencer did with them. The children generally find this to be an exciting privilege and it builds their confidence to speak in front of the class.

4. Credit Cards

When a child has done something special, they may be awarded a 'credit' for their credit cards. Once their credit card is full, it is put in a tombola and once each half term, 2 lucky winners are drawn and receive a book voucher.

5. Cookery

We like to cook with the children on a regular basis. To cover the cost of this we ask for a contribution of £10 per child.

6. Unexpected school closures

If for any reason the school, or part of the school, closes unexpectedly (e.g. due to harsh weather conditions), the school will use the following methods to communicate with parents:

- Reporting the closure on the Bucks County Council website (here is the link) <http://apps1.buckscc.gov.uk/eforms2005/SSSchoolStatus/SchoolSummary.aspx?school=3309#top>
- Reporting the closure on Mix '96 radio station and their website

7. Parent Forum meetings

Each half term, normally, we hold parent forum meetings with representatives of parents from each class to discuss any issues that parents wish to raise with the school. We ask that parents leave concerns that relate to one class only to discussions with that class teacher. However, things raised at parent forum meetings are wide ranging and have in the past year included PE kit, book bags, school communications, development of a new classroom, induction process and many other issues. We will be asking for representatives for each class later in the term.

8. Skills Audit

We know that you parents are a talented bunch. To help us tap into your skills, we send out a 'skills audit' sheet so you can let us know what you can do to help us. Skills we have used in the past include web design, building and architecture, photography. Let us know how you might be able to help us, and we may just take you up on the offer. After all, even this FAQ list was compiled by a volunteer parent.