

A Typical Day in the Life of a Reception Child 2026-2027

8.45-9.15	Time to Connect - Children settle into the classroom, put belongings away, self-register and vote for the end-of-day story. This is a calm time to chat with friends and adults. Some children may also take part in short phonics pre-teaching sessions.
9.15-9.30	Phonics- We follow the Active Learn Bug Club Phonics programme to build strong foundations in reading and writing.
9.30-11.00	Explore and Learn- Child-led learning takes place through indoors and outdoors within our carefully designed environment. Opportunities are thoughtfully planned to support progress towards all areas of learning. Through play we develop - Communication and language - Personal, Social and Emotional development - Literacy (including early reading and writing) - Mathematics - Understanding the world - Expressive Arts and Design - Physical Development Skilled adults carefully observe, support and extend children's thinking to deepen learning and build independence. During this time the class teacher also works with small groups or individual children to introduce and practice new skills through focused teaching, ensuring children are secure and confident as they work towards the Early Learning Goals by the end of Reception.
11.00-11.20	Mastering Number- To develop number confidence, shape, space and measure.
11.30 -12.30	Lunch time Children have lunch in the hall, then return to the Reception classes and outdoor areas to play.
12.30-12.45	Whole class reading/Topic/Literacy- Teacher led input exploring our current theme in which we may share a high quality text, music, introduce new vocabulary or respond creatively through

	art, movement and play.
12.45-1.15	Group Time- This is an opportunity for the teacher to work with small groups focusing on core skills such as fine motor, name writing, letter formation.
1.15-2.45	Explore and Learn Further opportunities to explore, problem-solve and collaborate through purposeful play. Adult-led activities are carefully planned to support all areas of the Early Year Curriculum.
2.45-3.15	Review & Story Time We reflect on our afternoon learning and enjoy the children's chosen story together.