



Witham St Hughs

Reception Welcome Pack



Witham St Hughs Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy





Welcome to Reception at Witham St Hughs Academy

We are delighted that your child will be starting school with us in September and would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to the Witham St Hughs Academy school community.

Starting school should be a happy and exciting time for both your child and for you. We know that you will have lots of questions to ask us and hope that the information here will begin to answer some of those questions.

At Witham St Hughs Academy, we aim to give each child a positive and meaningful start to their school life, where they can establish solid foundations on which to develop into independent and fearless lifelong learners.

At Witham St Hughs Academy every day matters – children only have one chance at shaping their future. Our aim is to motivate and inspire every child to ensure high achievement and excellence for all.

In the interests of all of our children, our highly talented staff team work tirelessly and show unwavering commitment to ensure this happens.

We look forward to building a strong and positive partnership with you and your family as you begin your exciting journey with us at Witham St Hughs Academy.



Aims

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) begins when children reach the age of 3 in Nursery and finishes at the end of the Reception year.

During the Reception year at Witham St Hughs Academy, our aims are to:

- Value each child's individuality,
- Provide a secure and stimulating environment which is happy and harmonious,
- Develop independence and self confidence,
- Encourage enquiring minds and perseverance through child initiated and guided play activities,
- Provide a smooth transition into full time education,
- Work together with parents.



Partnerships with parents

At Witham St Hughs Academy, our values are:

- Respect
- Unity
- Ambition
- Enjoyment
- Resilience

We believe that everyone in the school community, pupils, staff, parents and governors are partners with important contributions to make to the success and daily life of the Academy.

We believe that effective communication and partnerships with parents is key to establishing a safe, welcoming, and purposeful environment in which the children feel confident, secure and able to reach their full potential.

We aim to involve you fully in your child's learning and development. We aim to achieve this by:

- Our 'Open Door' policy.
- Our parent and class notice boards on Tapestry.
- Members of the leadership team available on the playground before and after school.
- Parents' evenings.
- Termly newsletters.
- Learning in action sessions.

Mrs Dexter is our pastoral team leader and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDSCO) who works closely with both pupils and their families. Mrs Dexter has a wide range of contacts with specialist agencies who work in and out of school to offer support for a wide range of needs. Mrs Dexter is regularly available on the playground both before and after school to discuss any queries you may have.





The EYFS Framework

In Reception at Witham St Hughs Academy, we follow the curriculum as outlined in the Statutory Framework for the EYFS guidance.

The EYFS is shaped by four guiding 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).

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development. Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

The three prime areas are:

- Communication and language.
- Physical development.
- Personal, social and emotional development.

There are also four specific areas. These are:

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

These 7 areas are used by the staff team to plan your child's learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique and individual needs.

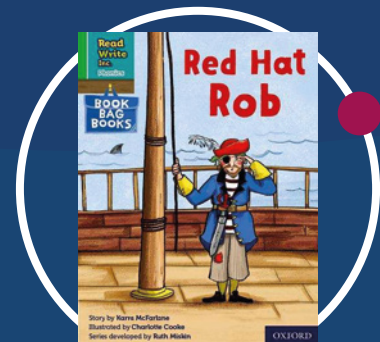
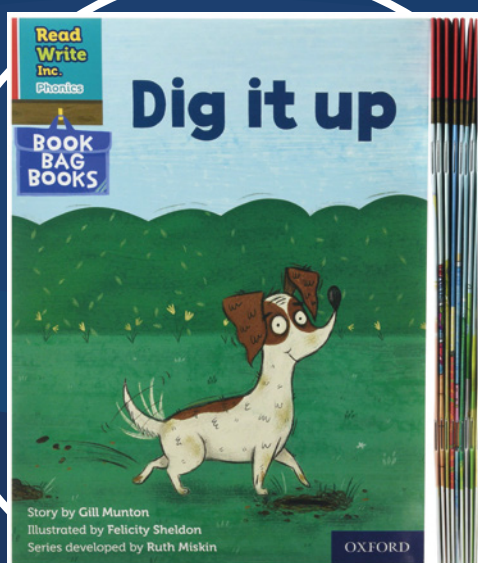


Reading Books

At Witham St Hughs Academy, we believe that reading is the key to unlocking exciting worlds and powerful knowledge for all. Reading is fundamental to our pupils becoming successful and independent learners and we are excited to be a part of their reading journey. Reading is the vehicle through which children access many other areas of the curriculum and subsequently can open the door to many other aspects in the wider world and therefore, we place great emphasis on ensuring daily, high quality, systematic, discrete phonics teaching is delivered consistently across our Academy. At Witham St Hughs Academy, we follow the Read Write Inc. programme to teach phonics and children start this programme when they start school in Reception.

Whilst your child is learning their initial sounds in Reception, they will bring home a wordless picture book in their book bag which will be changed each week. This will give them the opportunity to develop a range of important reading skills. Once your child can blend the sounds they know to read words, they will bring home a Read Write Inc. book bag book. Children should practise reading this book regularly so that they can read the book confidently, fluently and independently.

In addition to their Read Write Inc. book bag book, pupils will also select a 'sharing' book from a selection of age appropriate books to read with an adult at home. These books should be read by an adult and enjoyed together during 'story time' to develop a love of reading.



Tapestry

At Witham St Hughs Academy, we use Tapestry to build an online learning journey for each individual child. We use this not only for staff to be able to track progress of the children throughout the year, but also to share and celebrate children's learning with parents.

You will receive your log in information for Tapestry in July.

Daily Timetable

8:50am	Doors open for the start of the school day
9:10am	First teaching session
10:10am	Morning break
10:25am	Second teaching session
11:25am - 11:45am	Assembly (only on Fridays)
12:15pm	Lunch
13:15pm	Afternoon teaching session
15:25pm	End of day



Hot Meals

Witham St Hughs Academy provides hot meals using an outside catering company called Ginga Catering. Meals are ordered and paid for directly with the catering company and are ordered over 4 week periods. Parents are notified by the catering company and by the school when ordering opens and closes for booking hot meals. All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible to receive free school meals. Alternatively, parents and carers can provide children with a packed lunch. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are provided with a piece of fruit during the school day as part of the 'Healthy Schools' Scheme. To support our Healthy Eating scheme, parents are asked to ensure children have healthy foods in their lunch box. Fruit and healthy snacks can also be purchased each morning as break-time snacks from the tuck shop.

Uniform

The staff and governors of Witham St Hughs Academy value and take pride in our Academy dress code and believe that uniform nurtures a sense of belonging, which is in keeping with the aims and values of Witham St Hughs Academy.

Details of the uniform are as follows:

- Trousers/skirts - Grey
- Shirts/polo shirts - White
- Shoes (no trainers) - Black
- Jumpers/cardigans - Royal blue
- Summer dresses - Blue/white
- PE kit - White t-shirt, black shorts and plimsoles
- Black hooded jumper for PE lessons in colder weather

All items of clothing should be labelled with the child's full name. Uniform can also be purchased from www.yourschooluniform.com. Via this website, uniform will be delivered directly to the Academy at no extra charge, or can be delivered to your home for a small fee. The delivery time is usually within 7 working days.



Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our Academy. The exceptions to this rule are that pupils can wear one ear stud in each pierced ear, and a small object of religious significance. We ask the children to remove these objects during PE and games. Watches may be worn by pupils. However if the watch is one which causes a significant distraction to learning or pupil safety, then we will ask for this to be removed with immediate effect. Smart watches are not permitted.

Hair

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children e.g. patterns cut into hair or extreme colours. All long hair should be tied up away from the face. Any hair accessories should be plain and not of extreme colour, size or design.

Other

Parents should also be aware that fake tattoos/transfers are not permitted. The school does not permit children to wear nail varnish in school.

Where can I go for further information?

We are always here to answer any questions or queries you may have.

More information and regular updates are also available on:

- Our Academy website: www.withamsthughacademy.co.uk
- Our Academy Facebook page: @withamsthughacademy
- Our Academy Twitter page: @WSHacademy
- Tapestry



Witham St Hughs Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Witham St Hughs Academy
Muntjac Way
Witham St Hughs
Lincoln
LN6 9WF

Email: enquiries@withamsthughs.org

Telephone: 01522 869590

www.withamsthughsacademy.co.uk