



The Grove Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Ellie Shaw

Deputy Headteacher: Miss Hannah Owen



Dear Parents and Carers,

21st May 2021

On behalf of all Staff, Governors, children and parents, it is our pleasure to welcome you into The Grove family. We are very pleased that you have chosen us to provide the first steps in your child's schooling and hope that this is the beginning of an effective working relationship between home and school.

We appreciate that you and your child may be feeling a little apprehensive about what is to come. We want to reassure you that, despite the restrictions still in place, we will give you as much support as we can to ensure that you and your child feel confident and ready for starting school. We have adapted our usual transition practices to suit the current situation. As we are unable to hold our 'Welcome Evening' in person we have prepared a presentation to help you gain an understanding of how our EYFS unit works and provide more information about starting school. The presentation has been sent out with this letter. We will also be holding a welcome and information evening via Zoom. More information about this will follow in June.

We usually offer Storytime and 'Stay and Play' sessions to help you and your child get to know our school and begin to build relationships with our staff. This year, we invite you to sign up to the online learning platform Seesaw, where our Reception staff will be sharing stories and simple games activities to try at home. This way we hope our staff can still start build relationships with you and your child, ready for September.

During the summer term we start carrying out the transition period for your child. This usually involves going and visiting your child in their current setting and speaking to their key worker to find out about them, their fascinations and interests. Whilst we are currently unable to visit other settings, we continue to liaise with nurseries and speak to them over the phone to gain this information.

We usually carry out home visits in September so that we get to meet you and your child before starting school in the comfort of your home. This year we are offering individual Zoom meetings with us to discuss starting school and answer any questions you have. Alternatively, our staff would be happy to walk or cycle by your home and have a socially distanced chat in your garden, or in our school playground if you do not have any outdoor space. Please contact the school office to arrange a time for this.

We are delighted that you have become part of The Grove family. We will continue to keep you updated on any developments regarding opening in September when this information becomes available. Please do keep checking emails from the school. We will be sending out dates for starting school nearer the time when we have received more information from the Local Authority and Government about any restrictions that may still be in place.

In the meantime, if you do have any questions or would like to talk through any of the information provided please do not hesitate to contact us. Please can we also ask that you contact Mrs Mel Ramsey in the office on 01223 577017 or office@grove.cambs.sch.uk to confirm that you will be taking up the place in September, if you have not already done so.

We look forward to getting to know you and child more in the coming months, and to working with you to ensure the best education for your child.

With kind regards,

Miss Ellie Shaw and Miss Sally Rattray
Headteacher EYFS/KS1 Phase Leader