

New Reception Parents Meeting June 2026

Birch Hill is an inclusive and respectful school. In collaboration with parents, and the wider community, we work to enable all children to develop their aspirations.

We believe that teaching and learning should be inspiring. We create challenging opportunities, which encourage children to develop respectful attitudes towards learning and all members of our school community. All children are encouraged to take responsibility, think for themselves and respect others.

The key to learning at Birch Hill is for everyone to **learn, believe and achieve together.**



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions Mr Dillon
- Overview of EYFS Mrs Moore
- Meet the teachers and classroom visit Mrs Moore and Mrs Hothi
Presentation and Questions 6.00pm- 6.30pm
Tour of Classroom Now in the Stay and Play



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Leadership Team



Mr Dillon
Headteacher



Mrs Sidhu
Deputy Head



Mrs McAllister
Assistant Head – Y5/6 Phase
Leader
Oak Teacher



Mrs Moore
EYFS Phase Leader
Cottonwood Teacher



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Admin, Family Support and SENCo



Mrs Lacey
Secretary



Miss Minns
Operations Assistant Family Support & Attendance



Mrs Payne



Mrs Blackford
SEND CO



Reception Teachers



Mrs Moore
EYFS Phase Leader
Cottonwood Teacher



Mrs Hothi
Cucumber Class Teacher



Induction Process

1. School Tour
2. Tonight Meeting
3. Stay and Play – now
4. Transition Week
5. Welcome to Reception Meeting
6. My child At School (MCAS)
 - a) Admission Forms
 - b) Ordering lunch
 - c) Payment
7. Hero



Communication



DATES FOR THE DIARY	
Year 6 Charity 'Fair on the Field'	Monday 12th June @ 1.30 for children & 3pm for parents
Year 1 Phonic Screening	Monday 12th June - Friday 16th June
Year 5 & 6 Parent Workshop	Tuesday 13th June - 9am-11am
Friends Dress Down Day	Friday 16th June
Sports Day	Wednesday 21st June - KS2—9.30am, Rec & KS1—1.30pm
Year 5 Triathlon Event	Thursday 22nd June
Oakwood 2024 Meeting for Year 3 Parents	Thursday 22nd June @ 5pm
New Reception Parent Information Evening	Thursday 22nd June @ 6pm
Reception Vision, Hearing, Weight & Height Check	Tuesday 27th & Wednesday 28th June
Junior Music Festival (for the choir)	Tuesday 27th June
Year 4 Oakwood Residential	Wednesday 28th June- Friday 30th June
Friends Summer Fair	Saturday 1st July
Reserve Sports Day	Wednesday 5th July
Class Transition Days	Wednesday 5th July (AM) & Thursday 6th July (PM)
Annual Reports being sent home to parents	Monday 10th- Friday 14th July
Y3 Wild Week Event	Wednesday 12th July
End of Term 'Open Door' Parent Evening	Monday 17th July - 3.30pm-5pm
Year 6 Leavers' Festival	Wednesday 19th July @ 6pm for 6.30pm.
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	Friday 21st July (time TBC)



- We are always here to talk, big or small concerns.
- Hero APP
- Class Reps
- Read any newsletters
- Keep the office up to date with contact information – phone numbers and email addresses
- Check the website for more information.



The school uniform consists of:

- Royal blue jumper or cardigan,
- White shirt or blouse,
- White Birch Hill T-shirt,
- Grey trousers or skirt,
- Blue and white dress
- Shoes should be black and sturdy (no trainers)
- We aim to go outside in all types of weather. Please ensure your child is prepared for this depending on the weather that day, e.g. sun cream, coat, hat, wellington boots.

Every item of clothing MUST be named. It is far easier to return items to children if their name is clearly labelled on everything

No rucksacks please, book bags only.

Please contact Mr Wagstaff for uniform

Mikewagstaff56@gmail.com



Key Dates

1:1 Meetings (TEAMS)

Monday 6th July or Thursday 9th July

Stay and Play sessions

Wednesday 1st July 2:00- 3:00pm

Thursday 2nd July : 9.30-10.30am You will be notified the class teacher via email after this 2nd stay and play.

September 2026 Transition

**Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September 2026
INSET Days**

**Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September
9:00- 12:00pm**

**Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th September
9.00-1.00pm (stay for lunch)**

**Friday 11th September
All pupils in school full time 8.50am – 3.15pm
(gates open 8.40am)**

In Reception, our learning is split into:

Three prime areas of learning and development

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Four specific areas of learning and development

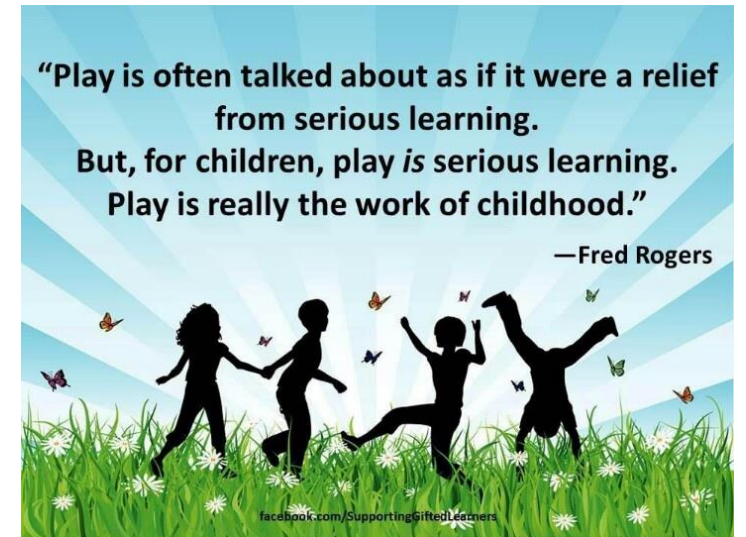
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

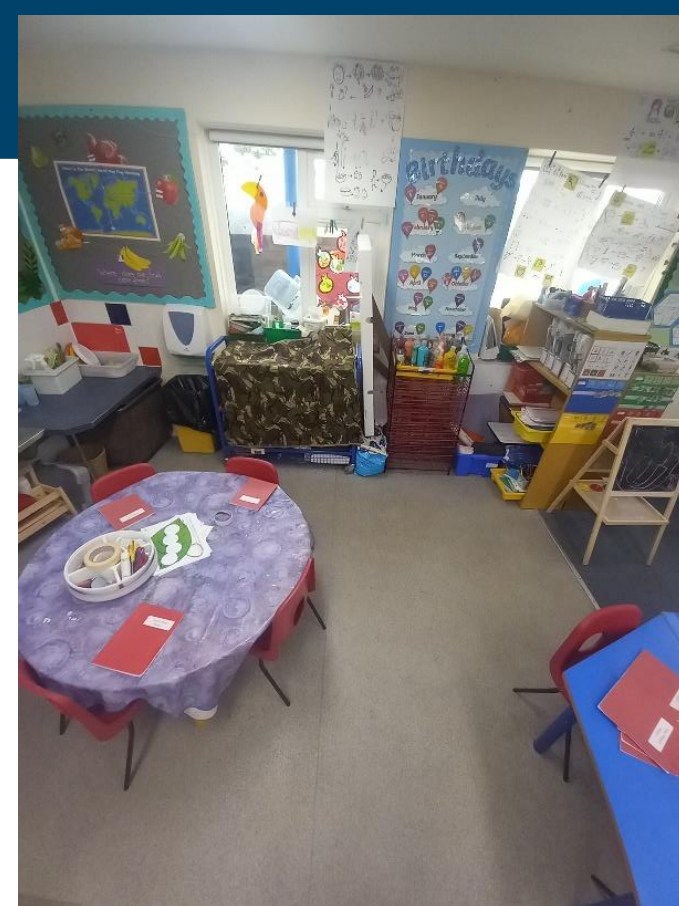
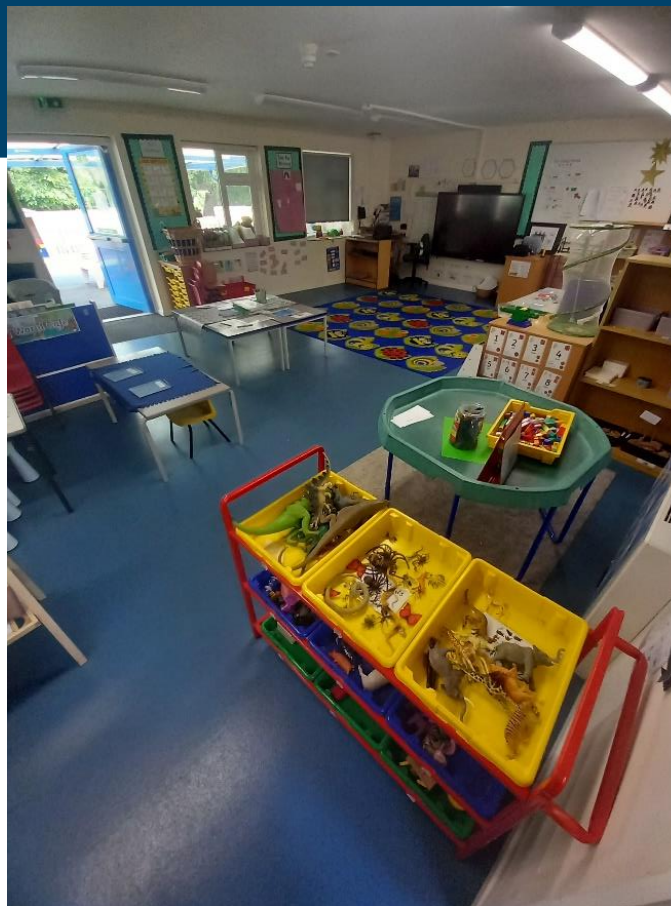


Learning through play

- Play underpins the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS). It also underpins learning and all aspects of children's development.
- Through play, children develop language skills, their emotions and creativity, social and intellectual skills.
- Play takes place indoors and outdoors and it is in these different environments that children explore and discover their immediate world. It is here they practise new ideas and skills, they take risks, show imagination and solve problems on their own or with others.

**The EYFS curriculum is on the
previous page.**





During your stay and play you will be able to see the Reception outside area, where we do just as much learning as we do inside!

Independence

School ready:

- The following are the things that we expect a child in Reception child to be able to do before they start school:
- Please use this as a checklist to work through during the Summer holidays.
- Use the toilet independently
- Put their coat on- zip and buttons too;
- Get themselves dressed and undressed;
- Put their shoes on;
- Use cutlery to feed themselves;
- Ask for help when needed;
- Leave mum/dad and come into school settled



Reporting (Hero)

- Record of each child's learning and shows snap shots of children's achievements and progress in relation to the EYFS curriculum.
- Our way to record children's work in Nursery and Reception and this will follow through into KS1 and KS2.
- Once you start in September, you will receive an email with a link to follow to login.
- You just need your username – which is the email address you have given us and the password that you set up the first time you log on.
- You can either go through the web page or download the app.



Lunch Time

- Birch Hill Primary School runs its own catering and we offer up to five choices for lunch every day. Our school lunches are freshly prepared and very popular. Meals are free for children in Year R, 1 and 2. Meals must be ordered at home the day before.
- If your child chooses to have a packed lunch, we request that this is healthy and contains a balanced diet. We do not allow sweets, chocolates, fizzy drinks. Please only include water.

Snack Time

- Under the NHS Fruit and Vegetable scheme, all Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will receive a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable every day free of charge.
- Children are also offered a free cup of milk in Reception.



Prescribed Medication

If your child needs to complete a course of prescribed medication, this can be given in school provided you complete a written consent form. This form is available from the school office. We will only administer medication if **four** doses a day are needed.

Our preference is for prescribed ear and eye drops to be administered at home or by parents at school. If this is not possible, please speak to the office to complete the required paperwork.

Non-prescribed medicines will only be administered by staff in school for up to three days, unless it is in exceptional circumstances.



Absence from school

- If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, complete the absence form on the website, or call the absence line each morning to inform us of your child's absence and of the reason. If you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend school, bring them in and let the class teacher know. If we are concerned, we will always contact you. The exception is around infectious illnesses. If a child has a vomiting illness or stomach upset, in line with national guidelines they must be kept away from school for **48 hours** from the last bout of illness.



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My Child At School App

- MyChildAtSchool is a newly introduced application that will improve communication between the school and parents/carers. It will also act as our primary method for collecting admissions information for new pupils.
- We appreciate the families who have already downloaded the app and completed the admissions forms. If you have not yet done so, we kindly request that you submit the forms as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct information for your child before they join us. **This is also applicable for current nursery pupils.**
- Should you encounter any issues with the app, please contact the school office, where a member of the team will be pleased to support you.



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MyChildAtSchool (MCAS)

Our new parent information and
communication app



MCAS
My Child At School

powered by
Bromcom 

What is MCAS?

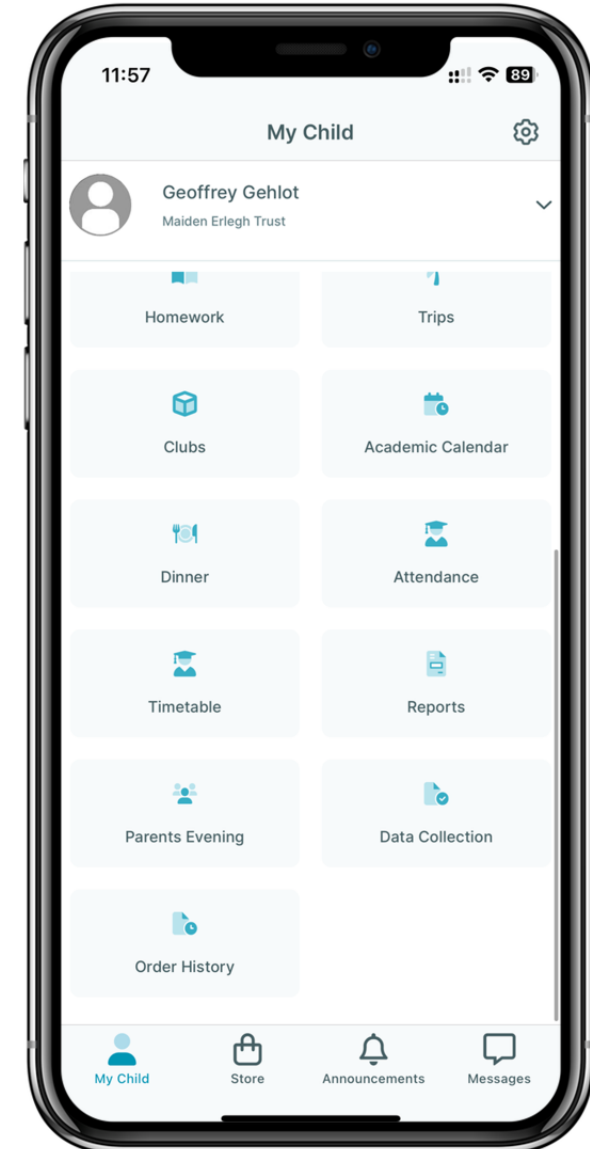


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MCAS is an **online portal and mobile app** used by many schools across the UK. It allows parents and carers to **monitor their child's school life** in real time.

MCAS works alongside our **internal system Bromcom** to manage **almost every process** within the school, such as attendance, **school dinners**, clubs, trips, **student information** etc.

In MCAS you can **view and update** your child's information, see **attendance, timetable, reports** and make purchases on your child's behalf.



Key MCAS Features



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Some upcoming features include:

Clubs and trips: ability to provide consent, **book places on trips and clubs**, and make **payments online** through a **simple and convenient system**

Attendance: parents can **view their child's attendance** record in real time, helping them **stay informed** about attendance levels and quickly **identify any concerns**

Communications: important messages, **announcements and letters** can be sent directly through MCAS, ensuring parents **receive school communications** quickly and securely



MCAS Dinners



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From **September**, the **most important feature** to know about is the **MCAS Dinners module in the app**.

Parents will be able to **view the school menu** and **select their child's meal choices** directly through the MCAS app. This provides **greater visibility** of the meals available, makes it easy to choose dinners **in advance**, and helps ensure each **child's preferences are recorded accurately**.

The online system offers a **simple and convenient** way to manage meal selections, **reducing paperwork** and supporting a **smoother lunchtime experience** for pupils while still allowing parents to stay **fully in control** of their child's **dietary choices and nutrition**.



MCAS Set-up



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Parents will receive an **invitation from the school to activate their MCAS account**. This will include simple instructions for **setting up a secure login**.

Once registered, **MCAS can be accessed via the mobile app or web browser**, allowing parents to fill in the **admissions section** to finish the **set-up**.

If any families **need support** getting set up, the **school office** will be available to help with activation, login issues, or **accessing the system**.





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