

May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Arrangements for Starting School

Welcome to Arbury Primary School. We are really looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you and your child. This is a very exciting time!

**Getting ready for school**

**Pre-School Visits**

During the summer term, our staff will visit your child in their pre-school setting to meet them and to talk to the practitioners about their interests and learning journey so far. If your child is not attending a pre-school setting, we will be in touch to make an alternative arrangement.

**'Stay and Play' sessions – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 1.45 until 2.45pm.**

We will be holding three 'Stay and Play' sessions in school for children to attend with their parents/carers. This is a chance for you to come and visit our classroom spaces, meet the staff who will be working with your child, meet other families who are starting school with us and have some fun together. We have found that children find this a really positive experience and very much hope that you will join us for all three sessions if possible (please let us know if there are any you are unable to attend). Parents/carers stay with their child for the duration of these sessions.

Session 1 – A chance to explore the EYFS learning space.

Session 2 – A chance to explore the EYFS/KS1 forest area.

Session 3 – A teddy bear's picnic and story with your child's new teacher.

Please arrive at the KS1 playground (either the top gate, to the left of the car park or the side gate to school, at the end of Roland Close - off Brimley Road). Gates will be open from 1:40pm. You will be met in the playground by senior staff and class teachers, who will walk you round to the Early Years area at 1:45pm.

**Starting School in September**

**Week 1**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September (mornings only)**

Children will come into school for the morning, arriving at 9am (this is slightly after the other children to ensure a quieter start). Children will enjoy a morning at school and then will be collected at 12pm. Please arrive at the KS1 playground (either the top gate, to the left of the car park or the side gate to school, at the end of Roland Close - off Brimley Road). You will be met in the playground by senior staff and class teachers, who will support the children coming into school. You will then need to return to collect your child at 12pm (from the main hall, which is where your child will be collected each day).

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September morning only, including lunch)**

Children will be at school for the whole morning, including having lunch together. They may bring a packed lunch from home, or have a free school dinner. The children will arrive at 8:50am (gates open from 08:45am) and be collected at 1.30pm (again from the main hall).

**Week 2**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September onwards**

From our experience, we anticipate that, by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September, most children will be ready to be in class full-time, arriving at 8.50am (gates open from 8:45am) and being collected at 3.25pm. Please let us know if you think your child may require a more gradual start to school.

We understand that some parents may need a full-time place from the first day of term due to other commitments. If this is the case, please don't let this be a source of worry for you, just let us know so we can plan ahead.

### Website

We use the school website as our main way of communicating and sharing information with you. Over the coming weeks, there will be a special section called 'Starting Reception in September 2025'. In this section, you will find lots of pictures, videos and information about our school. We will also cover some Frequently Asked Questions. We will continue to update this section – please do return often. We have another area called 'News and Events' which acts as a little photo gallery – you might like to browse through there with your child and look for some of the activities the children in Class 1 and 2 are getting up to at the moment.

We are really looking forward to meeting you all. In the meantime, if you have any questions, do feel free to email Sophie Morris (Assistant Head Teacher) at [smorris@arbury.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:smorris@arbury.cambs.sch.uk).

Ben Tull  
Headteacher

Sophie Morris  
Assistant Headteacher

