



Welcome to our school

Perseverance, Respect, Independence, Diversity, Excellence





School values

Pride

- ▶ **PERSERVERANCE**—Enjoy the challenge
- ▶ **RESPECT**- Be kind, be safe
- ▶ **INDEPENDENCE**—Think for yourself
- ▶ **DIVERSITY**—Include everybody
- ▶ **EXCELLENCE**—Go above and beyond





Early years Foundation stage-Our Ethos

- ▶ At George Mitchell Early Years, we aim to ensure that:
- ▶ Children can access a **broad and balanced curriculum** that gives them a range of knowledge and skills needed for good progress through school and life. Curriculum is exciting, balanced and motivating and at the same time develops children's critical thinking skills and curiosity.
- ▶ Children are provided with an enabling environment, which reflects and celebrates **diversity**.
- ▶ **Close partnership** is established between practitioners and families.
- ▶ We ensure that every child gets the best possible start in life and we support each individual child to fulfil their potential and be ready for year 1 and beyond.
- ▶ Children are **healthy, safe and secure** and develop positive relationships. They are challenged and supported to develop confidence in their abilities and self regulation.
- ▶ At George Mitchell School we believe in tuning into individual child, follow their interests and build on their language so that they make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.



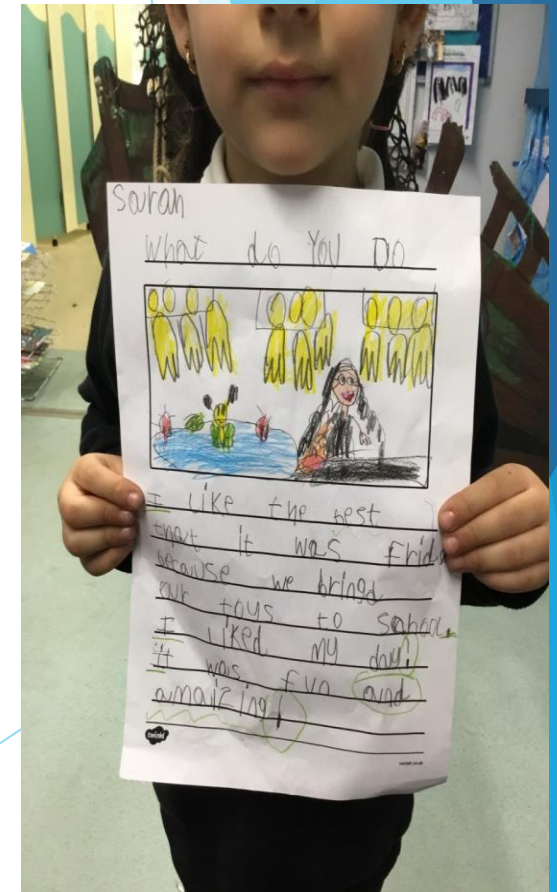
Academic success

- ▶ In Reception 80% children achieved a good level of development at the end of the year 2019. This is higher than national average as well as Waltham Forest and the highest in the history of George Mitchell School.
- ▶ Over 92% of our year 1 children passed the phonics screening test in 2019.



The 7 areas of learning and development.

- ▶ There are seven areas of learning and development that shapes our educational programmes at our early year setting. All areas of learning are important and interconnected.
- ▶ Three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.
- ▶ There are three **prime areas**:
 - ▶ 1: Personal social and emotional development
 - ▶ Communication and language
 - ▶ Physical development.
- ▶ There are four **specific areas** of learning:
 - ▶ Literacy -including reading and comprehension and writing.
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Knowledge and understanding of the world
 - ▶ Expressive Arts and design.
- ▶ **Characteristics of effective learning:**
 - ▶ Playing and exploring
 - ▶ Active learning
 - ▶ Critical thinking



Phonics and reading



- ▶ At George Mitchell school, we use the “Letters and Sounds Program” for teaching phonics. Children learn to read and write using phonics in a systematic manner.
- ▶ Our curriculum is thematic and is based on rich fiction and non-fiction texts to promote reading for pleasure and extend vocabulary.
- ▶ In addition to promoting reading at school, we also endeavour to support children’s reading skills at home. Each child is given two books to take home every week. The school also provides children access to a reading software called ‘Bug Club’. Books are assigned read at home according to their phonics ability. Home reading via Bug club is closely monitored by the class teachers.

▶ Curriculum:

- ▶ Our yearly and termly Reception curriculum is available on the school website. Please click on the link below:

▶ <http://www.georgemitchellschool.com/early-years-curriculum/>



Active Learn



Bug Club



Assessment and tracking-Tapestry:



What is Tapestry?

Tapestry is an online tool that allows us to make a learning journey for your child in Reception.

We can add photographs, videos and comments of your child's learning and then link these to the Early Years Curriculum. These are called observations.

We use the Tapestry app on the iPads in school to record these observations.

In the final term of the year, we complete the EYFS profile for each child against the Early Learning goal in each area of learning. The results of the profile are shared with the parents and the class teachers.





Parent Partnership

We take immense pride in our strong and positive relationships with parents.

We do this by:

- ▶ Tapestry
- ▶ Parents workshops
- ▶ Parent volunteers
- ▶ Informal daily chats
- ▶ Parents meetings
- ▶ Flexible induction program for Reception children



Personal, Social and Emotional Development-Jigsaw

- ▶ We believe that children's personal, social and emotional development is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development.
- ▶ Enable children to learn how to understand and manage their own feelings and those of others.
- ▶ We use a scheme called 'Jigsaw' to deliver important messages about PSED in a child friendly way.

▶ Behaviour:

- ▶ At George Mitchell School our aim is to develop our children so that behaving to a high standard is a natural part of who they are for the rest of their lives.
- ▶ Our behaviour policy promotes restorative principles. The purpose is to teach empathy and appropriate skills for dealing with challenging emotions and situations. The restorative process is a very important part of that.
- ▶ Praise and recognition: Recognition boards, Tapestry and class dojos.
- ▶ We are a no shouting school and we believe that consequences should be applied fairly and without emotions.



School day



Reception timings

Morning session 8:40 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Lunch 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Afternoon Session 12:45 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Friday Timings: 8:40-1:15pm

Daily teaching:

Maths Morning Purposeful independent learning X 4.

Snack time and shared story.

Phonics X 5.

Literacy lessons X 5. Literacy lessons link to the termly theme and book of the week.

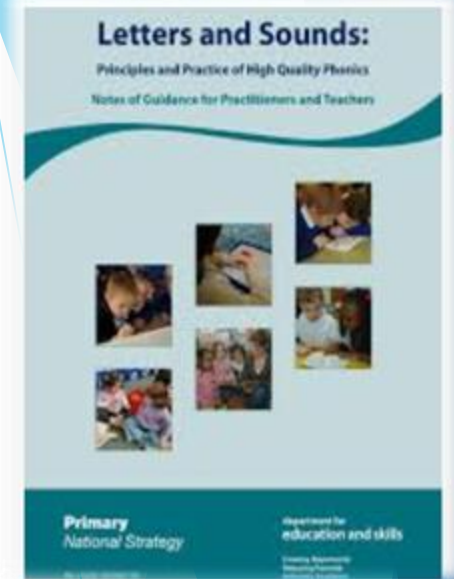
PE X1.

Jigsaw/ PSED X 1.

Daily Outdoor learning opportunities.

Hand writing (Summer term)

Enrichment activities and trips: We plan regular workshops and trips for children in Reception. These include visits to the farms, church, a visit by Zoo lab and pond dipping at Lloyd's park.



Lunches:



Our delicious school meals, provided by Olive Dining, are served on a three week rotation. The menus are refreshed once a term to take into account the weather, what is in season and to make sure that the canteen is never boring!





Inclusion

- ▶ At George Mitchell School, we strongly believe in British values and treat every child as an individual. We have children of all abilities, background and cultures.
- ▶ We work together as a team of
 - ▶ Parents
 - ▶ Inclusion manager
 - ▶ Class Teachers
 - ▶ Learning Support assistant
 - ▶ Teaching assistants in class.
 - ▶ Additional professionals

Additional Information

George Mitchell school website has a wide range of information and resources to support parents during the Reception transition process.

Please visit www.georgemitchellschool.com for further information.

The screenshot displays the website header with the logo 'GEORGE MITCHELL EARLY YEARS' and the tagline 'More is in me'. A search bar is located on the right. The main navigation menu includes 'OUR SCHOOL', 'NEWS', 'EARLY YEARS', 'PRIMARY', 'SECONDARY', 'STATUTORY', and 'CONTACT'. The 'EARLY YEARS' menu item is highlighted with a red circle, and a dropdown menu is open, listing 'STARTING RECEPTION 2021', 'NURSERY', 'EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM', 'PRIMARY SCHOOL DINNER MENU', 'WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN', and 'TAPESTRY'. The 'STARTING RECEPTION 2021' item is also highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation, the page features a 'Starting Reception' section with a GM logo and a 'Welcome to George Mitchell Primary' message. To the right, there are four content cards: 'Why choose GM Primary?', 'Early Years Curriculum', 'Preparing For Reception', and 'Primary Uniform', each with a small image and a title.



What next?

Dates	Events
Last date of application for a Reception place	Tuesday, 15 th January 2021
Offer date for a Reception place:	15 th April 2021
Reception registration meeting with parents	June 2021
Preparing for Reception meeting	July 2021
Stay and play sessions	July 2021
Reception start dates	September 2021