



EYFS Information for Prospective Parents

Due to the restrictions caused by the current pandemic, we are following risk assessments and the guidance from the Local Authority which does not recommend inviting prospective parents into school for tours. This is very disappointing for everybody concerned but the health and safety of the children and the whole school community must be our primary consideration.

We hope that the link to the 'Virtual Tour' on the website gives you a flavour of our school. We trust that the information below is also useful.

The school will be holding three Zoom Meetings for parents and carers on the following dates, at which time you can speak with the Headteacher and staff and ask questions about the school. The dates are:

- Thursday 3 December, 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm
- Wednesday 9 December, 10 am to 11 am

Register here for a new intake Zoom meeting:

https://robertdrake.co.uk/application/files/1316/0639/4845/NEW_INTAKE_INFORMATION_FORM_SEPTEMBER_2021.pdf

Please send your completed form back to: admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk,

Making an Application

Online applications should be made via the Essex County Council Website for an Early Years Foundation Stage school place between **9th November 2020** and **15th January 2021** using the following link:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

All applications received after 15th January 2021 will be treated as late and will only be processed after applications that have been submitted by the deadline. You are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if your application is late.

Places will be allocated by the Local Authority according to the school's Admissions Policy. The criteria is set out in the Admissions Policy:

https://robertdrake.co.uk/application/files/8516/0345/4802/ADMISSIONS_POLICY_2021_2022.pdf

Details of your offer of a school place for your child will be sent to you on **16th April 2021**.

Order of Preference

The advice that we would give to parents and carers is to list the schools that you wish to apply for in order of preference. We would also strongly advise you to list as many preferences as the form allows.

Provision for Pupils with SEND

We identify children who require additional support as soon as possible and use a child centred approach to set next steps of learning through termly one plans. Those children with higher needs are supported through the same one planning process. If further support is needed, we will apply for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to enable us to have access to additional support options. Parents and carers are consulted and fully involved in our one planning process as your views are important to us. Our staff keep up to date with regular training and adapt their practice to support the individual needs of all pupils.

Pastoral Support

All children are valued as individuals and their emotional and social development is supported by all staff. We have Learning Mentors who support children with identified needs. We have a school counsellor who works with those children who require additional emotional support and we are also able to offer wider support to families. The school works closely with outside agencies to support our children and families when required.