

Welcome to The Gattons Infant School



This Evening

- Help your child make the best possible start to school
- Housekeeping information
- Identify key ways in which you can help your child prepare for school
- Meet your child's class teacher and indoor and outdoor learning environments

School Staff

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Gospel
Deputy Headteacher & : Miss Ellie Bennett
SENDCo

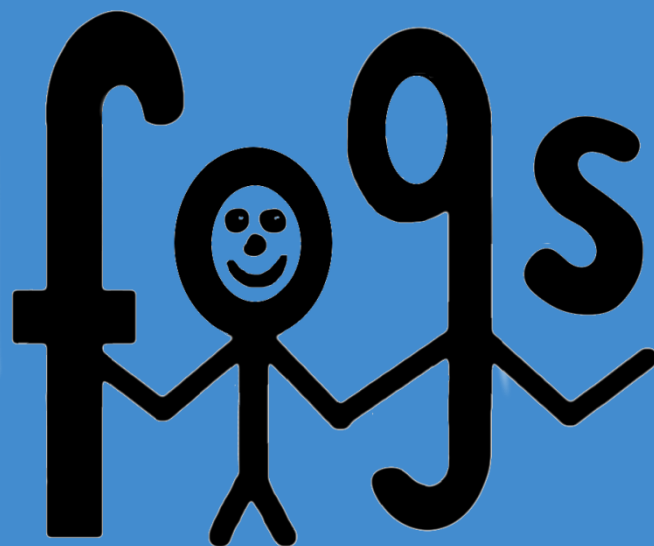
Office staff:

- Mrs Tidbury
- Mrs Ward
- Mrs Gething
- Ms Cornelius

Wrens Class: Mrs Parsons (Reception Leader)
Robins Class: Miss Tookey
Swallows Class: Miss Sappa & Mrs Kemsley

Linked to the school...

- Chair of Governors: Lucas Cook
- Our PTA: Friends of The Gattons (FOGS): Rachel & Natasha
- Chartwells School Meals
- School Nurse
- Pioneer Breakfast and After School Club
- School uniform: Broadbridges in Burgess Hill or Monkhouse online



Friends Of
The Gattons School



Friends of the Gattons School

Family & friends of children at the Gattons who want to help **build the community** and **fundraise** for the school

Charity number 286357

fogsgroup@yahoo.co.uk

What do we organise?



Mini Marathon



Cake Sales



Reading Challenge



GATTONS PARENTS Summer Social

For new and existing parents,
an evening of live music & fun at our amazing local taproom!

Thursday 26th June 2025 - 19:30 to 22:30

£5 per person

Entry includes live music and our tabletop quiz with a chance to win a brewery tour, tasting and bar voucher! A fish and chip van will be on site providing amazing food, and the classic game of Toad is also available to play for £2 cash.

BOOK NOW: www.tinyurl.com/FOGSbrickworks

Brickworks Taproom: Unit 5, KBF House, 55 Victoria Rd, Burgess Hill, RH15 9LH

How is the money spent?



- Books
- School Trips
- Classroom equipment
- Play equipment



How can you help?

1. Join FOGS to organise events
2. Volunteer to help at events
3. Become a class rep
4. Join Friends of Gattons School facebook group
5. Come to the events!



How can you help?

- join our committee as a member or just a helper
- offer to help with events
- donate second-hand uniform, toys, books and cakes
- let us know if you have any ideas, contacts or skills we could use

The Governors

We currently have 11 Governors at The Gattons:

- Headteacher and staff
- Parents
- Local Education Authority contacts
- Volunteers from the local community
- People with specialist skills

No formal qualifications needed – there is help to learn the role

Why does a school have Governors...

- They play an important part in overseeing the running of the school in the interests of the community it serves.
- They are here to give direction and focus by performing a vital strategic role.
- All decisions are taken collectively.

How you can help

- Anyone can become a Governor if you have the time and commitment.
- We let all parents know when there is a Parent Governor vacancy - there may be one in September.
- Training and support is provided.
- You can speak to any of the Governing board members if you want to find out more.

Preparing for School

- We work with you to support a smooth transition to school
- All feelings are normal!
- Every child is different

The first couple of weeks

As part of effective transition into Reception, we have a staggered start.

- Teachers meet with parents and children individually on Thursday 4th or Friday 5th September.
- Children will then have two sessions with a smaller group of children from their class.
- All children will be in school for your chosen attendance from Monday 15th September.



Part-time or full-time?

- Many parents ask us to provide a full-time place from September for their child.
- Parents of children starting at The Gattons have many options about attendance which we hope will help parents and the school to make the best possible arrangements for each child.



- A full day (full-time) is from 8.50am until 3.00pm.
- Part-time attendance is from 8.50am until 11.45am. Just before your child starts to attend full-time there will be a couple of part-time days when your child will be invited to stay for lunch until 12.45pm.
- Moving from part-time to full-time attendance can take place at the beginning of a new term or after a half-term holiday.

If the school feels that your child is not yet ready for full-time attendance then we will discuss this with you.

Daily events



- Free milk until 5 years old - you may pay for your child to have milk after that. You need to register with Cool Milk now for milk even if your child is not 5 until later in the year.
- Free fruit at snack time in the morning (please do not provide your own)
- No nuts or nut products in packed lunches



Daily events

- Water bottle
- Book bag and reading diary in school daily; 1 simple key chain only please. No Large Rucksacks
- Wellies to stay at school
- No sweets in school or for birthdays
- PARENTMAIL - please sign up if you haven't already



Talking to your child's teacher

- Initial individual meetings with your class teacher.
- We are happy for you to contact us at anytime. We will contact you if we have any concerns.
 - After school is the best time for a conversation (but we can have a brief word in the mornings).
 - Urgent messages to the office.



Talking to your child about school

- Their feelings are normal
- Allow for 'wobbles'.
 - Be curious
 - Allow for excitement !
 - Walk past school and chat
- What parts of the day might your child need help with ?
- Eat together
- Encourage child to ask for help from an adult
- Begin routines - uniform ready - create calm!





Getting ready for school

- Sing as many Nursery Rhymes as you can
- Share lots of books together. Visit the local library
- Gross and Fine motor activities- to develop muscles that will support them as they learn to write
- Name recognition Not in Capital letters please
- Counting whenever you can and noticing number
- Taking care of toys - encourage your child to take care of their toys and support them in putting their toys away. We use CHOOSE IT USE IT PUT IT BACK



Getting ready for school

- Encourage sharing of toys, turn taking and following instructions. Play games such as Snakes and Ladders and don't always let them win! Talk as you play!
- Go to the beach, play in the park - Have Fun together!
- Let them be bored! Reduce screen / tablet time - ideally less than an hour a day on any screen.

Getting ready for school

- Use the toilet independently (practice in their uniform!) and wash hands.
- Getting dressed independently. Putting on coat and shoes. Look for name label on clothes to help. Practice poppers, buttons and zips. VELCRO ON SHOES PLEASE
- Buy larger clothes especially jumpers so they can get them on and off
- No unusual hairbands - Girls hair simply tied back so they can put on a bike helmet!
- Practice with knives, forks and spoons, opening a lunchbox, drinking from a cup and peeling fruit.

Starting Reception

Your child's journey to school starts at home

We understand that all children develop at their own pace, and that we're all learning from birth. When it's time to start school, some children will need more help than others.

There are key skills* that schools expect children to be learning before their first day. Practising these will make your child's journey to Reception positive as possible.

There's lots you can do at home to build your child's confidence and independence, helping them feel emotionally and practically prepared to start school.

*We are calling this document the 'Starting Reception' definition. Some people/organisations refer to this as 'school readiness'.



How can I help my child get ready?

- Your child will have lots of new activities and routines to get used to when they start school. There are some things they'll need to do more independently than they might have before.
- Research shows that a child's relationship with their parents is the most important factor in their development, and there's a lot you can do at home.
- When your child is at home with you or another caregiver, you can practise as a family with fun activities (we've included links at the end of this resource).
- Some of these skills take time to master, so it's good to introduce them gradually as part of your daily routine.



Find out more

For more information on how to help your child get ready for reception, and for information on supporting children with additional needs, scan the QR code or visit <https://startingreception.co.uk>.



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Screen Time

The World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines advise that children under age two years should have no screen time at all, while those aged between two and five years old should have less than one hour per day.

However, it's estimated that around 80% of two year olds and 95% of five year olds have more time than this.

- Research has also shown that most British children aged two spend more than two hours a day watching TV, playing on computers and using a smartphone, while one in five children already owns a smartphone/tablet by age two.

Screen Time

- <https://www.netmums.com/child/toddlers-allowed-90-mins-of-screen-time-per-day-are-falling-behind-new-study-shows>

Settling into school

Bring your child into the classroom for the first few days.

Please tell us...

- If your child is tearful...
- If you are tearful...
- If your child is tired...
- If your child is worried...
- If you are worried...
- If there are any changes at home.



PLEASE NAME
EVERYTHING!

Lower Case including
first name for the
children to read!

Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 19th September -
Settling in Meeting 9am
- Reading Meeting Tuesday 1st
October 7pm
- Learning at School on Thursday 7th
November 9am



Mrs Parsons - Wrens Class teacher and
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
Leader

Miss Tookey - Robins Class teacher



Miss Sappa and Mrs Kemsley -
Swallows Class teachers

