



Hill Mead Primary School
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Starting School at Hill Mead



Welcome

Children who start school at Hill Mead make rapid progress – they are safe, happy and can think for themselves.

This is because our teaching is outstanding and the school is stable and well led. Our Early Years expertise is recognised throughout Lambeth.

Children are in two classes in Reception, and four family groups in the Nursery.



Learning

Children begin their school day at 8:50am in full uniform and with their book bag. The day finishes at 3:00pm.

Our children learn through play and exploration. We skilfully plan the activities around their individual needs and interests.

As much learning as possible is through real-life experiences. The children go on many trips, and we invite many visitors. Both Nursery and Reception have a set of ipads, and lively blogs.

Every week, pupils in Reception also enjoy a small group PE session with a fully qualified Sports Coach.



Progress

Each child has their own beautifully presented 'Learning Journey', which is a collection of all their hard work throughout the year for you to take away and keep.

We also include examples of learning at home, like photos and writing or even a menu or cinema ticket.



Reading

We use 'Letters and Sounds' to introduce phonics to our children. The focus moves from sounds around us to introducing letter sounds (phonemes) which are represented by letters (graphemes).

Our children read for pleasure and understanding, so we only use real books – no schemes – and we talk to them about what they have read.

Every day children take home a book to read with their parents or carers at home. These are changed twice a week.

There are twice weekly reading sessions for parents and carers in school, and an occasional Reading Café with cakes that the children have made.



Lunch

Meals are free for all Reception children, and for those in the Nursery who qualify. Packed lunches brought from home have to be healthy.

Children and staff sit down together in the Nursery to eat a family meal. Children in Reception eat in the lunch hall before the older children come in, and are assisted by the Reception staff.

There is also a free carton of milk and piece of fruit every day for a snack.