

Camestone Foundation Unit



Information
Booklet

The Beginning

At Camestone Lower School we strive to foster a trusting and warm relationship with all our parents. This relationship begins even before your child starts school. We offer you informal story sessions where you can bring your child, stay and have a cup of coffee and have the opportunity to speak to a member of the foundation team. Alongside these we arrange an initial open evening where you can visit the school and meet the team. During this evening a time will be booked for a home visit in September. The home visit is a personal time to discuss any issues or worries you or your child may have about starting school.

Right from our initial meeting we believe it is crucial that parents know that the foundation staff will value the extensive knowledge and understanding parents have of their child. Along with staff this knowledge will be built on, and will be reflected in your child's 'Learning Journal'.

Every child in the foundation unit will have a Learning Journal. Both parents and staff will be involved in creating this valuable record that we are sure you will treasure for years to come. When your child starts school you will have the opportunity to talk to staff and find out more about your child's journal.

In this booklet we will try to answer some of the questions you may have in relation to your child starting school. If we can be of any further help please contact us at the school where we will do our best to answer any queries you may have.



Where will my child spend their day?

The Foundation Unit is made up of a number of areas. When your child starts school they will have a classroom base and a key worker so they have a special place and person with whom they feel safe and secure.

In order to begin to settle your child they will have short teaching sessions in their group followed by an independent choosing time where they will have the opportunity to reinforce their learning through play activities. These activities will be offered both indoors and outdoors. At times, these sessions may include an adult led or supported activities as well as independent play.

Your child's day will also include time for lunch and snack. The children in the foundation unit independently choose when they will have their snack. Water/milk and fruit is available continually throughout the day.



How will my child spend their day?

A typical day in the foundation unit will start with an informal registration time in key worker groups. The small groups will continue for short teaching sessions supporting all the areas of the foundation stage curriculum. Additional independent choosing sessions will be interwoven between the teaching sessions.

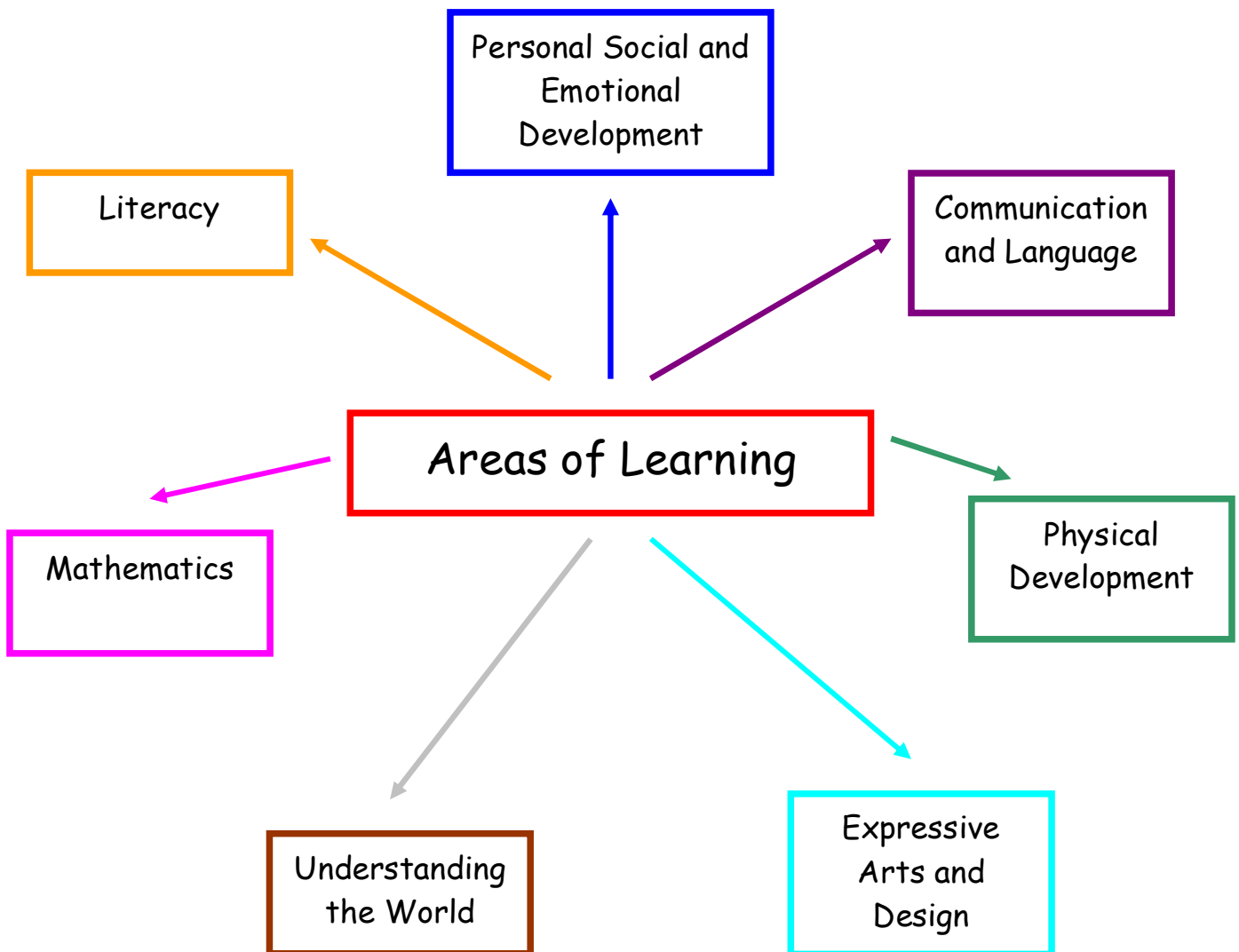


What will your child be learning at school?

"From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs."

(Parents' Early Years Foundation Stage Framework 2012)

In the foundation unit we will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This curriculum covers the following areas:



How can I help prepare my child for school?

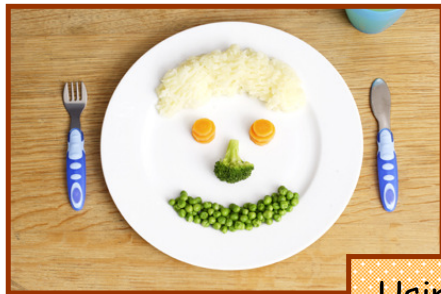
As a parent there are lots of skills you can teach your child to help them prepare for school. One important area is helping your child to become independent. We appreciate some children may be able to carry out these tasks already, but if not these ideas may help.



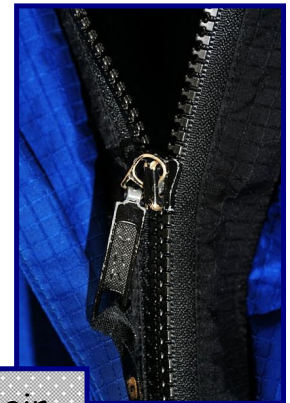
Washing own hands.



Dressing themselves.



Using a knife and fork.

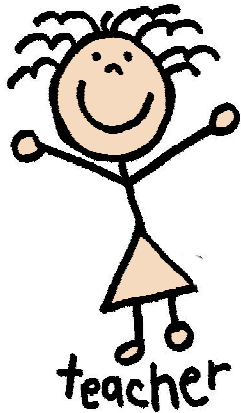


Zip up their coat.



Say please and thank you.

Save the Dates!!



Thursday 11th July: 10.30-11.30am

This is an opportunity for you and your child to visit the foundation unit. You can spend an hour with your child looking round the classroom and joining in with the activities.

On this visit please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and any completed paperwork from your information pack.

You will also be given a home visit date and time during this visit.

Home visits - from Wednesday 4th September 2013

Wednesday 3rd July

Wednesday 17th July

Afternoon story sessions: 2.50-3.10pm

You and your child are invited to join us for two informal story sessions.

While your child is having a story tea and coffee will be provided in the school hall organised by our PTFA.



When you bring your child to school for the morning session on their first day. Tea and coffee will be available for you in the school library from 8.55am-10.00am. When your child has settled, please feel free to have a coffee, tea and a chat with other parents and carers.



Camestone Lower School

Summer Fete 2013



Please come and visit us for our
Summer Fete
on
Saturday 29th June
10.30 am-1.00pm

Camestone Foundation Unit



Paperwork Booklet

Please complete forms and
return to school as soon as
possible.