



Yavneh
Primary School

The EYFS at Yavneh Primary School

A Parent Guide

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Introduction

At Yavneh Primary School, we will be following the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (EYFS) in Reception. Your children will go through an important transitional year as they settle into Primary School life and learn to read and write. They will also become independent learners and will have hands-on experiences as they learn important skills for the modern world we live in.

The EYFS

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows the learning and development of young children through to the end of Reception.

4 Specific Areas of Learning:

Literacy Maths
Understanding the World
Expressive Arts and Design

3 Prime Areas of Learning:

Physical
Personal, Social, Emotional
Communication & Language

Supports children's learning and development from birth to five years old.

Every child learns at their own pace. The EYFS helps professionals to monitor how the children are developing against their milestones, where their next steps are and where they need support.



Characteristics of Effective Learning

You will often hear your child's teachers talking about the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning'. These explain how children learn. There are 3 parts to these characteristics; playing and exploring, active learning (children are motivated to learn), and creating and thinking critically.

These characteristics underpin your child's learning and development, and will help us to support your child to remain an effective and motivated learner.

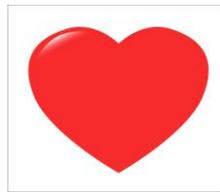
The diagram below helps to explain how it works:

Hands



Children explore using their hands and bodies.

Heart



Children are motivated to learn.

Head



Children are thinking critically.

Learning through Play is vital for a child's development

Learning is all about creating.

Learning can happen at any time. any place.

Learning is exploring our passions and interests.

Learning is about asking questions.

Learning is about exploring.

Children's work is their play.
Children learn from everything they do.

Learning is about making connections.

Learning is personal.

Learning is about applying our knowledge in the real world we live in.

Learning helps us to discover who we are.

Parent Partnership

At Yavneh Primary School we value the importance of Parent Partnership. We look forward to sharing your child's development with you, to be able to support him/her and to celebrate achievements.

Sharing Achievements

With Tapestry, our online Learning Journey, we will share your child's achievements at school, and we encourage you to upload any photos or videos that show accomplishments at home, in the park, at music lessons, football sessions or gymnastics!

Parent Opportunities

We look forward to welcoming you to join us for our Sports Day, to celebrate Chagim (Jewish Festivals), and at many other points throughout the year.

Home-School Links

You will receive our weekly Reception Newsletter and we will regularly update our school website with photos and information about our exciting adventures.

Home Visit

Before your child starts school, we will come and visit you to give you and your child the opportunity to get to know us and ask any questions that you have about starting school.

Learning in the Foundation Stage is Exciting!

The Reception Year is very exciting. The children develop skills for the future in our ever-changing world. Our curriculum moves with the children, following their needs and interests. All experiences are hands on, fun and challenging.

Children learn mainly through play in the Foundation Stage. They access their environment freely and take pride in completing challenging tasks. Their development is tracked through detailed observations which link to our assessment tool, an online portal called Tapestry.

We use our observations of the children's learning to plan for their next steps, and this links to our provision in our indoor and outdoor learning environments.

A Typical Busy Day in Reception at YPS

The school day runs from 8.40am-3.30pm.

Multi-Dimensional learning opportunities to start the day.

(Whoever said learning had to be at a table?)

Guided Super Phonics

Our children will be reading and writing in no time at all using our super phonics scheme.

1, 2, 3 Stretch!

Our daily physical activities are ridiculously fun and challenging to work those bodies and minds!

Morning Davening

A beautiful morning prayer session full of song and self-reflection to start our day.

Scrumptious Lunches

...are made by the Yavneh College chefs.

Child Discoverers - there's no ceiling to our learning!

Learning through play is our aim, children exploring is our game!

Most of our day is comprised of limitless learning opportunities in our indoor and outdoor learning environments.

Visit our Snack Bar

Our rolling snack bar is open for much of the day to enable children to refuel their brains with delicious fruit, milk and water.



Visits and Trips

We love real life learning in Reception so sometimes our timetable will change if we have a visitor or go on a trip. We will always give plenty of notice and invite parent helpers too!

Ivrit

From Reception, the children at YPS will be immersed in Ivrit to help them develop conversational skills, of course with plenty of singing and dancing opportunities!

Story Time

Reading for fun is extremely important and we enjoy bringing stories to life and talking about our favourite books each day.

Limudei Kodesh sparkling with excitement

At YPS, Limudei Kodesh (LK) is taught in an integrated, practical way, enabling the children to develop a deep understanding of Judaism. With hands-on activities and discussions a-plenty, we endeavour to create an open forum for children to develop a love for Jewish learning and to discover what Judaism means to them.

Our Key Worker System

The Key Worker system in the Foundation Stage enables each child's learning and development to be continuously monitored. Your child's key worker will be carefully chosen to match his/her needs, interests and personality. You will have termly meetings with your child's key worker, who may be any adult working with them in the classroom. Specific learning targets are regularly set and shared with parents.

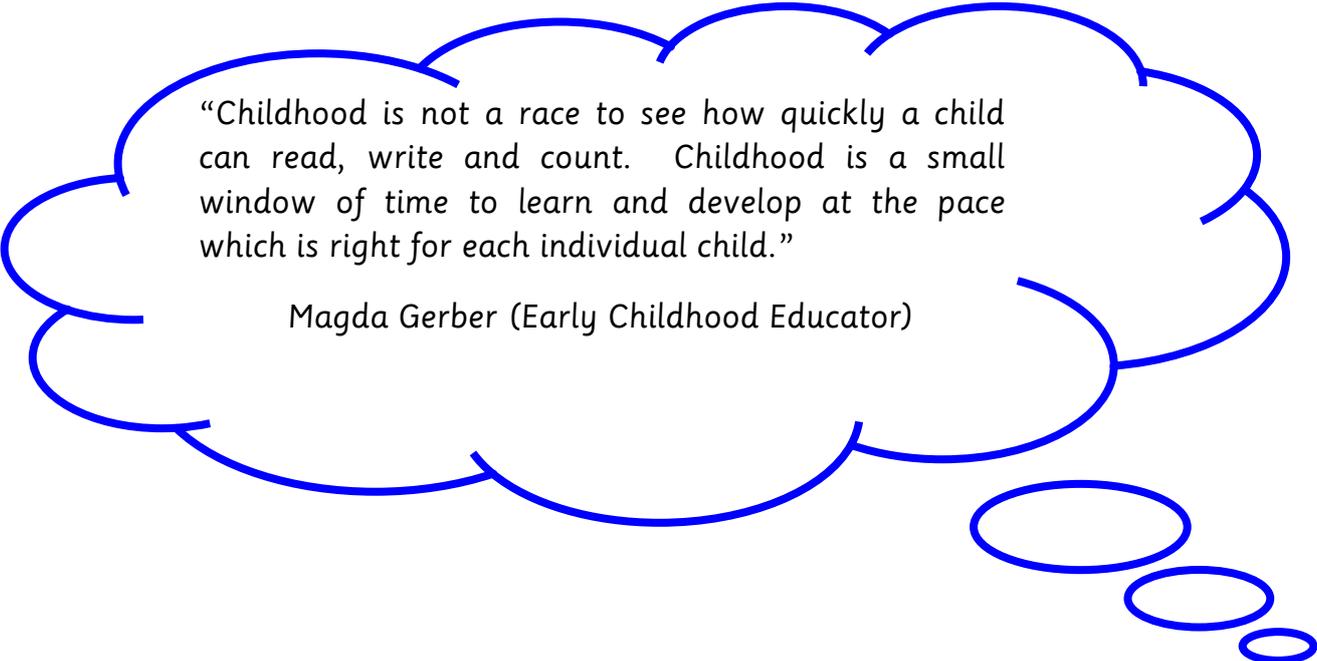
Focus Children

Although we are continuously assessing the children's progress, once a term your child will be our 'Focus Child' for a week.

During the week that your child is one of our Focus Children, staff will carry out in-depth observations of them at work and play. This information, together with information you provide us, will help us assess where your child is in their development and enables us to provide opportunities to extend their learning.

In the week following this, parents will be allocated an appointment to meet with the class teacher at the start or end of the school day, to discuss the observations made, targets set and to view their Learning Journey.

We look forward to sharing in this wonderful learning adventure with you and your child throughout the year.



“Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. Childhood is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace which is right for each individual child.”

Magda Gerber (Early Childhood Educator)

Who to Contact

If your child is ill, please telephone the absence line to leave a message.

Any needs or concerns relating to your child's learning, please contact the class teacher.

If you have concerns about your child's development, SEN, speech, hearing or any other issues, please contact your class teacher in the first instance.

If you need to inform us about who is collecting your child, please email the school office or tell the class teacher.

If you have any queries regarding Limudei Kodesh or Hebrew learning, please contact the teacher directly.

Yavneh Primary
School Phone
Number

0208 736 5580

Uniform List

Please see the next page for our full school uniform list which can be purchased from Howard Bros Ltd in Mill Hill.

Please ensure all clothes are clearly labelled with your child's first and last names.



We love to explore outside in all weathers. Please ensure your child has named wellies and waterproof trousers in school so that we can have fun outside all day long!

Uniform List

Hair accessories must be red or black only.

U4K
www.
uniform4kids.
com

HOWARD BROS.

30 The Broadway
Mill Hill,
NW7 3LL
020 8959 4987

Click and Collect from our Warehouse

408 Centennial Park

Elstree

WD6 3TN

next to the Village Hotel

Orders must be placed online, you will be informed when they are ready for collection

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Starting Prices</u>
Hat	Red, plain, acrylic	£3.99
Scarf	Red, plain, acrylic	£4.99
Gloves	Red, plain, acrylic	£2.75
Coat	Black, embroidered with school logo	optional £28.99
Sweatshirt	Red, Vneck, embroidered with school logo	£8.99
Sweat Cardigan	Red, embroidered with school logo	£8.99
Polo Shirt	White with Red trim, embroidered with school logo	£7.99
Trousers	Grey	£14.99
Tunic	Grey	£11.99
Socks	Grey, five pack	£6.50
Tights	Grey, twin pack	£8.99
Bookbag	Red, embroidered with school logo	£8.99
Baseball Cap	Red, plain	£3.50
Kippot	Black with Red trim	£4.00
Tzitzit		£6.49
<u>Summer Uniform</u>		
Short Trousers	Grey	£7.99
Summer Dress	Red/White, check	£9.99
Socks	White, triple pack	£6.00
<u>Physical Education</u>		
Hooded Top	Red, embroidered with school logo	£17.99
Tshirt	White, embroidered with school logo	£5.99
Shorts	Black, poly/cotton	£5.00
Jog Bottoms	Black	£9.50
Gymsack	Red, embroidered with school logo	£5.99

Opening Hours Monday – Saturday 9.00am – 5.30pm

FOLLOW US ON  

@Uniform4Kids

Prices are correct at the time of printing but may be subject to variation.

Food and Drink

Children are at their best when they have a healthy and varied diet.

At Yavneh Primary School, we are part of the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. As part of the scheme, fruit and vegetables are available for the children throughout the day, encouraging them to achieve their 5 portions per day, in line with government recommendations (see NHS website – search ‘5 A Day’ for more details).

As well as fruit and vegetables being available for the children, they will also be given milk to drink in the morning (if they wish), and water will be available all day.

Therefore, you do not need to provide any snacks or a drink for your child.

All pupils in Reception are entitled to a free school lunch. While we are in our temporary building, pupils in Reception will eat their lunch at Yavneh College. Yavneh Primary pupils will have sole use of the dining room from 12pm – 1pm to enable them to eat in a quiet environment. Reception pupils will be supported to select their main meal and salad choices. YPS staff will remain in the dining hall with the children throughout lunch times and will bring the children back to their classrooms after lunch.

We recommend that you encourage your child to eat independently, teaching them to use a knife, fork and spoon and to sit at a table to eat. We will of course be on hand at all times to help with cutting up food and helping children tidy their plates away afterwards.

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Assessment in the EYFS



The majority of assessment in Reception is through observations during the children's play, as we are able to see them consolidating their learning by practising the skills they have been taught. For example, if we have been learning about addition, a child might be role-playing being a waiter in a café, adding up the bill for a meal.

We will be regularly assessing the children across all areas of learning, including their reading and phonics.

Through Tapestry, our online learning portal, you will be able to see your child's learning and upload their achievements at home to share with the class teacher. In September you will be given your own login details for Tapestry and a guide on how to use it.

Limudei Kodesh (LK) at Yavneh Primary School

At Yavneh Primary School we aim to integrate our Limudei Kodesh curriculum with the National curriculum so that Limudei Kodesh permeates life at Yavneh Primary School. Our Limudei Kodesh curriculum is broken down into 5 strands- Torah, Tefillah, Halacha, Midot and Yisrael. Your child will learn through play, songs, stories and activities. We will be celebrating the weekly Sedra (portion) from the Torah, davening (prayers) each morning, learning brachot (blessings) and we look forward to welcoming you to join us at our Kabblat Shabbat and at many celebrations throughout the year.

Your child will also learn Ivrit in Reception in a fun and meaningful way. He/She will learn basic conversation skills through song, dance and games. By the end of Reception your child will have learnt the Alef Beit, the Hebrew Alphabet and will be reading simple words.

Yavneh Primary School will be part of the 'Am Echad' Tzdekah project run by Yavneh College. At the beginning of each year 3 charities will be chosen by the pupils, and joint fund raising projects will take place. Each year we will be supporting a variety of local, national and Jewish charities. We look forward to sharing more information about this with you in due course. Every Friday, your child will be encouraged to bring a small donation to give to charity.

We Love to Read!

Reading is an extremely important skill for your child to learn. At Yavneh Primary School we endeavour to create an environment where every child develops a love of reading.

A CHILD WHO CARRIES
A BOOK WITH A BOOKMARK
IN IT IS IN TWO PLACES
AT THE SAME TIME.
- Tony Abbott



How you can support your child to develop confidence in reading:

- ♠ Show them a newspaper and talk about why reading the news is important.
- ♠ Let them help you write a shopping list and go to the shops together to buy your groceries.
- ♠ In the car, point to road signs and let your child help you plan your route or look out for a particular sign or road name.
- ♠ Read the menu together in a restaurant. Identify similar meals by repeated words (e.g. count how many meals have potatoes on the side).
- ♠ Explore different fonts using newspapers and magazines. See if your child can find the letters of their name in different fonts.
- ♠ Encourage your child to write their name and other words in birthday cards.

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.

- Dr. Seuss



Reading and Writing

Learning to read and write is seen as one of the biggest achievements for Reception children. At Yavneh Primary School we look forward to developing excellent readers and writers. We will be using a phonics programme to help children develop a comprehensive, thorough approach, and we look forward to sharing this with you in due course.

Our approach to phonics is using pure sounds (pronouncing the 'sh' without the 'uh' at the end). We will have a phonics and reading evening next term to share how we teach phonics and to help you support your child with their reading skills.

We appreciate that all children will start Reception at different points in their early phonics, reading and writing, and we do not expect children to be able to read and write when they start Reception. All children will be challenged appropriately for their level once they are settled into school. Please note that the most important part of starting Reception is settling in, with children feeling secure and confident in their learning environment. Once they are confident learners they will be ready to embrace challenge and their learning potential.

Mathematics

There has been plenty of research and press coverage recently about how and why children learn Maths, and the importance of learning Maths for the 'real world'. At YPS we want children to be excited by Maths and to realise the importance of using it every day. We will use a variety of approaches to fulfil our vision, but most importantly it will involve plenty of real-life, practical experiences and challenge to encourage children to enjoy their learning and to want to exceed even their own expectations and potential.





How to Prepare your Child for School

1. **Arrange Playdates** – with children who will be in their class/year group. Having familiarity with other children will help them settle in well.
2. **Talk about School** – what they will see/do, how it will be different to their Nursery/Pre-school environment. For example, eating lunch, making new friends, sharing, changing for PE.
3. **Encourage your child to eat and dress independently** – these two skills will be really important in helping your child develop their confidence at school.

Settling In / Transition

Every child will settle in their own way and in their own time. Don't worry about tears at the beginning, this is very normal. There isn't a one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to settling in. We will have a staggered entry for September to give all children the opportunity to get used to being in their new school environment. If you have any worries about your child settling in, this can be discussed at their home visit.

You will need to bring:

Full School PE Kit with trainers or plimsolls

Tall Wellie Boots for outdoor play (any colour/brand)

Waterproof trousers (for muddy play)

Book Bag (from uniform list)

2 sets of spare underwear and socks/tights (your PE kit will count as spare clothes)

Weather Dependent Items:

School coat (official school coat or plain black waterproof coat with hood and zip)

Suncream (we encourage you to put suncream on your child before school on a sunny day, and to provide them with a small suncream stick to apply themselves at school)

Gloves/hat in winter months

Sun hat/school cap in the summer months

Please, please name all items clearly with a marker pen or label. We wouldn't want any brand new uniform to get lost.

What do I need to bring to school on my first day?



Please do not bring any toys from home as they are likely to be put down and often get absorbed within school resources.

We also ask that you provide termly:

1 box of tissues

1 pack of baby wipes

£5 in an envelope – this donation will be used for consumable products and treats for the children.

Real Life Experiences

To help your child have real life experiences in Reception, we would welcome any of the following old items that you no longer use.

Thank you.

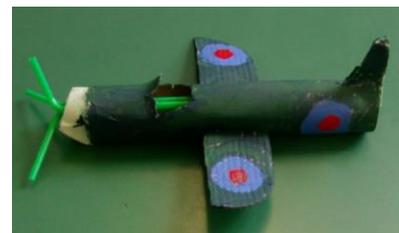
Mobile phones (do not need to work)

Cameras (do not need to work)

Tablets/computers (working/not working)

Fancy dress (clean, good condition, age 4-8)

Large/small pieces of fabric / ribbon



It's amazing what you can do with recycling! Please bring any clean, undamaged recycling, kitchen rolls, yogurt pots, cereal boxes, egg cartons etc. for the children to create masterpieces using their imagination. No toilet rolls please!

Illnesses

Children do not learn if they are unwell. Please read the information below to support us to have a healthy school. Please contact us in the morning on 0208 736 5580 if your child is ill, so we can correctly fill in the register.

You can help us keep our school healthy by teaching your child how to use a tissue to wipe his/her nose; to dispose of tissues in the dustbin; to cover his/her mouth if they cough/sneeze (using a tissue where possible), and to wash his/her hands afterwards. Please remind children to wash their hands with soap and to dry them after going to the toilet.

Please follow the guidelines below with regards to keeping your child off school if they are ill. Please note that these exclusions begin AFTER the last symptoms have occurred:

24 hour exclusion – high fever (over 37.5°C), scarlet fever (24h after commencing antibiotics and providing no other symptoms still evident).

48 hour exclusion – vomiting and diarrhoea.

5 day exclusion – whooping cough, german measles, measles, mumps, chicken pox.

Other – scabies (until fully treated), impetigo (until lesions have crusted over).

Antibiotics – if your child is on antibiotics and is well enough to come to school (and they have been 24hrs without a high fever), we are able to administer antibiotics. They must be provided in the original bottle/container and have the child's details printed by the pharmacy/Dr surgery.

Walk/ Scoot to School

Children should get at least 60 minutes of physical activity a day. Walking to school goes a long way to achieving this goal. Children who walk to school arrive fit, refreshed and ready to learn, they do better and are happier, healthier and are more independent. At Yavneh Primary School we would like to encourage our children to walk or scooter to school. If children are unable to walk or scooter the whole way, we would encourage you to '**park and stride**'. There is no parking around the school so please do not park on Hillside Avenue. All parents driving to school are asked to park in the car park of Tesco Borehamwood. Walking/ Scooting from Tesco will enable your child to partake in physical activity before and after school. Children will be able to park their scooters in the school playground.

Birthday Parties

We know how important birthdays are to children. On their birthday, your child will be invited to wear his/her own clothes to school (if they wish), and we will celebrate with them in school. You will have the opportunity to pay for biscuits for the class from the school office (please do not bring in biscuits to school due to potential allergies). Your child's birthday will be celebrated with a circle time singing happy birthday in English and Hebrew. They will have the opportunity to choose a book to read for story time, and will come home with a birthday card from the class.

Invitations to birthday parties outside of school: Please note that staff will only be able to hand out invitations to parties to be held outside of school if the **whole** class are invited. Please feel free to hand them to the teacher to put in children's bags. Yavneh Primary School is a modern orthodox Jewish school and parents are expected to be mindful of this when planning parties. To ensure that no child feels excluded, parties should not be planned on Shabbat and food served should be in keeping with a modern orthodox Jewish school.

Parent Representatives

Each class at Yavneh Primary School will have 2 parent reps. This is a voluntary position for 2 parents from each class. The parent class rep serves a primary role in maintaining good communication between parents, while also being a valuable resource to the teacher and the class. The parent Class rep also facilitates the social interaction among Yavneh families and forms an integral part of the Parent Teacher Association. This includes being a member of the PTA and attending PTA meetings. If you are interested in becoming the parent class rep for this academic year then please inform the school office.

Question Time!

On this page we will endeavour to answer any questions that may arise. Please ask us on the information evening if you have any further queries, we'll be happy to help.

Q) Why does my child need a book bag?

Your child will bring home his/her book bag each day. In their bag they will have a reading book and reading diary, library book and any writing or art work.

Q) Why does my child not always bring home writing or art work from school?

We love to celebrate children's work at school, and often keep their writing and art work to display in the classroom. We also have Learning Journey books to keep evidence of your child's progress. You will be invited into school each term to see their Learning Journeys during your child's focus week. Don't worry though, you will have regular updates of your child's progress through Tapestry, our online learning portal. Please also remember that writing is not always on paper! Children can write a fabulous 'café menu' on a blackboard, or a 'class register' on a whiteboard in their role play. This is why we take photos and videos of their learning and upload them on Tapestry for you to see.

Q) What time is the school day?

The school day will run from 8.40am-3.30pm, Monday to Thursday. Friday times vary depending on Shabbat times (sundown on Friday).

Q) Who do I tell if someone else is collecting my child?

Please let the school office or class teacher know if another adult is collecting your child (and let us know their name). We do not operate a 'password' system but we will not allow your child to leave with an adult without your permission.

Q) My rota picks up most days, how will I know what my child has been learning/ discovering during the day?

Each week we will send out a Reception Newsletter so that you can see what your child has been learning. By exploring your child's learning on Tapestry, you will also be able to monitor their progress. This will be updated regularly.

Q) How can I find out how my child is progressing?

Tapestry, our online learning portal will be regularly updated with information about your child's progress. If you have any specific queries or concerns about their development, please do speak to the class teacher. If we can't speak to you on that day, we will arrange a meeting with you at the earliest possible opportunity.

Q) My child finds it difficult to self-dress. Will the teacher help them change for PE?

Of course! Our aim is to support your child with developing their independence but we are always on hand to help and guide the children.

Q) I want to help out on school trips and events but I work full time. How far in advance will I know about these?

We will do our best to give you plenty of notice for school trips and events. We rely heavily on parent support during trips so we always ask well in advance!