

# Welcome... to the Reception Class

Trinity  
Holy  
Mathias  
Springfield  
the  
precision  
spontaneity  
individuality  
John  
Baptist  
creativity  
St  
collaboration  
imagination  
James



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To inspire a future and a world, learners at Holy Trinity are empowered and prepared through the key values of faith, compassion, endurance and respect. Our learning environments seek to foster these values; that they might be a light to shine before others; inspiring a community of learners and give glory to God. We aspire to be a confident community who can nurture individuals' gifts with respect and compassion. Where learning is delivered in a way that brings opportunity, growth, hope, new technologies and creativity whilst holding to the wisdom that endures.

*"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see you good works and give glory your father in heaven."*

Matthew 5:14-16\*

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London  
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0207 254 1010

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Executive Principal: Ms Sian Davies  
Headteacher: Ms Catherine Thomas  
Lead Practitioner for Early Years Foundation Stage: Ms Steph Li Rosi

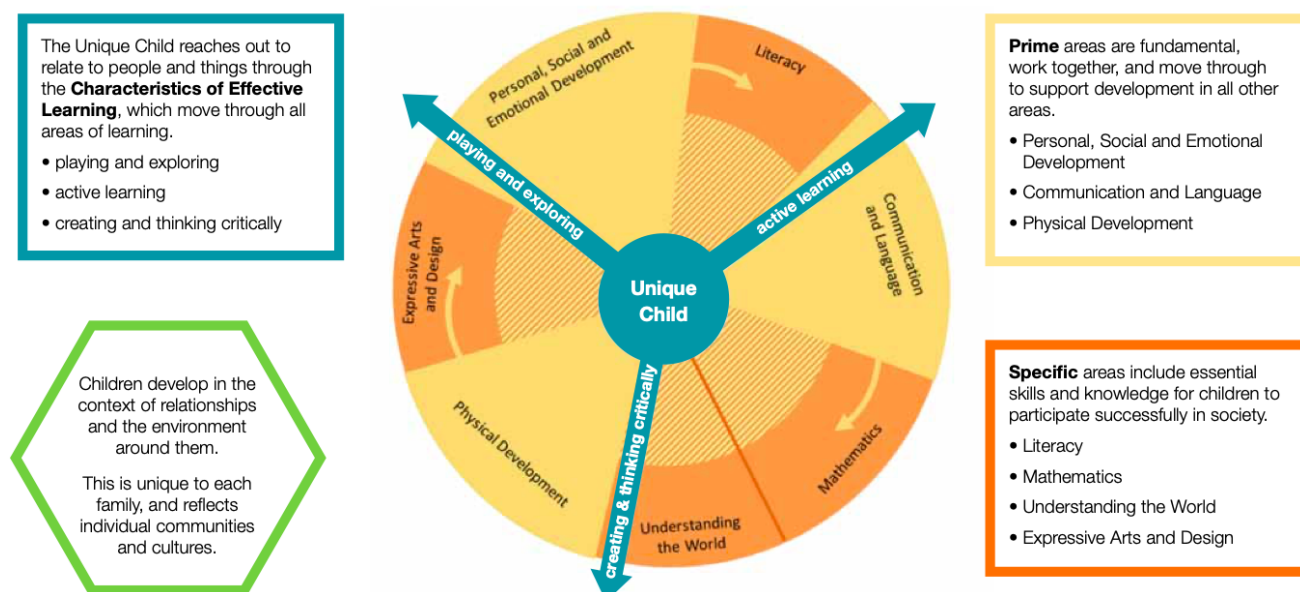


## Welcome to Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

We are very excited to welcome you to our school! We have written this booklet to help you work with us to give your child the best possible start to school life. It also contains important additional information about the school. Please read the booklet carefully and keep it in a safe place for future reference. If you have any further questions, please do contact us.

### What does EYFS mean?

EYFS refers to the Early Years Foundation Stage. This stage of education ranges from birth to age 5 (60 months). Your child is starting in Reception with us. It is known as reception as we are 'receiving' the children into their first year of formal education. The diagram below outlines what we teach in the EYFS (Development Matters, 2021).



### How do you teach in the EYFS at Holy Trinity?

We aim to teach a rich, broad and balanced curriculum at Holy Trinity. This means that we use exciting stimuli alongside high quality texts and resources to help your children become autonomous and passionate learners. Learning is active and engaging, with themes or topics that are brought to life by hands-on, real experiences for the children both inside and outside of the classroom. We support children in making their own choices about learning, build curiosity, awe and wonder, and we will teach a curriculum that matches their stage of development. There is time for self selected learning and play where adults are involved in supporting and enhancing language, social skills, creativity and imagination. In the preschool and EYFS we will always encourage children to be independent and lead a moral life based on our school ethos, and in line with our British values.

Quite simply, we love learning at Holy Trinity and will work with you to ensure that your child becomes a lifelong learner too!





## What Does A Typical Day Look Like in the EYFS?

A typical day in Reception is outlined below. Please note that the children can freely access toilets and drinks throughout the day.

### Morning

**Soft Start** - Children are registered as they arrive into the classroom, and begin their morning with a 'soft start'. This is time for them to settle and engage in the provision with activities that are set out and accessible. These activities support the development of independence, confidence and our prime areas of Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development.

**Phonics lessons** - We will be learning how to identify and write letter sounds, hear these sounds in words by blending and then use this knowledge to read words and simple sentences. We follow the Read Write Inc Phonics program to teach early reading. This is the reading scheme that closely matches the children's phonic abilities and will be used to teach your child to be a confident reader.

**Continuous Provision** - This is learning that takes place in the indoor and outdoor environment throughout the day. It is carefully planned for and tailored to meet the needs of the children and to include all seven areas of learning. It will be seen by the children as play and commonly referred to as 'choosing time'. During this time, adults are engaged in high quality interactions that support, challenge and move the children's learning forward. The children can freely access outdoor activities throughout the day.

**Snack time** - this is an opportunity to regroup, have a healthy snack and a drink, and participate in language based activities and enjoy a storybook.

**CLL - Communication, Language and Literacy** - A carefully chosen high quality text is explored and shared with the children. This includes developing our children's vocabulary by exploring words and their meaning relevant to our story and theme. A relevant and engaging follow up activity is then completed in small groups. These activities are carefully planned to support our children's love of reading, understanding of books and relevant themes, and their ability to share their thoughts and ideas.

### Lunch (more info on page 7)

The children have an hour for their lunch break. They eat with their classmates at a table and are expected to use cutlery if they are having a school lunch. They are supervised by familiar adults. The children eat lunch and then head outside for playtime.

### Afternoon

**Mathematics** - We will have a short, adult led carpet session that supports our children's early number sense. In Reception, we build a deep understanding of numbers to 10, and beyond through hands-on activities and by making connections to the world around us. We take part in small directed teacher activities that follow and extend our carpet session.

**Continuous Provision** - children continue to learn and play in their indoor and outdoor activities.

**Wider Curriculum** - During this adult-led carpet session, we listen to stories and engage in activities that explore our topics and themes. We deepen our Understanding of the World, Expressive Arts and Design and Physical Activity through rich discussions and hands-on materials. We also take part in a weekly Religious Education session.







## What do I need to know about the first day?

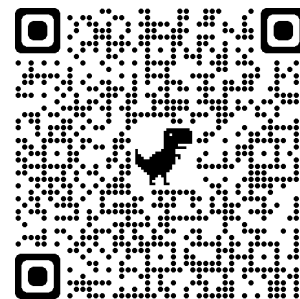
- Wear your school uniform and bring a coat if the weather requires it. Don't forget your child's book bag. This is important as it builds independence for your child and allows them to carry books safely between home and school.
- Reception children enter through the large gate on Roseberry Place.
- Gates open for arrival at 8:45 am and close at 08:55 am.
- Supervise your child through the playground to where the teacher is ready to welcome them in at the classroom gate.
- Say goodbye and hand them over to their teacher, we know it can be hard but leave swiftly as this makes it easier for your child to settle into their day.
- Parents and carers are not able to enter the classroom due to safeguarding reasons.
- Collection is via the Roseberry Place gates at 3:30 pm
- If your child has a packed lunch please inform the school office and remember to bring it with you.

WE WILL NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO GO HOME WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN THE KNOWN PARENTS  
UNLESS WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE.

CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE A CHILD  
HOME FROM RECEPTION.

## What do I need to know about attendance?

If your child cannot attend for any reason, you must let us know, please go to the school website and click the link under the contact tab or scan the QR code here to link to the online form. Being late and missing the day through absence can disrupt your child's routine and impact your child's education.



Extended absence should only be taken in term time in exceptional circumstances. Any parent considering taking their child out of school should apply in writing to the Headteacher. This letter must include the number of days the child/ren will be absent and the reason for absence. Your child may be given work to complete whilst away; this is to be given to the class teacher on their return. If your child is absent from school for an extended time a referral may be made to the Educational Welfare Officer. Your child's place could be withdrawn and the place could then be offered to another child.

## What should I do if my child is not well enough to come to school?

Please keep your child at home if they are unwell. After sickness or diarrhoea there must be a clear 48 hours before returning to us. If your child should be taken ill here, or have an accident, we will need to contact a parent or carer. Please ensure we have your telephone number, plus an additional number for a friend or relative who can be contacted in an emergency. It is VERY IMPORTANT that we have up to date contact addresses and telephone numbers. Please advise us if your child is taking any medications. In order to secure your child's well being, please let us know if there are any changes in this information. Staff cannot take responsibility for administering any medicines in school unless there is a medical care plan in place.

## What happens if my child is feeling unwell at school?

Your child would be taken to Ms Cunningham or another first aid trained adult for assessment. If your child has a temperature or is too unwell to return to class then a phone call will be made for you to come and collect your child.



## What does my child wear?

School uniforms can be purchased from the M&S School Uniform website. Via the link below <https://www.mandsyourschooluniform.com//m-s-uniform/uniform-by-school/london-schools-a-m/holy-trinity-c-of-e-primary-school/5637147667.cs>. Alternatively, you can order by phone on 0333 014 8418. Please note that children are permitted to wear a watch however not watches that record, make calls or send messages. Children are not allowed to wear jewellery, if they have their ears pierced they may wear simple stud earrings. This helps to keep our children safe whilst in school and ensures that jewellery is not lost.

Although we try to protect clothes with aprons, accidents do happen. Please try to have a relaxed attitude about this because your child will become more involved in learning through play if they are not worried about you being upset.

As we are outside every day it is important that during the Autumn/Winter months that the children have wellingtons/sturdy shoes and coats that keep them warm and dry. Please make sure that they are well labelled.

Please be sure that shoes are safe for climbing. Laces are very difficult and frustrating for young children to manage themselves. When it's time to buy new shoes, please think about choosing ones that are easy to fasten such as ones with velcro tabs or buckles. It is important that you clearly label wellingtons, uniform tops and coats to avoid confusion, as children often have similar ones.



white Holy Trinity polo shirt



Grey skirt



Navy Holy Trinity  
Sweatshirt



Grey trousers or shorts



Grey dress



Navy blue gingham dress  
- NO WHITE COLLARS



## What do I need to know about school lunch?

Parents or carers can choose for their child to have a school meal or provide your own packed lunch. School meals are free for all children from Reception until the end of Year 2. If you wish to provide your child with a packed lunch, please let the school office know. Your child can have a mixture of school meals and packed lunches, but this must be on a term by term basis. For example, school meals in Autumn term, packed lunches in Spring term and school meals in Summer term. If you wish for your child to move from school lunches to a packed lunch please inform the school office.

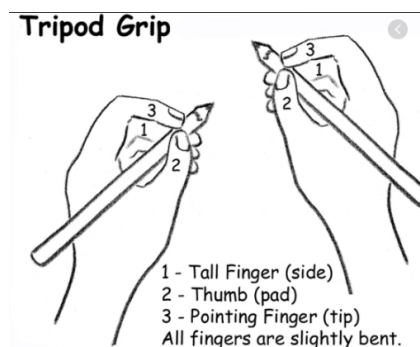
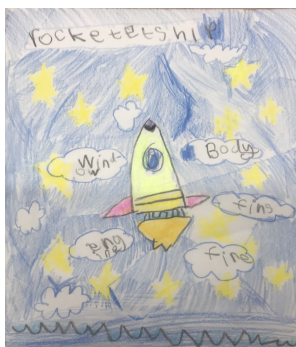
Packed lunches should follow our healthy eating guidelines, please ensure that your child has a balanced meal for lunch. Access to water and milk is provided throughout the day and at lunchtime for all children, therefore is not needed as part of their packed lunch. If you have any questions please ask a member of the Reception team or office staff. Fruit is provided throughout the day free of charge.



## What should I do to prepare my child for school?

We are sure that you have already been preparing your child for school but here are some top tips to ensure independence and a smooth transition to school life!

- Make sure that your child can use the toilet independently, including wiping themselves and washing their hands with soap and water.
- Make sure that your child can undress and dress themselves.
- Talk to your child as much as possible. Ask them questions about what they see around them and talk to them about their interests and wonders.
- Help your child to recognise their name when it is written down.
- Work with your child to write some letters of importance such as letters in their name.
- Read as much as you can and talk about what you have read.
- Encourage mark making, drawing and writing as much as possible. This may include activities that continue to strengthen their hands and fingers. Some activities include:
  - Sensory play at home; sorting lentils and rice, pasta, seeds, and using these materials to write and mark make in.
  - Explore writing with a range of materials such as paint, chalk, large pens, water and paintbrush.
  - Encourage your child to share their drawing and writing with you explaining what it is.
- For more information visit [www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk](http://www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk)

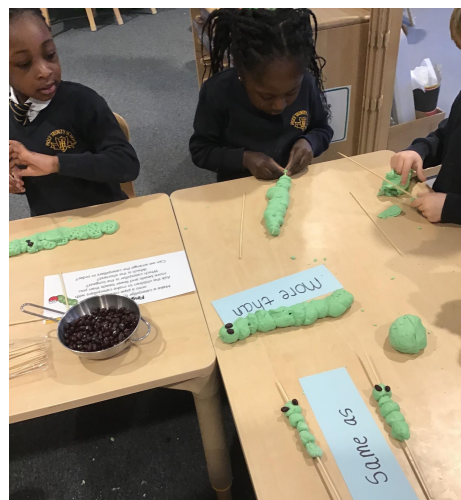


*Image shows either left or right handed grip.*



## I have heard of a 'baseline assessment', what is this?

The Reception Baseline Assessment (2021) is a statutory set of short, interactive and practical tasks to explore your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school. It is to be completed for every child in the country within the first 6 weeks of them starting Reception. These assessments are completed by the class teacher and are done on a 1 to 1 basis with your child. This data will be used to measure your child's progress in Reception as well as throughout their school years. There is no pass or fail, it is simply a measure of your child's starting point on entry to school. Please click [here](#) to view some information for parents about this assessment.



## My child has additional needs, who shall I tell?

Additional needs can be medical, dietary, educational or a combination of them. Please make sure that this has been recorded on your registration forms. If your child takes regular medication please make an appointment to meet with Ms Cunningham. The medication you are handing over for the school to hold should be clearly labelled with your child's name and should be with a copy of their medical care plan if they already have one. If you are concerned that your child has any educational needs, please contact the school SENDCo on 0207 254 1010 or via email, [senco@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:senco@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk)

## What does my child need for PE lessons?

When your child has PE they will need to come to school that day in their PE uniform. This should be a white T-shirt, navy joggers, leggings or shorts with a PE jumper and trainers. Your child will spend the day in their PE kit so they will not need to get changed before or after PE lessons.



Navy Holy Trinity  
PE Sweatshirt



White Holy Trinity  
PE T-Shirt



Navy Joggers



Navy Shorts



Navy Skort



## How will I know how my child is getting on?

You will know how your child is getting on in their year group through feedback from adults, this may be in the form of an informal chat, a phone call, a note home, stickers or a meeting. We hold Learning Conversations/Parent Evenings with parents/carers and teachers throughout the year. You will also receive a Google Login to access your child's Google Classroom. This will share our activities as well as our Floor Book that has a weekly snapshot of our learning!

We will be running Family Fridays throughout the school year. This will be an opportunity for parents and/or carers to spend time with your child in their classroom. It is a lovely opportunity for your child to show you how they are getting on and for you to meet the adults and other parents.

We have 3 simple rules here at Holy Trinity.

We are Ready

We are Respectful

We are Safe

Each week children who are following our school rules and have exceptional behaviour in school will be recognised. One child, per class, per week is selected to have Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher. You will know about it in advance of the event as your child will come home with an invitation that looks like the one below. Please make sure you turn it over as it will have a reason on the back for why your child has been invited to Hot Chocolate.







## Who else might be useful to know about?



Catherine Thoma is the headteacher. She has been working at the school for over 10 years. "I travel to school in one of two ways, I either run or I drive. One of my favourite children's books is 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. I love how the imagination of the bear takes him up the chimney, through the night sky and to the moon! I have a passion for Mathematics and a strong belief that when taught well, everyone can develop a love for the subject."



Stephanie Li Rosi is the Lead Practitioner for Early Year Foundation Stage. She has a passion for lifelong learning and supporting to create engaging, enticing and supportive environments where play and talk is an integral part of our provisions. "I love to explore new places, being outdoors and exercising! I love reading stories, especially funny ones! One of my favourite stories is 'There's a Monster in Your Book' by Tom Fletcher because I love how we need to follow the interactive instructions to get the Monster out!"



Cherriffa Grierson is our Assistant Head for Inclusion and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). I have worked in Hackney for a number of years and I love that Hackney is a vibrant mixed community of cultures, races and religions. I have a passion for music, fashion and travelling and have tried to embrace this whenever I visit another country. I believe that education is a journey that we are on and we must always do our best to show the best versions of ourselves. My favourite children's books range from '5 minutes peace' by Jill Murphy to 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo."



Leah Grant-Muller is our Key Stage 1 Assistant Head and English Lead. "I have a passion for Art, Drama, Music and Dance and believe that it is important to let children be as creative as possible in their lessons across the curriculum. I also love teaching PE and running sporting clubs and competitions. I believe that children should have every opportunity to develop and showcase their sporting talents! Some of my favourite children's stories are 'The Tiger who Came to Tea' and 'I want my hat back!'"



Pauline Cunningham is the Pastoral Support Manager, her role provides an additional link between home and school. Pauline loves to travel (only in the school holidays) and she has been monitoring the attendance and welfare of children in our school for the last 17 years. Pauline will make contact with parents if the school has a concern about your child's attendance and/or punctuality. She can answer questions about holiday requests and is often the person to support your child when they are unwell. To support our role in looking after your child's welfare, we have a nominated school nurse and education welfare office linked to the school. These additional agencies work closely with the school and families to ensure that your child is in school each day.



Sian Davies, Executive Principal, has a long standing relationship with Holy Trinity and with Hackney. She has been Executive Principal at Holy Trinity since 2004 and leads the eight schools in our Federation. She believes passionately in education as a vehicle for change for individuals and for society. "I am a big Harry Potter fan but my favourite book is A Necklace of Raindrops by Joan Aiken, illustrated by Jan PieŃkowski. It is such a beautiful story and a one I loved to tell in assemblies. It is magical when a short story can capture the attention and imagination of over 200 children of all ages at the same time".



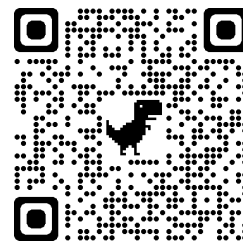
Reverend Laura Luz is the Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Dalston and All Saints Church, Haggerston. She leads collective worship once a week and makes visits to the school to talk with children. Laura is a school governor and the chair of the Holy Trinity Local Advisory Board. We encourage those children who are already involved in the Christian faith and hope to bring a spiritual awareness to those of no faith.





## Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

<https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/>



## Local Education Authority

The Local Education Authority makes education provision for all the children in its area. Our Local Education Authority is:

Hackney Education Authority

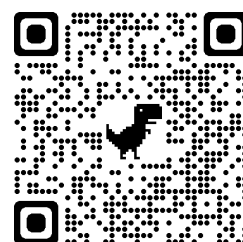
Hackney Education

T.L.C. Building

Reading Lane

E8

Telephone: 0208 820 7000



## The London Diocesan Board

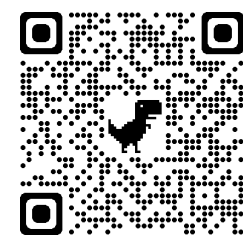
As a Church school Holy Trinity Primary School is supported by the London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS).

London Diocesan Board for Schools

36 Causton Street

London SW1 4AU

Telephone: 020 7932 1100



The LDBS and the Governors work in partnership with the local authority to ensure a good educational standard for the school.

## OfSTED Parent Portal

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

