



Frequently Asked Questions

Here are a few questions we often get asked as part of our welcome presentation. They are designed to help you decide if Oakwood is the right school for your child. More detailed day-to-day information will be available when you have been allocated a place.

Why Oakwood?

Oakwood is a thriving school that has served the local community for many years. We see previous pupils' children and even grandchildren coming through the school gates as the pupils of today. We really are the 'Oakwood Family'.

What are the times of the school day?

At the moment, due to Covid-19 risk assessments, we have staggered finish times. Year R finish at 3pm. We operate a 'soft start' in the morning - registration is at 9am and if your child arrives after this they will be marked as late. However, the doors open at 8.40 and staff will be in class to welcome your child into school anytime between 8.40 and 9.00am.

Is there a breakfast and after school club?

Yes. This is run onsite but is operated by a separate provider - [Kidzplay](#). All bookings and payments are made directly through them.

Is my child entitled to a free school dinner?

Yes! All children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a Universal Infant Free School Meal. If you think that you may also be eligible to means-tested free school meals, please still [check](#) as this will not only provide your child with a free meal in Year 3 onwards, but also support school with funding.

All information about school dinners can be found [here](#) on our website.

Children also receive free fruit and vegetables as a mid-morning snack through the [School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme](#).

Can my child have a packed lunch on some days?

Yes, we do encourage as many children as possible to have the school lunches as they are tasty, nutritious and free! However, if there are some days where you would like to send your child with a packed lunch, then you can.



My child already attends preschool. Is there a handover in place to make sure important information is passed on?

Yes. We take children from a wide range of preschools, and we make sure we visit or make contact with every preschool that has a child who will be attending Oakwood. This means we are able to find out important information about your child's progress and needs before they start with us.

My child has allergies/a health condition. Is this something that the school can accommodate?

Yes. We work with parents to develop individual care plans for children who have medical needs, and provide relevant training to staff where necessary.

My child has special needs. How will they be supported?

This very much depends on their individual needs. We have a dedicated Inclusion Manager who oversees the provision for all children who have special needs. She works closely with the class teacher, parents and, where appropriate, outside agencies, to make sure that the appropriate support is in place.

How can I prepare my child for school?

We send a check list for your child to complete over the summer with suggested activities such as being able to eat with a knife and fork, put a coat on by themselves, open a piece of fruit. Establishing a routine is really important, particularly at bedtime to make sure your child has enough sleep.

You do not need to worry about whether they can read, write their name or count, but it is a good idea to start practising counting rhymes with them and encouraging them to develop their fine and gross motor skills with things such as outdoor play and experimenting with toys like play doh. The **most important** thing you can do with them to prepare them for learning is to share books and develop a love of reading and stories.