



St Mary's Primary School  
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Broughton Gifford  
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2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of new reception children 2020,

The Local Authority has confirmed that your child has been offered a place from September 2020! Thank you for choosing to send your child to St Mary's school, we are looking forward to welcoming you all as soon as possible. Last term, I wrote to your child, and today I want to provide you with a little more detail with regards to the preparations we are making to welcome reception children in the autumn term.

This year, due to the Coronavirus pandemic we are not able to bring the children into school, during the summer term, as we would normally do. However, we are able to offer the opportunity for you and your child to visit the forest area and meet with the staff (see details below), if you feel comfortable with this. If not, class teachers are happy to arrange a telephone meeting with you to answer your queries and find out more about your child. Our induction process normally includes visits to see your child at their current preschool or nursery setting. At present, we are not sure about whether we will be able to carry out visits to nurseries, but the teachers in Willow class will phone each setting to complete the transition arrangements.

I appreciate this is a significant milestone in your child's life, and we intend in the coming weeks to have contact with you and your child. This will allow you to talk with your child about the excitement of starting school and the things they can look forward to. We will be planning alternative induction activities for you and your child to engage in. It may be that these need to be carried out remotely but we will do our best to put your mind at ease and to help your child to feel excited about the prospect of starting at St Mary's School in the autumn term. We plan for activities to include:

- Dedicated section of the school website for reception children 2020 with links
- A virtual meeting where we are able to introduce ourselves and present information as we would do at the usual parents meeting
- A virtual school tour



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- A visit to the forest to meet the class teachers; giving you the opportunity to ask questions you may have. These will be timed visits and social distancing will apply
- Activities to complete with your child and send back to their new teacher

We will do our best to ensure that your child's transition to school is as smooth and happy as possible. As soon as I have more details about the above activities, I will write to you again and please keep looking at the school website for updates. On the website in the Home Learning section you will find a range of nursery activities that you could do with your child.

In the meantime, stay safe. We really look forward to meeting you and your child very soon. Finally, please remember to **accept your school place on the Wiltshire Council website**. Thank you!

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Orchard

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#### 1:1 meeting in the Forest/ telephone chat

If you would like the opportunity to **come along to the forest** with your child to meet the class teachers, please email the school office with your preferred time slot of either **Wednesday am or pm on June 25<sup>th</sup>**. This will be a chance for your child to come onto the school site with you, as well as giving you the chance to ask questions. Currently, we have no cohort children on site on a Wednesday.

If you prefer a **telephone chat** with the teachers instead, please request this through the office email.

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