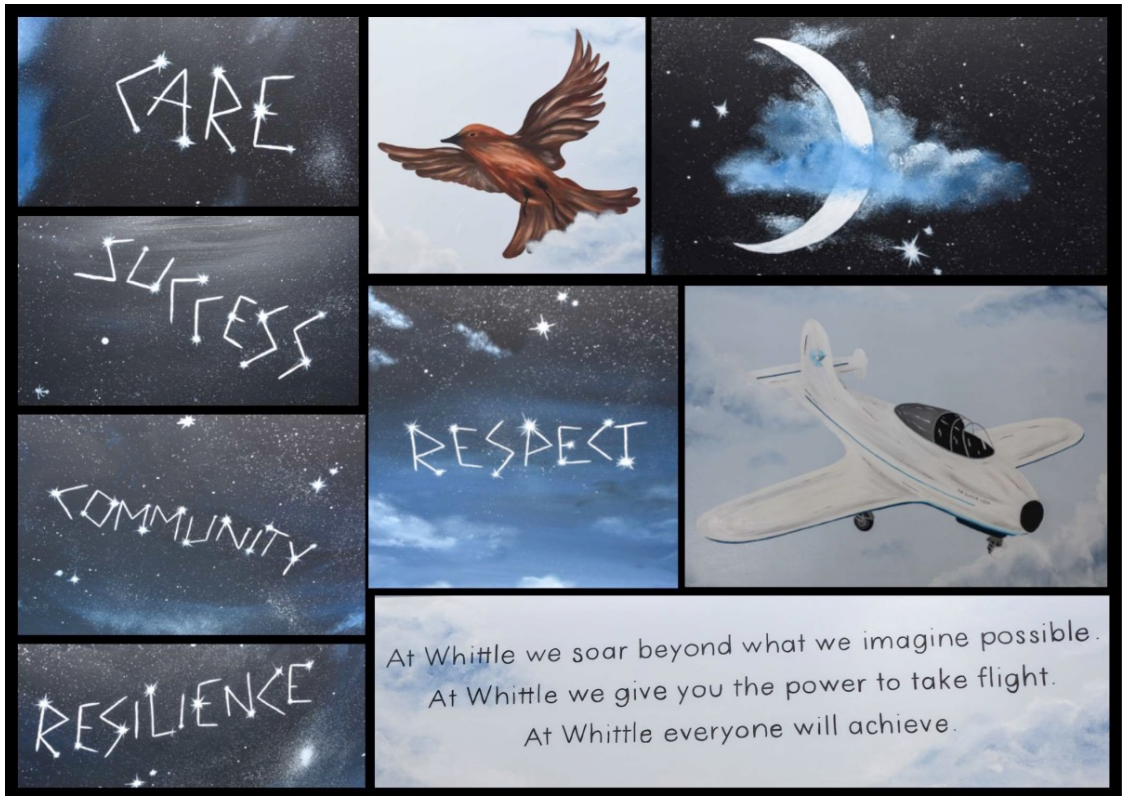
Whittle
Academy

Getting Ready to Start School!

Aims for the evening..

- Welcome to Whittle!
- How we share starting information with you.
- How can you help your child get ready to start school.
- Time to explore and ask questions.



Welcome to Whittle!

Who's who?

Nursery Staff:

Mrs Le Marquad
Nursery Teacher

Mrs Tanner
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Smith

Reception Staff:

Miss Jamal
Reception Teacher

Miss Barratt
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Smith
Cover Supervisor

Mr Dadley
Headteacher

Mrs Morgan-Smith
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Prudham

SENDCO

What you need to know...

September Starting

What will I need to bring with me?

What should I wear?

What will I learn?

What happens at lunch time?

How will my grownups know what I have been doing?

What will my day look like?

Our school values – what makes Whittle special.

How can I help my child get ready to start school or nursery?

Independence

Building independence helps children feel confident and ready to learn.

Play

Play helps children explore, create, learn and make sense of the world around them.

Emotions

Understanding emotions helps children to recognise how they feel and to understand others.

Show they need help

Being able to show they need help supports children's confidence, communication and independence.

Recognise their name

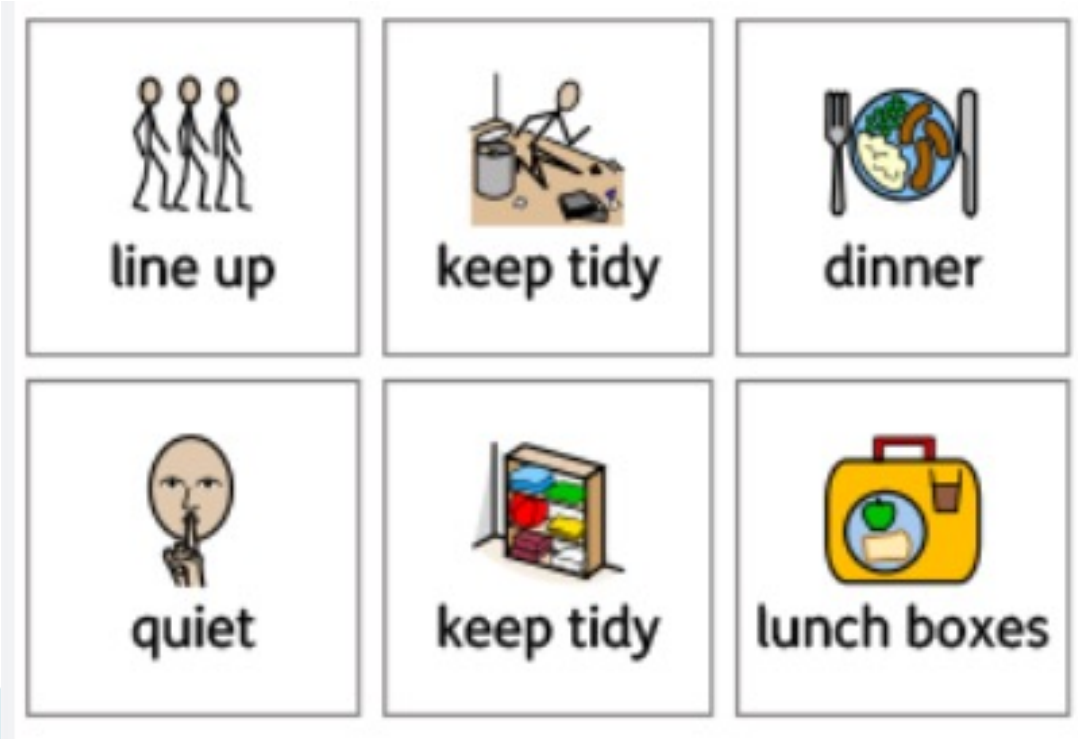
Recognising their name helps children to develop independence and learn some early mark making skills.

Give attention

Being able to give attention for short periods helps children to listen, learn and take part in activities.

Listen and follow simple instructions

Listening and following simple instructions helps children to take part, stay safe and succeed in their learning.



Best Start in Life

In Coventry, our 8 Best Start Family Hubs are designed to bring together services, support, and opportunities for families from pregnancy through to young adulthood, helping ensure that children and families receive the right support at the right time, in the right place. Through a connected and collaborative approach, we work alongside schools to improve outcomes for children and young people while supporting family wellbeing, resilience, attendance, emotional health, and early intervention needs.

The Best Start in Life and the Healthy Babies Programme focus on recognising that positive early experiences, strong family relationships, and timely support during pregnancy and the early years are critical in shaping lifelong outcomes for children.

The Healthy Babies Programme promotes the importance of early attachment, infant health, emotional wellbeing, nutrition, communication development, and parental confidence from conception onwards. Through Family Hubs and connected partnership working, we aim to ensure families can easily access support that enables babies and children to thrive physically, emotionally, socially, and developmentally.

BEST START IN LIFE

COVENTRY
BEST START
FAMILY HUBS

www.coventryfamilies.co.uk

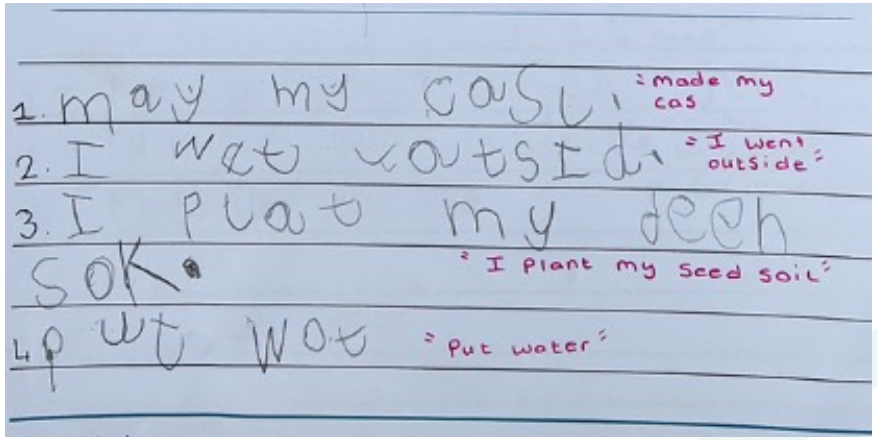
Perseverance

Perseverance helps children to keep going when things are tricky and builds confidence in their learning.

Physical development

Physical development helps children to move confidently, develop control and build the skills needed for writing and everyday tasks.

Gross motor skills → Fine motor skills



Healthy routines

Healthy routines help children feel rested, confident and ready to join in a full day of learning.

Chat!

Talking helps children explain their ideas, understand others and explore the world through questions.

Our Relationship with You

Look out for...

- Updates on Class Dojo
- 'Stay and Play' days
- Other opportunities to come into school
- Learning updates on Tapestry
- Friends of Whittle

Our school platforms...

Arbor

School information system

- ✓ Check and update your child's details
- ✓ Book and pay for school meals
- ✓ Book and pay for After School Clubs
- ✓ Book and pay for 'Wrap Around' care
- ✓ Give consent and pay for school trips

Please note we use 'School Cloud' to book parents evening appointments.

Class Dojo

Home–school communication

- ✓ Receive messages and updates
- ✓ See class announcements, photos and reminders
- ✓ Celebrate achievements with 'Dojo Points' and messages home
- ✓ Share informal updates with your child's class teacher when needed

See the next page for more detailed information about communicating on Class Dojo.

Tapestry

(for Nursery and Reception only)

Early Years Online Learning Journal

- ✓ See photos/videos and observations of your child's learning and next steps
- ✓ Comment on your child's learning
- ✓ Add your own photos/videos or notes from home for teachers to see
- ✓ Keep track of your child's development journey against the Early Learning Goals

Boom Reader

Online Reading Record

- ✓ Log your child's daily reading
- ✓ Teachers can see what your child has read and update their book
- ✓ See when your child has changed book bands
- ✓ Share comments about reading progress
- ✓ Helps us all support regular reading at home

Follow us on Social Media!

www.facebook.com/whittleacademy

www.instagram.com/whittleacademy
@whittleacademy

Reception children who are new to Whittle.

Wednesday 1st July

1.30pm - 3.00pm

Time to explore!...

- ✓ Time to explore the classroom environment
- ✓ Speak with your child's Teacher
- ✓ Speak to our catering team, ask questions and look at menus
- ✓ Chat to our Pastoral Lead (Luke Harris)
- ✓ Chat to our SENCo (Mrs Prudham)

Before you leave, please remember to:

- ➢ Sign up for your **home visit** date and time (new to Whittle families only)
- ➢ Collect your **starter packs** and key paperwork