

LEVENS CE SCHOOL



Welcome to Reception 2026

At Levens CE School



Dear Parents,

On behalf of everyone within our school community, may I welcome you to our school.

Levens CE School is a happy, safe and inspiring place to grow and learn, where we enjoy the learning experiences each new day brings. Everyone is supported and nurtured through our distinctively Christian ethos and shared Christian values.

It is our aim to develop and sustain a life-long love of learning by building for our future in a diverse and ever-changing world. Rich and wide-ranging experiences enable everyone in school to be creative and develop the personal skills required to be responsible, confident and considerate; taking pride in all that we do.

Starting school is an extremely exciting time for our children and marks a significant milestone in your child's development. Here at Levens, we endeavour to ensure your child's first experiences of school are positive so that we can lay the foundations for future learning in an environment where your child feels excited about coming to school each day; feels safe; and can build healthy new relationships with adults and their peers.

With a focus on ensuring high standards in reading, writing and maths; we deliver a broad and balanced curriculum relevant to the 21st century. Our Christian ethos pervades every aspect of school; supporting the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of all pupils.

Relationships are at the heart of the school and our community. Our polite, responsible and enthusiastic pupils are inspired by committed, hardworking staff and school is very well supported by a dedicated governing body. Our parents are another very important part of the team; supporting their child's learning and the work of school in so many ways.

We are passionate about our school and our pupils; striving to empower their young minds to follow their dreams, be happy and embrace challenge.

This brochure just gives a flavour of what Levens has to offer. For further information why not take a look at our website at www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk or call the school office to arrange a visit. I would welcome the opportunity to take you on a tour of our school.

Yours sincerely

Jane Farraday
Headteacher

Starting Reception

During the summer term before your child starts Reception, we provide a range of opportunities to help them begin their journey into school life with confidence and excitement. These include home visits, classroom transition sessions, and whole-school events such as Sports Day.

These experiences allow your child to:

- Meet the Reception staff;
- Become familiar with the school and classroom environment;
- Begin building relationships with their peers;
- Develop an understanding of school routines and expectations.

If your child currently attends a nursery other than Levens Nursery, members of our staff will visit them in their nursery setting and meet with their key worker to support a smooth transition into school.

Please note that children already attending Levens Nursery will not require a home visit or additional classroom transition sessions.

Our Classroom

Our Reception classroom is carefully organised into a range of engaging learning areas, all linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

The experiences we provide support children's social and emotional development, communication and language skills, physical development, early reading, writing, and mathematical understanding.

We provide a balanced approach to learning, combining adult-led teaching with rich opportunities for independent exploration and discovery.

We are also fortunate to have a beautiful outdoor learning area, where children have free-flow access at various times throughout the day. Outdoor learning plays a vital role in developing children's physical skills, creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities.



September 2026

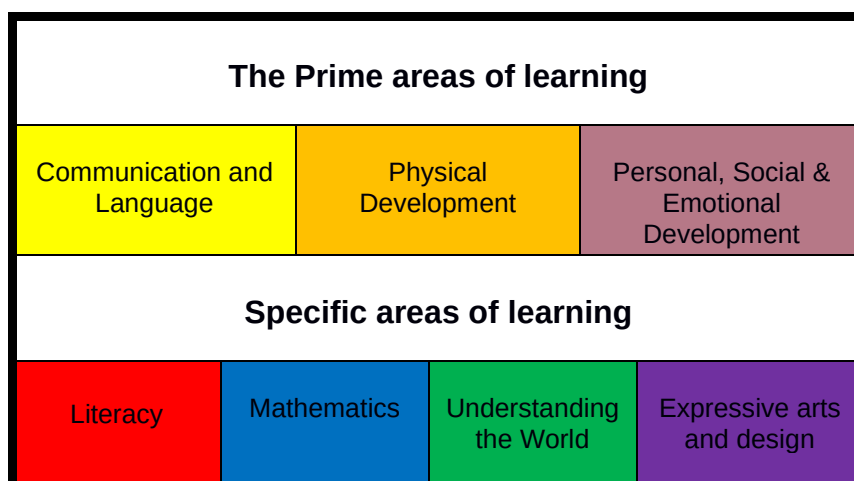
The Autumn Term begins for all children on **Wednesday 2nd September 2026**. All pupils starting Reception will begin full-day sessions from this date.

Our Learning Environment

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework sets the standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to the end of the Reception year. In Reception, learning experiences are carefully planned around the areas of learning identified within the Framework, while also responding to the individual interests, strengths, and needs of each child.

Through a nurturing and play-based approach, children are encouraged to explore, investigate, and develop their skills and understanding in a stimulating and supportive environment. Our Foundation Stage promotes curiosity, creativity, independence, and a lifelong love of learning.

The EYFS Framework is divided into two key areas of learning: the Prime Areas and the Specific Areas.



Monitoring and Reporting Your Child's Progress

Children's learning is recorded through:

- **Tapestry** – an online learning journal shared with parents
- **A whole-class floor book**

Tapestry allows us to share children's achievements, milestones, and "wow" moments with parents and carers, while also providing regular insight into the learning experiences and activities taking place throughout the week.

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for you to meet formally with your child's class teacher to discuss their learning, development, and progress, as well as to view examples of their work. At the end of the summer term, you will receive your child's End of Year Report.

If you would like to discuss your child's learning or wellbeing at any other point during the year, please do not hesitate to contact us. We pride ourselves on being approachable and are always happy to discuss your child's development.

Children with Special Educational Needs

At Levens CE School we provide equality for all children, including those identified as having any additional needs. Our setting, our curriculum and the expertise of our staff ensures all children breakdown any barriers to learning in order to access a rich and broad curriculum developing skills and their understanding to make good progress.

"Leaders have developed a broad and engaging curriculum that is ambitious for all pupils, including those with SEND" Ofsted, January 2023

Further information is available on our website or by speaking with:

- **SEND Lead:** Mrs Helen Haslam
 - **Headteacher:** Mrs Jane Farraday
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Arriving in school in the mornings

Our school day starts at 8:45am and ends at 3:15pm for all pupils. The school gates open at 8:35am, and members of staff from Class One will be on the playground to greet the children and support a smooth transition into the classroom.

In Reception, children are encouraged to develop their independence from the start of the day. They take part in simple morning routines such as self-registering and beginning an activity independently.

These routines help create a calm and purposeful start, allowing children to settle quickly and establishing a positive tone for learning throughout the day.



Reception fruit, snack and milk

All children are offered a piece of fruit or vegetable each day, along with a drink of milk, as part of our healthy eating approach. Fresh fruit is provided free of charge for all infant pupils.

Snack time is also an important social opportunity for the children in Class One. They are encouraged to try new foods, share experiences, and learn from one another. Staff join the children, modelling positive behaviours and engaging in conversation, helping to support language development and reflect on the children's learning.

Milk is free for children until they turn five. If you would like your child to continue receiving milk after this time, it can be arranged through our supplier, **Cool Milk**, for a small fee. Parents can register and arrange payment each term by visiting: <https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/>

Lunchtimes

Lunch runs from **11.45am – 12.45pm**. During lunchtime, your child will enjoy a free infant school meal. Daily menus are available to view on the school website. Each morning, children make their meal selection with their class teacher. We recommend discussing the menu with your child the evening before to help them make a confident choice.

Children eat their lunch in the dining hall, where staff are always present to support them. This ensures they have enough to eat and drink, helps them learn the routines of the dining hall, and enables them to enjoy a positive and sociable lunchtime experience.

We are happy to accommodate all special dietary requirements. Please inform us as early as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.

Assemblies

On Fridays, we hold a special **Celebration Assembly**. During this time, each class shares highlights of their learning from the week, and we recognise children who have been added to our **Golden Book** for something incredible.

We warmly invite parents to join us for these assemblies on regular occasions. Dates and details will be shared via the school website calendar, newsletters, and text messages.

Home time

The school day ends at 3:15pm. Children should be collected from the playground, where a member of the Class One team will be present.

Occasionally, staff may wish to speak briefly with you to share updates from your child's day or pass on important information.

If someone different will be collecting your child, please ensure the school is informed in advance, as your child's safety is our highest priority. From their first days at school, children are taught to remain with the adult in charge until they are given permission to go to their parent or carer. This ensures that every child is safely handed over to their designated adult

Safeguarding

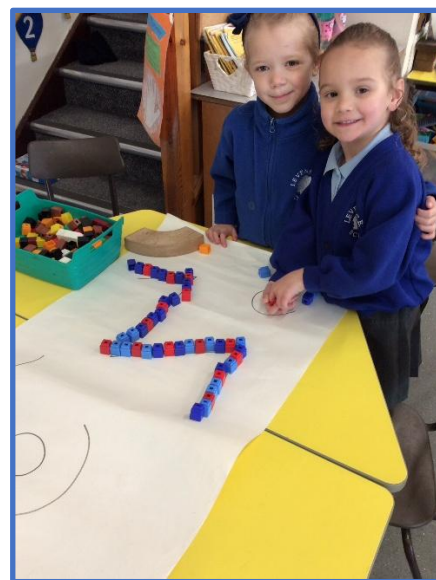
Safeguarding is a top priority at Levens CE School.

“Leaders have established a strong safeguarding culture at the school. Staff and governors receive regular safeguarding training. They know how to spot the signs that pupils may be at risk of harm and act promptly to report any worries that they have. Leaders are quick to respond if such concerns are reported” Ofsted January 2023.

At our school, the health, safety and wellbeing of every child is of paramount importance. Parents entrust us with their children each day, and we are committed to providing a safe, secure and nurturing environment in which all pupils can flourish.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Farraday, and in her absence the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Haslam. If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, please speak to a member of staff immediately.

At Levens School, we take all concerns seriously. If there is reason to believe that a child may be at risk of harm, ill-treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff will respond promptly and take appropriate action in line with safeguarding procedures.



Health & Attendance

In some circumstances, and when the medication timing necessitates that a dose is given during the school day, prescription medication can be administered with completed paperwork. Please inform the school of any medical conditions, including asthma and allergies.

If your child is unwell, and unable to attend school, please notify school on the first day of absence by emailing office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk or if email is not possible then by phone between 8.30am and 9.00am. Please note that if your child experiences diarrhoea or vomiting (D&V), they are unable to attend school until at least 48hours after their last experience of D&V.

If your child becomes unwell at school or is involved in an accident that may require hospital treatment, we will contact you immediately using the details you have provided. If your child receives first aid during the school day, you will be informed via a 'First Aid' or 'Head Bump' letter outlining what has happened.

As part of our safeguarding procedures, please provide us with at least three emergency contacts with parent responsibility who we are able to contact in an emergency or if your child becomes unwell.

During your child's first year at school, the School Medical Service will carry various checks to monitor their growth and development. You will be informed in advance when these checks are due to take place.

Communication with Parents

At Levens CE School, we recognise that strong partnerships with parents are essential to supporting children's learning and development throughout their education. We aim to ensure that you always feel welcome in school and confident in approaching us with any questions or concerns. There are several ways to keep up to date with school life:

- School website, including our class page and the school blog
- School calendar (via the school website)
- Monthly newsletters
- Email and text alerts. As we are only able to link one family mobile number to the text system, please ensure you provide your preferred contact number and can pass on messages to anyone collecting your child.
- ParentPay for online payments and consent for trips (please contact the office to set up an account)

Follow us on:

- **Instagram:** @LevensCESchool (please note that this page does not publish photographs of pupils. It documents different learning opportunities and activities which parents and carers might like to see)

School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of a royal blue sweatshirt, fleece, or cardigan, worn with a white or pale blue polo shirt. Children may wear grey trousers, or a grey skirt or pinafore dress. In warmer weather, a blue gingham dress may also be worn and all pupils also require a Levens School Book Bag. A plain black draw-string PE bag will be required from Year 1 onwards.

Please note, only a small number of items need to be purchased from our suppliers directly, many cheaper alternatives can be found in local suppliers and supermarkets. School regularly holds pre-loved uniform swaps to allow our families to share items.

Please see our uniform policy on our website for further detail about our expectations on uniform. All pupils should wear black school shoes and bring an appropriate coat each day. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named, so they can be easily returned if misplaced.

PE Kit

Our PE kit includes:

- Black shorts
- Pale blue T-shirt (these items can be purchased from any retailer)
- Navy-blue hooded top with the school logo (available from our supplier)
- Black PE pumps and trainers

Children in Reception will come to school in their PE kits on their scheduled PE day which will be shared with parents in our termly class newsletters.

Uniform Prices

- Sweatshirt: £11.10
- Cardigan: £12.35
- Fleece jacket: £16.00
- Book bag: £6.50

Uniform can be ordered online via **Coniston Corporate**, by [clicking here](#) or by using the link on our website. Orders are delivered to school and sent home as soon as possible. Payment is made online, and we recommend placing orders well in advance to ensure items arrive in good time.

Thank you for taking the time to read about our arrangements for your child starting school. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us - we are always happy to help.

Contact Us

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