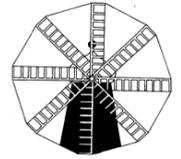


# Heckington St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School



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Head Teacher: Mrs Judith Bentley

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4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Children starting school in September 2020

We are delighted that you and your child are joining Heckington St. Andrew's this coming September. On behalf of the Staff, Governors, children and parents, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your family to our school.

Firstly, thank you for choosing Heckington St. Andrew's for your child to take their first steps towards independence. We believe that our school is a special place for your child to learn and grow and we work very hard to value every individual and provide the very best for every child in our care. We look forward to your child starting their school career with us in September and getting to know them as the wonderful individuals that they are!

I am very pleased to be able to let you know that we have appointed Mrs Vikki Bontoft as our new EYFS teacher from September 2020. Mrs Bontoft is already very familiar with our school as this year she has been a student in Year 1 at our school and in an early years setting in Sleaford and I'm sure you will join in me in welcoming her to our school community.

As a school, we are committed to smooth and timely transitions that allow each child to settle in, get to know their teacher and make new friends. We believe parents and carers play a key role in this transition so you too can feel reassured that your children are safe and happy. Ordinarily at this time, we would be writing to you to invite you to a number of events and meetings. However, due to the current situation this is not possible.

We find ourselves in an unprecedented set of circumstances and anticipate the possible anxiety your family may currently feel about your child's transition into Reception but we would like to assure you that an induction process of some kind will take place; however currently you will understand that we cannot be specific about how and when. Schools are working within a constantly changing environment. We therefore ask for your patience whilst we put together plans which are practical, flexible and above-all mutually beneficial in supporting the best possible start to your child's school life.

Starting school is a milestone for both you and your child. It is a time to be celebrated. Whilst we understand that current measures make this more difficult, we will do everything we can to ensure it stays that way and is a positive experience for everyone. We will be in touch over the summer term to inform you of our plans, but we also have to be prepared for plans to change should new guidance from the government be released. Please keep an eye on our Twitter feed (@HSAPrimary) and also our



website, where we have added a new page that will be updated shortly with all transition arrangements: <http://www.heckington.lincs.sch.uk/newparentinformation.asp>.

At Heckington St. Andrew's, we aim to build an excellent relationship between home and school. Whilst this may start off as more of a virtual relationship, this remains a priority for us. We will still be talking to pre-school and nursery settings, as we always do, to find out where your child is in their learning. We also want to find out about your child's preferences; things they particularly enjoy, find difficult etc. to ensure that we are as well prepared as we can be to welcome your child to school. To that end, I am enclosing a parental questionnaire with this letter which I would be grateful if you could complete and return to school as soon as it is safe to do so. If you would prefer an electronic copy to complete and email back to us, please find it on our school website (link above).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information – our contact details are at the top of this letter. Currently, email is the best way to get in touch and we will respond as soon as we can.

Every single child in the country starting Reception in the autumn term, will be in the same position as yours. Our promise to you is that we will continue to work in partnership, to ensure your child's start to school is both as exciting and positive as we can collectively make it.

Welcome to the Heckington St. Andrew's family and we look forward to meeting you all in the coming months.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Bentley  
Head Teacher

