

Autumn 2020

Prospective Parents - FAQs

How do I make the application for my child to attend Manby Lodge?

Surrey County Council is the Admissions Authority for Manby Lodge. Applications opened on 2nd November and will close on 15th January 2021. Please follow the link below to apply for a place at Manby Lodge.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions>

How can I get involved, as a parent?

We have a fantastic PTA – the ‘Friends of Manby Lodge’ (FoML) and they are a very active group. In the last two years they have raised over £37,000! Have a look at our [Parent Community page](#) on our school website. Every parent is automatically a member of our FoML, and you can be as involved as you want to.

We usually invite parents into school to volunteer and help in the classroom, and to listen to children read although under current restrictions, this is not possible.

We are also fortunate to be supported as a school by Parent Governors who form part of our school Full Governing Body. Parents are elected into this role. We currently have 3 Parent Governors, although two of our other Governors used to have a child at this school, including the Chair of Governors, Simon Tarr.

Does Manby Lodge offer Wrap-around Care?

Yes. KOOSA Kids run our wrap around childcare provision for working parents. Breakfast Club drop off is from 7:50am and After School Care runs until 6pm.

How do you manage Induction for children new to Reception?

Usually we hold a ‘new starter parents’ meeting’ in June in school. This year, due to the pandemic we held the meeting virtually at various times throughout the week, including in the evening. This enables working parents as well as those with other younger children to attend.

We then invite children to come into school for a story session with their new teacher before the end of the summer term. This year we held virtual ‘Zoom’ calls for children in small groups instead.

In September we usually conduct ‘Home visits’ where your child’s Class Teacher and Teaching Assistant will visit you for approximately half an hour to get to know your child in their home, a familiar setting. We had to hold these meetings in school this year, due to the pandemic.

In September 2021 we will then offer a first day visit for your child where there will only be 15 children in the class. We will start all children in school full time from Monday 13th September.

Do you cater for children with Special Educational Needs, or children with a disability (SEND)?

Yes – we cater for a range of needs. If your child has additional needs, a diagnosis, or if your child’s Nursery has put them onto the SEN Register, please make contact with our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), Mrs Karen Saffer. Mrs Saffer is also our school Deputy Headteacher.

Our TAs (and teachers) are skilled in supporting additional needs that your child may have.

Further information about SEN can be found on [this page](#).

Do you offer school lunches?

All infant school children in England are entitled to a free school meal and we use the main Surrey catering company, 'Twelve-15'. We offer a two course meal, either a starter and a main, or a main and a healthy dessert. For more information please see the [lunches page](#) on our website. If your child has allergies or special dietary requirements, we are able to cater for these.

Can my child attend part-time?

If you would like to request that your child attends part-time, please contact Mrs Saffer, or Miss Skinner. Their details can be found on this page.

Do you have any enrichment or extracurricular activities?

We offer a range of extra-curricular clubs – from football and multi-sports, to dance and drama. We also offer our children the chance to become a member in a rock band, with RockSteady. In the past we have offered tennis and Spanish, although at the moment, under current restrictions these two clubs are not operating.

We also have our own Forest School Teacher and all year groups have a 5-week session of Forest School twice a year.

How do you keep me updated about what my child is learning in school?

Every week each year group sends home a 'newsletter' with details of the subjects that your child will cover. Many parents talk of sticking this on the fridge. We also add dates for upcoming events to this page.

We hold Parent Teacher consultations each term, but in addition teachers are on the door every morning and you can speak to them briefly, or arrange to make an appointment at any time, if you require a longer session.

In Reception, we use Tapestry to share information about your child's learning while in school. You will be able to see regular updates, photos and observational notes about your child in school, and will be able to add to their Tapestry learning journey from home.

In Years 1 & 2 we also use an app called Marvellous Me – which parents can download onto their phones. It enables teachers to share good news about what their children have done in class.

We use Microsoft Teams to share information with you as a cohort, arrange meetings, save videos and send messages. We also use Parent Mail to send you messages from the school administration team.

Do you offer support to parents so that we can support our children at home?

We hold parent workshops on a range of subjects, from phonics, reading, writing and maths, to online safety. We also regularly work with other agencies and schools to offer support e.g. The Parenting Puzzle which focuses on supporting children's behaviour and well-being, at home.