



Falcon Junior School FAQ Information Sheet

Your school is big, don't the children get lost?

Falcon is a large school and our original building does not have the traditional corridor layout of most schools. However, classes are organised into year groups, which means that children only really need to know how to get to Year 3, the hall and the playground when they start. This they learn very quickly.

How do you communicate with parents?

At Falcon, we have always had an open door policy. However, due to current restrictions, this needs to be a bit more formal than in previous years. Therefore, so as to maintain the high level of communication with our parents, Year 3 have started using the Class Dojo app as a communication tool. Many of our parents have commented on how useful this has been this year and we plan to continue it in the future even when restrictions on face-to-face meetings are relaxed.

Do the children get a chance to visit before they start?

We work very closely with the Infant Schools to ensure a smooth transition to Junior School. Early in the summer term we do an assembly at the Infant Schools for the children telling them what life is like at Junior School. Then the children usually visit us for a craft afternoon, a games afternoon with lunch and a full day. As well as this we hold meet and greets which provide parents with the opportunity to ask questions. Of course this year transition was very different due to COVID restrictions and we still do not know exactly what restrictions will be in place still in April next year. However, we will work closely with the Infant Schools to provide the children and parents with opportunities to meet their teacher and it must be said our current Year 3s have settled extremely well despite having a very different transition experience to what we would normally offer.

How do dinners work?

Children can access the same NORSE menu offered by the Infant Schools, which includes a choice of jacket potato, hot dinner and snack pack. Children order their meals each day in class and not in advance.

How much PE do the children do?

All our PE is taught by PE specialists. Each week the children will have 1 hour of indoor PE, when they do circuit training, gymnastics and dance, as well as a whole afternoon of outdoor PE, which concentrates on the skills needed for team sports.

Do pupils learn computing?

Each week children have an hour of computing. During these sessions children use our new chromebooks to learn about Google docs, Google slides, programming, online safety and many other programs.

How does the reading work at Falcon?

At Falcon we have a shared library as well as individual class libraries. We take part in the Accelerated Reader scheme in school, which is proven to improve children's understanding of texts greatly. Each half term children complete a Star Reader quiz, which will decide their book level. Furthermore, after reading a book, children then complete an online quiz on the book to check their understanding.

What rewards can the children earn?

We have a whole range of rewards on offer at Falcon. Team points can be earned for work, engaging well in learning or following the Falcon values. Team points then convert to gold sticky stars, which in turn contribute to credits. Children love to collect credits as every time they have earned 3 credits they receive a certificate and every 3 certificates earns them a star for their tie and a reward-the first being the bronze star with Falcon Junior School bookmark and the highest award being the Falcon star which comes with sponsorship of a bird of prey at Banham zoo.