



Kettering Park Infant Academy



Kettering Park Infant Academy, Park Avenue, Kettering, NN16 9RU
01536 481922. Email kpia-admn@kpia.inmat.org.uk

Welcome to our Academy

Kettering Park Infant Academy is a happy, friendly, safe and encouraging place where everyone is welcomed and valued; a place where achievement is expected and is celebrated; a place where the community cares about each other and all kinds of success is celebrated. This booklet is designed to give you information that will help your child settle into Kettering Park Infant Academy.

Our Vision

At Kettering Park Infant Academy we are committed to excellence and this value is at the foundation of everything we do. We strive to achieve mutual respect, confidence and work collaboratively between home and the academy. We actively encourage a close partnership between families, the academy and the community where we ensure equal opportunities are available for all. Our aim is to provide a happy, safe, caring, and stimulating environment where children will be given the best possible learning opportunities to achieve their full potential through a broad, balanced learning curriculum that encompasses social, physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development and education that will nurture their needs as individuals.

The InMAT Values – KPIA Values

- Inclusion: Improving education for everyone – Together
- Integrity: We are consistently open, honest, ethical and genuine – Honesty
- Initiative: Courage to always seek a better way to a better future – Independence

- Inspiring: We use our drive and commitment to energise, engage and inspire – Believe
- Involvement: Encouraging our community to take ownership and responsibility - Teamwork

KPIA Vision, we are.....

Kind, Proud, Independent, Achieving

Academy Day

The morning begins at:

Reception – 8.50am

Year 1 and 2 – 8.40am

Children may bring a packed lunch to eat in school at lunch time, or take advantage of the free hot meals delivered to the academy. The children eat their lunch in the hall.

If your child is ill and is not well enough to come to the academy, you **must** contact the academy office as soon as possible so we can record the reason for their absence. If your child has a medical appointment please bring in the letter or appointment card so we can take a copy and put it in your child's file. If your child has vomited the policy is to stay at home for 48 hours from the last time they vomited and 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea. If we are unable to reach a parent / carer by 12 noon, we may carry out a home visit.

In the mornings we have a meet and greet system on each external door. You will be able to give messages to the member of staff who will pass these on to the relevant person, we do encourage the children to come in to school as independently as possible so they can start their day of learning as soon as they enter the classroom.

We have staggered finish times:

Reception finish at 3.10pm

Years 1 and 2 finish at 3pm

We will not let children go home with anyone other than those listed on Arbor, unless prior permission has been given.

If you would like your child to be collected by a person, over the age of 12 that is not on your child's list, please contact the school office and we can then pass this information onto the class teacher.

Attendance

We adhere to government guidelines and advise you when your child's attendance falls below 95%. Please help your child to maintain good attendance by booking appointments after the academy day, in the school holidays and at weekends. Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any requests for absence must be made on the appropriate form available from the academy office.

If your child falls below 95% it will trigger a cause for concern and below 85% it will trigger interventions by the Education Entitlement Service.

It is very important that children arrive on time and are collected on time each day.

	ATTENDANCE
Exceptional	Attendance is 99% or higher and always in school on time.
Good	Attendance is 96% or higher and very rarely late to school.
Room for Improvement	Attendance falls below 96% or occasionally late for school.
Cause for Concern	Attendance is below 90% or frequently late to school.

Family Support

Our Family Support Worker is here to help your child get the best out of the academy and give emotional and practical help and advice to families who are having long or short-term difficulties.

Our FSW is available in the academy for parents or carers to talk to if you feel you need that little bit of extra support for any reason. Perhaps your child's behaviour has changed and you want some advice, or your family circumstances have changed and you are worried about the effects it will have on your child.

Please contact the Family Support Worker Mrs. Pearce via the school office on 01536 481922.



Milk

Children under 5 are entitled to a carton of free milk each day. Once they reach their fifth birthday you have an option to continue to pay for this. Please go to www.coolmilk.com for more information. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium they will automatically receive milk, if you would like them too, once they have turned 5.

School Meals

All children in Kettering Park Infant Academy are entitled to a free school meal and with a wide range of meals to choose from, this is a healthy option for your child. All meals must be ordered by 9am on the morning. You can also order in advance, weekly or termly. Please go to www.dolce.co.uk for more information.

Free fruit

Each day the children have access to a piece of fruit as a snack. Each week we have a variety of items of fruit delivered for the children to enjoy.

Pupil Premium

It is really important for any parent or carer who is eligible for "Pupil Premium" to make an application using the website link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Alternatively, please speak to the office who will be able to assist you.

We offer a £150 in-school voucher to those families who are eligible. This can be spent on school uniform, school trips, photos or after school clubs. This is divided into different categories, please see the letter in your new starter pack for more information.

Academy Uniform

Our uniform consists of a royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan, a white polo top, black or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dresses or a blue checked summer dress. Footwear may either be black shoes or boots, **no sandals or trainers**. All clothing and shoes must be named and please check the name has not been washed away throughout the year.

Studs or sleepers are permitted in ears but must be removed on PE before they come to school or once in school by the child themselves. Long hair must be tied up every day.

For physical activities the children are required to have a PE kit at school. This is brought in at the beginning of term and sent home to be washed at the end of each term. Weather dependent this consists of the below:

Plain blue / black joggers or leggings

Plain white t-shirt

Plain shorts



All academy uniform can be ordered through Karl Sports. Please see the leaflet in your information pack for details. Uniform can also be purchased from most major supermarkets.

Our learning environment is both indoors and outdoors, we ask that you make sure your child is equipped for these areas at all times of the year. Please ensure clothing is practical and suitable for seasonal changes. Winter clothing for cold weather, sun hat and protective clothing in the summer months. We ask that sun cream is applied before the children get to the academy so that they are ready for the day. **We are not allowed to apply sun cream.**



Parents as Partners

We recognise the importance of parents and carers throughout their child's development stages. As a primary care provider you are your child's first educators and we greatly value any input, opinions and information you can share with us about your child's learning and progress.

We provide many other opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. These include:

Weekly parent reading sessions

Sports Day

Parent Consultations twice a year

End of year written report

Family learning sessions

Attending workshops and sessions in school completing activities with your child throughout the year.

Our family ethos is central to our academy and as such we operate an 'open door policy' where parents are actively encouraged to meet with staff to discuss any concerns at the earliest opportunity. Phone calls to the office are welcome, where Mrs.Caspell and Mrs.Ruffea will offer their assistance or arrange an appointment with the class teacher.



Food

We encourage you to pack healthy food in packed lunches. Lunch boxes should not include chocolate bars, chocolate coated cereal bars, processed fruit bars and sweets. Occasionally fruit flavoured "healthy" snacks, cake and chocolate biscuits are acceptable, but encourage your child to eat these as part of a meal and be mindful of portion sizes. We will **not** allow the children to eat what seems obvious to us as unhealthy or takeaway food.

All uneaten food remains in the lunch box so that you can monitor your child's eating. Please supply spoons for yoghurts.

We do not allow nut based products ie: peanut butter, chocolate spread, breakfast bars etc within Kettering Park Infant Academy as we have a number of children who have severe nut allergies. Some of these children can experience "anaphylactic shock" and require medical treatment urgently if they come into close contact with a nut product.

Preparing the lunchbox



1 Start with starchy foods and carbohydrates

Starchy foods are a good source of energy and should make up around one-third of your child's lunchbox. You should try to include starchy foods like bread, pasta or potatoes, and vary your choices as much as possible.

Top tips

To offer something different to the traditional sandwich, you could give your child a bagel, pitta bread, a wrap or a baguette. Use brown, wholemeal or seeded varieties where possible and only use a small amount of vegetable based spread, such as sunflower spread, or reduced fat spread.

Breadsticks, oatcakes and wholemeal crackers are handy additions to a lunchbox and can be eaten with low-fat soft cheese or small cubes of reduced-fat hard cheese.

2 Add protein

Add a portion of food rich in protein, either on its own or as a sandwich filler. Foods rich in protein include the following.

- Chicken
- Lean meat
- Fish
- Eggs
- Cheese
- Beans, pulses and meat alternatives

3 Add a couple of portions of fruit and vegetables to contribute towards your child's '5 a day'

There are many ways you can add fruit and vegetables to your child's lunchbox.

- Children are drawn to brightly coloured fruit and vegetables and are much more likely to eat them if they are ready to eat, for example already peeled or cut into bite-sized pieces. Small fruits and vegetables, such as grapes and cherry tomatoes, should be cut into quarters for young children to reduce the risk of choking. You could also include some low-fat houmous or soft cheese for dipping.
- You could put salad in their sandwiches.
- You could make them a tasty fruit salad or include some canned fruit in natural fruit juice.
- You could include a handful of sultanas or a few dried apricots. To reduce the risk of tooth decay, dried fruit is best eaten at mealtimes.

4 Dairy and alternatives

You could also include one of the following. Choose lower-fat and lower-sugar products where possible.

- A plain yoghurt
- Fromage frais
- Low-fat soft cheese

5 Drinks

Remember to include a drink. Good choices include the following.

- Water (although this will be available in school)
- Milk (semi-skimmed or skimmed for children aged over five)
- Pure unsweetened fruit juice (no more than 150ml)

Drinks

In the classroom we will provide water and cups, which can be accessed throughout the day. Drinks can be sent in packed lunches. Please do not provide sugary soft drinks, fizzy drinks, cans or glass bottles.

If you have any questions please contact the academy office on 01536 481922.

Preparing your child for our academy

Your child will be in a class of a maximum of 30 children. It will make starting at the academy easier and happier for them if they are independent and can do things for themselves.

◆ They should be able to:

Dress and undress themselves

Use the toilet independently – If your child is unable to toilet independently please speak to a member of staff as soon as possible so we can support you before they start school. If your child has a medical condition please see our SENCo.

Tidy up after themselves

Recognise their own name – please advise the class teacher if their name is abbreviated

Feed themselves

Share toys and equipment

Hold a pencil

Listen well and follow instructions



- **How you can help your child**

Encourage your child to be as independent as possible.

Get them used to a routine, a regular time for bed, getting up, meals and family time.

Encourage your child to have good behaviour, give them boundaries so they know what is expected, saying please and thank you. If you need support in this area please speak to our Family Support Worker.

Be positive. Show them school is an enjoyable experience.

Link your child's learning with family activities - museums, local parks, talk about the world and encourage them to ask questions.

Check your child has everything named before they bring it into the academy.

Help your child to remember to bring everything to the academy - book bag, PE kit, reading book, etc. Let your child carry their own things on the way to the academy.

- ◆ Let your child help you at home with cooking, cleaning and shopping - they will relish feeling useful!

Lay your child's clothes out in the correct order each morning so they can dress themselves.

Arrive at school on time in the morning. Do not be late for pick up, children become anxious very quickly if there isn't someone there to collect them, even if it is only 5 minutes later than home time.

Read with your child every day – it is one the most important things you can do to help your child succeed in school.



Teach me to do it myself!

Here at Kettering Park Infant Academy we go to great lengths to help prepare your child for their next stage of learning. Here are some things you can do with your child to help them develop basic skills.

Speaking

Speak clearly and confidently. Speak in full sentences. Use simple directions for tasks and behaviours. Engage in discussions with your child and allow them to speak without being interrupted. Ask them for their opinions. Tell them about your day and ask about theirs.

Listening

Show your child how to be a good listener by listening to them and to others. Be patient, don't interrupt or finish their sentences for them. Give them your full attention when they are speaking, show them eye contact and good body language. Respond to what they are saying by asking questions or asking their opinions. Listen to your child making up stories using pictures in their books. Listen to your child reading.

Number Skills

Count daily with your child. Count objects, actions, numbers and a range of things. Identify numbers wherever you go - a neighbour's house number or the number on a bus or licence plate. Help them put the numbers in order. Let children help with tidying and sorting. Identify shapes at home. Use fingers to represent numbers.

Writing

Encourage your child to write their name and make mistakes without feeling pressured. Use home diaries, get your children colourful pens, gel pens and exciting new tools to encourage them to write. Let your child write their name on cards or letters. If your child is already writing with a pen or pencil, try to encourage a correct pencil grip (see picture



Learning in Reception

Class 1, 2 and 3 is where the excitement begins! We pride ourselves on providing exciting and engaging activities for all the children both inside the classroom and in our outdoor learning provision. We encourage our children to be independent learners through a range of practical and interesting activities that are carefully planned to meet the needs and interests of the children. We follow a thematic curriculum which allows us to be creative with our learning experiences and let the children lead their own learning.

As our Foundation Stage children enter the classroom they learn primarily through a variety of play and real-life experiences. Our teaching is delivered through carefully planned learning experiences across the setting, whole class carpet sessions and 'must do' learning challenges. The children access their learning freely; however they understand they must complete challenges that are set, which will scaffold and extend their learning. Their development is tracked through detailed, daily observations and child-initiated interaction. This information is then transferred into your child's personal and individual online learning profile on Tapestry, which you will have secure access to and will be able to contribute observations, upload photos and comment on your child's learning and progress within



their first year

Early Learning Goals

Within 'Development Matters' there are three prime areas of learning and four specific areas. The framework provides the basis of how we structure the setting, the activities and opportunities we provide. For each of these areas your child will have an 'Early Learning Goal' to work towards.

Prime Areas - Communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development.

Specific Areas - Literacy, mathematics, understanding the world, expressive arts and design.

Characteristics of Effective Learning - Playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Your child's first year at our academy is vitally important as throughout the reception year children develop the approaches and attitudes that will lay the foundations for all their future learning. The ways in which they learn is as important as what they actually learn. This is where the Characteristics of Effective Learning come in! A child who enjoys their learning and has a good attitude towards learning is very likely to acquire new knowledge quicker and gain greater educational success. The following information provides prompts for you to support your child and additional information for you as parents as to what we look for and consider when observing your child.

Playing and Exploring

Finding out and exploring

- ◆ Does your child show curiosity about objects, events and people? Does your child engage in open ended activities? Does your child show any particular interest in things?

Playing with what they know

- ◆ Does your child pretend objects are things from other experiences? Do they use building blocks like a phone or make a tower?
- ◆ Does your child take on roles in their play? Does your child act out experiences with others?

Be willing to have a go

- ♦ Does your child initiate activities or follow others? How does your child seek challenges? Does your child show a 'can do' attitude? Does your child take risks or learn by trial and error?

Active Learning

Being involved and concentrating

- ♦ Does your child maintain focus on an activity for a period of time? Does your child show high interest and certain fascination for experiences.

Keep trying

- ♦ How does your child demonstrate aspects of problem solving? Does your child bounce back after difficulty?

Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

- ♦ Is your child proud of what they have achieved? Does your child enjoy challenges for their own sake, not just for a reward or praise?

An example would be: Scarlett was playing basketball with her older brother. She tried really hard to get it in the basket and kept practising until she did.

Creating and Thinking Critically

Having their own ideas

- ◆ Does your child think of their own ideas? Does your child find new ways of doing things?

Making links

- ◆ Does your child make links in their experiences? Does your
- ◆ child make predictions? Does your child develop ideas about sequencing and cause effect?

Choosing ways to do things

- ◆ Does your child plan and make decisions to try and reach a goal? Does your child change
- ◆ strategy if needed? Does your child review how well their plan and approach worked?

An example could be: Alfie decided to make a kite on a windy day. He planned to use a glue stick to attach the string. He attached his string with glue but the string kept falling off. We discussed his problem and together thought of other options. We decided to use sellotape with much more success!

If you see your child doing something you're really proud of, take a photo and upload it to the online Learning Journey and add a comment.

The EYFS Curriculum

In Class 1, 2 and 3 our Reception children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). This curriculum is based upon four themes and principles.

The Unique Child - We understand that every child is an individual child who is capable in their own right. The holistic child has a variety of needs that need meeting over their time in reception.

Positive Relationships - Social interaction is key to child's development. Children become strong, independent learners; as well as scaffolding their learning through positive social interaction.

Enabling Environments - Providing safe, secure and a stimulating environment for your child is key to their development. This framework allows for experiences that respond to the child's individual needs/interests; as well as developing a strong partnership between staff, parents and carers.

Learning and Development - Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early year's provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Communication

Instagram

We have an Instagram page that has been set up for parents/carers to receive academy information, upcoming events and general information. **Please look for @ketparkinf**

Arbor and Email

We have an app called Arbor. Please see enclosed letter for more information.

Website

We have a fantastic website, which is updated regularly with information for parents / carers. On our website you will find academy policies, dates for your diaries, news, photos and much more. Please check out our website at: **www.ketteringparkinfantacademy.co.uk**

Class Dojo

We use Class Dojo as a communication tool.

We have an open door policy. Mrs. Caspell and Mrs. Ruffea are available to assist you, please come to the office or contact them on 01536 481922 or kpia-admin@kpia.inmat.org.uk with any questions or concerns you may have or to book appointments to see your class teacher.

Checklist

I/We have ordered/brought uniform

I/We have ordered meals for my child's first full time week at the academy, by the 31st August 2023 or.

I/We are aware that packed lunch will need to be provided for my child's first week at school.

I/We have completed the pupil premium form.

I/We have joined the Cool Milk Scheme.

I/We have completed the information on the Arbor app with all of the relevant information – People collecting your child, religion, ethnicity, contact details of at least two people, medical details, photograph consent. Please make sure all of the details entered are accurate and up-to-date.

Please note that it is vitally important that all the information is filled out on Arbor before your child starts school. You will receive a link by 1st September 2023 to be able to access that.



KETTERING PARK
INFANT ACADEMY



The InMAT Mission

Enabling great leaders to create great schools
where children always come first...



Our five core values support this mission and shape every aspect of our culture.

The InMAT Way – OUR TRUST VISION

“A great InMAT school, engaging positively with every community” – To achieve this vision we are striving to:



1 Enable each child to flourish and achieve their full potential. We will ensure that each school community provides an outstanding quality of learning and excellent resources.



2 Work closely with all of our staff to embrace InMAT values, providing access and opportunity to enhance their professional development and personal wellbeing.



3 Ensure that every InMAT school is exciting, vibrant and of the highest standard. Every school will have the appropriate technology to enable all pupils to have access to, and use, all resources to enhance their learning.



4 Enhance communication processes across InMAT to consistently promote and drive the mission and the values of our Trust.