



Transition to KS2

A guide for parents

The school day

Children arrive between **8:45 and 8:50am** as the school day starts at **8.50am**. They should come straight into the school building (teachers will be outside to assist), hang up their bags and head for the classroom. We have high expectations of all our children and readily encourage independence. **Parents are not allowed into the KS2 building**, and unless given permission by the teacher on the gate, shouldn't come into the school premises.

Morning break lasts from **10.50 – 11.10am**. Children play in the KS2 playground or on the school field when allowed. They are allowed bring in a piece of fruit or a vegetable from home; fruit is not provided by the school in Key Stage 2.

Lunchtime is from **12.15 – 1.15pm**. Packed lunches are eaten in a classroom in the KS2 block or outside on the field, weather permitting. School dinners operate on a rota basis per year group; the lunchtime supervisors call children in for their school dinner at different times, during the lunch hour, which changes on a day-to-day basis. School dinners cost £2.60 daily and is paid in advance. Payment can be made through MCAS (My Child at School) or cash via the school office. Your child's dinner balances can be checked daily through MCAS.

There is no afternoon playtime in KS2, however teachers may opt to take their children outdoors for learning activities or for a break.

The timetable

The following is an exemplar timetable in KS2 (these will differ according to year group):

Monday	8:45-9:30 Handwriting Spelling or Guided Reading	9:30-10:30 Maths	10:30-10:50 Assembly	10:50 -11:15 Break	11:15- 12:15 Literacy	12:15- 13:15 Lunch time	1.15-2.15 Music	2.15-3.20 RE
Tuesday	8:45-9:45 Handwriting Spelling or Guided Reading	9:45-10:50 Maths			11:15- 12:15 Literacy		1.15-2.15 PE	2.15-3.20 PSHE
Wednesday	8:45-9:45 Handwriting Spelling or Guided Reading	9:45-10:30 Maths	10:30-10:50 Assembly		11:15- 12:15 Literacy		1.15-2.15 Art/DT	2.15 - 3.20 French
Thursday	8:45-9:30 Handwriting Spelling or Guided Reading	9:30-10:50 Maths			10:50-12:15 Literacy		1.15-2.15 Swimming/PE	2.15-3.20 Topic
Friday	8:45-9:30 Handwriting Spelling or Guided Reading	9:30-10:30 Big Maths/ Big Write	10:30-10:50 Assembly		11:15- 12:15 Big Maths/ Big Write		1.15-2.15 Science	2.15-3.20 Computing

The curriculum

- Each day starts with handwriting practice, followed by Guided Reading or Spelling (using Read Write Inc). In Guided Reading, children work in small groups or as a whole class to read a book or text, usually supported by an adult. Some classes have parents who come in and help with this (*please do get in touch with the school office if this is something you would be interested in helping with*).
- The children in KS2 are put into sets for maths lessons; this means that some children may have a different maths teacher to their class teacher.
- You will notice from the timetable that every Friday we devote an entire morning to maths or literacy (called Big Maths and Big Write respectively). This allows children to spend more time than usual on an extended piece of writing or have the opportunity to go in-depth on a particular maths topic, perhaps by conducting an investigation.
- Each class has an outdoor PE lesson once a week (depending on the weather), and an indoor PE lesson (in the school hall) once every fortnight.
- Year 3 children also have swimming lessons in the school pool on a Thursday afternoon. The classes will be alternate weeks as per the arrangement in KS1.
- School trips will form an important part of the curriculum for your child – these will be arranged once the year has begun.
- There are more opportunities for your child to learn an instrument during their time in KS2. Information is available via Mrs. Kirstin Honor in the school office.

Home learning

Spelling

Children will be guided towards their spelling learning, using an online tool called *Spelling Shed*. As they progress and as their spelling improves, children will be set up with increasingly challenging spelling words and activities. Teachers will set differentiated word lists, with words selected from a variety of sources: topic words; National Curriculum spelling lists; words from our chosen scheme of Read Write Inc; frequently misspelt words and words that provide appropriate challenge. Teachers will set challenges via *Spelling Shed* that amount to a total time of around **15-20 minutes per week**. All activities are recorded online and will be inspected by teachers. There will also be occasional house-based spelling bee competitions.

Reading

We **strongly recommend** that children read *regularly* at home and encourage parents to listen to them *as often as possible*. It will not only help your child's reading, but studies show it will also improve their writing, spelling and vocabulary to develop. A homework planner will be given to your child at the beginning of each school year. To encourage independency and organisation, children are encouraged to complete the details of the book and page number they have read, but this **will need to be signed by a parent each time that they read**. It is our expectation that your child is listened to at least **four times each week**. Teachers will check each week to make sure this is happening.

Maths

From Year Two, children will be guided towards their times tables learning using *Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)*. All children are set up on this online tool, through the TTRS 'Automatic Training Mode'. This programme runs from Year 2 all the way through to the end of SCPS, measuring progress and setting increasingly harder tasks. It starts with the very simplest tables in Year 2, gradually progressing to the full 12x12 tables by the end of Year 4 (ready for the statutory Multiplication Tables Check), with additional revision activities in Year 5. This mode records their speed at recalling times tables facts as well as their accuracy, and offers multiplication, commutativity and division, gradually increasing the level of difficulty. Teachers can also set specific tasks for particular children, if they notice a knowledge gap.



What your child needs

All items, where possible, must be **named** and brought to school in a **named bag**. The following is a checklist which will help preparation for the new school year:

Classroom items

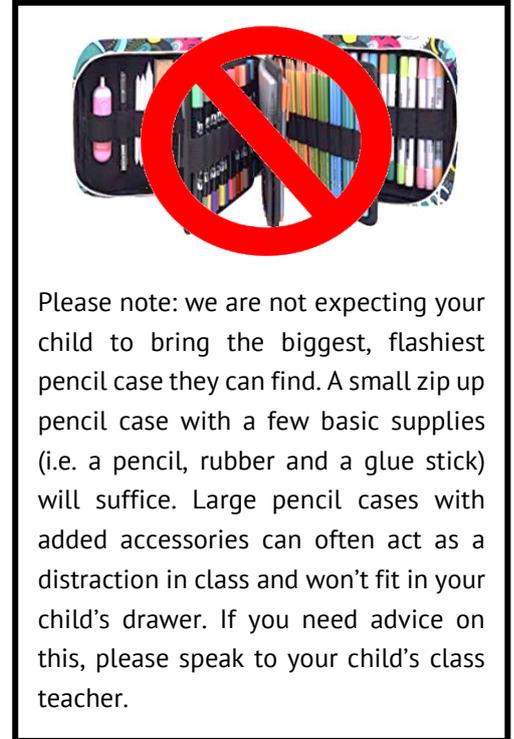
- Pencil case
- Pencils
- A few coloured pencils
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Water bottle
- A book bag

Sports kit

- Navy shorts
- Blue PE t-shirt
- Trainers and spare socks
- PE hoodie (*optional in colder weather*)

Swimming kit

- Swimming costume or trunks
- Swimming hat (*children aren't allowed to swim without these*)
- Towel



Parent-teacher communication

Teachers are always happy to speak with parents to offer information or address concerns. We ask that, in most instances, parents wait until after 3:20pm to communicate with teachers on the playground. Urgent messages can potentially be communicated in the morning – please ask the permission of the teacher on the gate to enter the school premises. Teachers can also be contacted via a phone call or email to the school office. Notes given to your child are a useful means of communication, specifically in the morning. Please note that if they are put in their homework planners, these will normally only be checked once a week.

A curriculum sharing evening is held early in Term 1 to set out the curriculum details for the year. There are also parent-teacher consultations in December and March, and you will receive a written report in July. Our website is updated on a regular basis where information can be found about school events, uniform, class photos, policies and forms to download. Each year group also produces a [weekly post](#) with specific news and curriculum information. Go to sonningcommonprimary.co.uk.

Supporting your child

It is completely natural that your child may be worried about moving into KS2. The Year 2 teachers will have spent some time talking to their classes about the transition to prepare them and to answer any of their questions, but please let us know if you, or your child, have any further questions.

