



Welcome to your new
class at Downsway
Primary School



Welcome to all our new children and their families who will be joining us in September 2025!

We are delighted that you have chosen Downsway Primary School and are so excited to be able to welcome you through our gates in the Autumn term. We hope these pictures and information assist in supporting transition into school.

Here are some photos of the different members of staff who will look after you and teach you lots of new things at school.



Mrs Clarke
Class Teacher

(Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)



Mrs Tipper
Class Teacher

(Thursday and Friday)



Mrs Ayres
Headteacher



Miss Green
Teaching Assistant (full time)



Mrs Saunders
Higher Level Teaching Assistant
(Mornings/afternoons
throughout the week)

Hello,

My name is Mrs Clarke and I will be one of your teachers. I am extremely excited to meet you all and can't wait to start this journey together. I went to Oxford Brookes University and studied Early Childhood Studies with Education and Human Development before completing a PGCE specialising in Early Years. This will be my 3rd year at Downsway and my 14th year as a Foundation Stage teacher! I love reading stories, outdoor learning and creative activities.

I live with my husband and my sons called Max and Zack. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, gardening and taking photographs.

A few of my favourite things:

Food: Pasta

Film: Lion King

Book: Oi Frog by Kes Gray

Colour: Green

Animal: Giraffe

Sport: Netball and Pilates



Foundation Stage is lots of fun and I cannot wait to help you learn and grow. It is an incredible place to start your learning journey. You will have so many opportunities to play, explore and make lots of new friends.

Hello,

My name is Mrs Tipper, and I will be one of your teachers for your first year of school. I am extremely excited to meet you and can't wait to start this journey together.

I live with my husband and my children called Ollie, Tilly and Rory. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, baking and visiting new places.

A few of my favourite things:

Food: Cake

Film: Cinderella

Book: The Owl who was afraid of the dark

Colour: Pink

Animal: Elephants, Tigers and Giraffes

Sport: Swimming



We have got lots of exciting activities planned for this year and I cannot wait to help you explore all of these.

Hello,

My name is Miss Green and I will be one of your teaching assistants in Foundation stage. I can't wait to get to know all of you and have fun learning together. I love making things in Foundation and I love learning about our world in lesson time. I work in Foundation Stage full time. I look forward to sharing many stories with you in our learning time too. I have worked in four different primary schools and I have been working at Downsway for 11 years! I went to university in Reading to learn more about teaching and learning in schools which was lots of fun. I live in Tilehurst not far from school. I have one brother and a niece who is 6 and two nephews who are 3 and 9 years old. At home I love to bake, I like listening to podcasts and watching my favourite programmes and you will find me gardening a lot in the spring and summer. My family and friends make the weekends lots of fun. We love to have barbecues and go to theme parks and cinema.

A few of my favourite things:

Food: Cake!

Film: Frozen and Tangled

Book: The Queen's Hat

Colour: Red and Pink

Drink: Apple juice

Animal: Horses and Puppies

Sport: Swimming, Zumba, Bike Riding and badminton

Football Team: Reading, the same as my Dad



Foundation Stage is a great place to come and learn. We all love to have fun and you will enjoy getting to know your teachers as much as we enjoy meeting you and learning together.

Hello,

My name is Mrs Saunders, I will be one of your TA's for your first year of school. I qualified as a NNEB Nursery Nurse, many years ago at Reading and then went on to work in other Childcare sectors – Nurseries, Private Nanny and then a Childminder while I was home with my children, before coming to Downsway. This will be my 13th year of being at Downsway, my 10th in Foundation Stage – which is most definitely where my heart will always belong! I live down by the river with Mr Saunders, our 3 Children – Alice, Callum and Olly, our two Cavachon dogs called Treacle and Trixie and our 5 (yes 5 – trust me, this was never part of the plan, it just kind of happened!) cats: Jazmin, Prim, Willow, Ivy and Daisy – we are a slightly crazy household! I enjoy spending time with my family, friends and pets, going for walks along the river, reading and running my very busy Rainbow and Brownie units.

A few of my favourite things:

Food: Apart from cake, a yummy roast dinner!

Film: Beauty and the Beast

Sport: Walking

Football Team: My boys are Liverpool, so I don't really have a choice!!!

Book: The Rainbow Fish

Colour: Blue

Drink: Lime squash

Animal: Kittens and puppies



It is going to be a fabulous year in Foundation. We are all really looking forward to meeting you and being a part of your first year at Downsway.



There are also many exciting things to do and play with outside...



These pictures show you some important parts of your classroom...



You will have your own peg to put your coat and PE bag on.



You will put your water bottle in one of these trays. You can have a drink throughout the day.



If you have a lunch box you will put it here until it is time to go into the hall at lunchtime.

Lunchtime...



if you are having a hot school dinner.

This is the hall where you will eat your lunch. We also have assemblies in the same hall.



The adults in Foundation Stage will help you carry your food to your seat and cut your food up.

Playtime...

You will be able to explore these different areas at lunch time after you have eaten your food.

