

AUCKLAND COLLEGE  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

WELCOME TO PRE-PREP 2



**Parent Pack**

**2023-2024**

*Every Pupil Matters*  
*Every Moment Counts*

# WELCOME TO AUCKLAND COLLEGE



*'Dear Parents/Carers,*

*The time has finally arrived when your child will be joining a new Pre-Prep class. I am sure you will begin to prepare yourselves and your child as well as possible; new uniforms and lots of chats about the big day. Often though, you are not prepared for how exhausting and emotional this process is for all of you.*

*Being your child's teacher is a big responsibility and we feel very proud that we can be part of this big step for you and your child. All children are special and unique, and all children will settle into their new class in different ways. Some, will appear to take it all in their stride, whilst others may find those first few days a little trickier.*

*We want to reassure you that, however your child behaves in these early days, we are here to support you and make this transition as smooth and positive as possible.*

*We thought that it may be helpful if we share some experience with you, on how children can sometimes seem at the end of their first busy days at school.*

- Over the first few days, some children may be a little tearful at home time. This is usually because they are rather tired after a long day and when they see you again they realise they have missed you! If you are concerned or want to discuss this, please speak to a member of staff.*
- It is natural to want to ask your child about their day, but you may find that your child is reluctant to answer questions. This is very common and is generally because they have been so busy all day that they may just need to switch off for a while and have some quiet time. It is best to not bombard your child with questions but instead, let them slowly share their day once they have had time to relax a little.*
- Tiredness can also affect your child's behaviour. You may find they seem a bit grumpy or irritable when they get home. This usually settles after a few days.*
- Some children may be extra hungry when they come home from school. They will have had their snack or lunch, but all of that learning can make children very hungry and thirsty. You may wish to give your child a snack and drink after school.*

*Starting a new class can be a big change for some children but also the beginning of an exciting journey. Please remember that we are here to support you and your child. If you have any concerns, please come in and see us.*



# *Let me introduce myself...*



My name is Miss Patterson and I will be your child's teacher in Pre-Prep 2. I began teaching at Auckland College in September 2019 and have loved working with the children and staff during my time here.

My specialism within education is the Early Years, so I was very happy to join the Pre-Prep department. Prior to teaching I worked for a number of dance organisations and charities which included: teaching, community outreach work, project management and performing. My background in dance and the performing arts greatly influences my practice and belief that learning should be fun and creative. It is my aim to provide your child with a safe and stimulating environment in which they can flourish and enjoy a range of learning opportunities. I can't wait to meet you soon!



# Auckland Early Years: Key Information

## The School Day

The school day starts at 08:30 and the school day finishes at 3pm. Breakfast Club starts at 7:30 and After-School Club starts straight afterwards in our classroom. Your child will have daily Numeracy, Literacy and Phonics sessions. They will also learn about the world around them and how to make positive relationships.

## Uniform

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled with a permanent marker or printed labels, especially jumpers, coats and jackets, as these are generally the ones that are mixed up with other children's. Ensure all uniform is hung on your child's peg and bags are put inside the bag boxes provided. We do our absolute best to ensure the right uniform goes home with each child, but sometimes accidents do happen. Please don't panic, we have a fantastic family approach to things here at Auckland, and if something has been mixed up, we can quickly address it via Class Dojo and ask for the item to be returned the following day. If all items are clearly labelled and labels are maintained well, then it will be much easier for all.

## Pre-Prep Uniform Items

*Please see full uniform item list on page 8.*

- Auckland College blue Polo top (purchase from school office at £10 each)
- Auckland College Pre-Prep blue jumper (purchase from school office at £10 each)
- Grey trousers or grey skirt
- Black school shoes (please allow them to wear Velcro or ready laced shoes which cannot untie)

## PE

Pre-Prep 2's PE day is Wednesday. Children should arrive to school dressed in their full PE kit on Wednesdays. Please make sure each item of your child's PE uniform is clearly labelled. Any changes to arrangements will be communicated via Class Dojo. Uniform standards must be adhered to and for safety purposes it is very important that children do not come for PE wearing laced shoes; please allow them to wear Velcro or ready laced shoes which cannot untie. Please see the main office for information about PE kits and where to buy them.



# Auckland Early Years: Key Information

## Phonics

We teach your child about letters and sounds. We use a multi-sensory approach for teaching, reading and writing which targets all types of learners - Visual Learners, Auditory Learners, Tactile Learners and Kinaesthetic learners.

Phonics covers 5 basic skills:

Learning letter sounds; letter formation; blending; identifying sounds in words and learning tricky words by sight. They are all terms of which you and your child will become very familiar with, as we will discuss them daily.

## Class Dojo

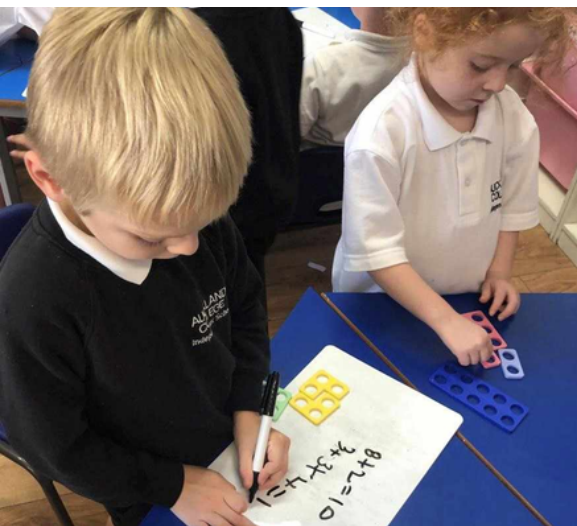
Class Dojo is a classroom Rewards and Communication app used to share information between parents and teachers. It connects parents and teachers on a student's conduct and performance through real-time reports as well as a direct messaging service to the teacher, and a class and whole-school news feed for notices, information, photos and videos during the school day and week. Your child's class teacher will provide you with parent login details and a signup sheet which includes all information on it.

## Snacks and water

Children should bring a healthy morning snack and a bottle of water throughout the day. This should be taken home daily to be washed and fresh water provided for the next day. You can also provide an afterschool club snack in your child's snack bag for the afternoon, if you wish.

## Spare clothing

As our pupils are settling into Pre-Prep, a spare bag of underwear, clothing (spare clothes do not have to be an extra uniform) and shoes should be provided in a small bag which can be placed on their peg and remain there in case of a toileting accident. Our staff will communicate if any items need to be replaced over time.





# Auckland Early Years: Key Information

## eyLog

We have a tracking and reporting system to inform you of observations we do throughout your child's learning journey with us. eyLog allows your child's class Teacher and TAs to log observations using the tablets within the classroom and communicate these to you. You will receive updates regarding your child's progress, and you will also be able to communicate about your child's progress at home through this system. Each term, the teachers complete reports for your child's progress within the Framework. These are sent directly from eyLog and we ask that you read and sign these. We hold our parents' evenings after the reports are issued, so if you have any queries these can be raised then, if not immediately. Your details will be added to eyLog within a couple of weeks of your child starting in Pre-Prep.

## Open Door Policy

We operate an 'open door' policy at Auckland, which means, quite literally, our door is always open. If you need to have a quick word with a teacher, you can approach in the morning or afternoon and see if they are free. If it's a little more than a few minutes you need, please just approach in person or via Class Dojo and ask for a short meeting.

## Homework

The children will receive one piece of numeracy or literacy homework every Friday via Class Dojo each week. Homework observations/pictures can be submitted through eyLog or Class Dojo to your child's class teacher.

## Enhanced Curriculum Activity

Your class teacher will communicate each term the Enhanced Curriculum activity via Class Dojo. Some of the activities require your child to wear their PE kit, this will be communicated also.



# Auckland Early Years: Key Information

## Early bird drop-off and breakfast time

Our breakfast club starts at 7.30am and ends at 8:30 every day for those who wish to use this facility. Pupils are offered a selection of cereal and there is also the opportunity to enjoy some reading or puzzles with friends before registration.

## Medication

If your child requires any medication to be administered during the school day, please drop off the medicine and complete a medication form at the School Office before you leave, please do not leave it in your child's bag.

## First day in Pre-Prep Arrival Time

On your child's first day of Pre-Prep, we suggest coming in between 8:00-8:45 or from 9:00am onwards. This is to avoid coming in during preparation for outdoor morning playtime (8:45-9:15) as this is a busy time and can be difficult for the class teacher to introduce themselves to you and your child.

## Playtimes

Pre-Prep have 3 set playtimes within the school day and an additional playtime during afterschool club. At all times only Pre-Prep children and staff will be present on the yard.

## Home Time

At home time a verbal handover report will be given to you by a member of the team. Forms also may be required for signing including the register to acknowledge your child's departure from the school. Please take any medication home each evening.





# *Auckland Early Years*

## *Pre-Prep School Uniform List*

### **Girls/Boys -Pre Prep 1,2 and 3 Class**

- Royal Blue Sweatshirt £10.00 – Available from the school office.
- Sky Blue Polo Shirt £10.00 – Available from the school office.
- Grey Charcoal Skirt/Trousers – Available from variety of school uniform sections.
- Black School Shoes -Available from variety of school uniform sections.
- Blue and White Striped Summer Dress (Worn from April onwards)- Available from variety of school uniform sections.



### **P.E Kit**

- White badged polo shirt
- Sweatshirt (Black, badged)
- Jogging Bottoms or shorts (Black) -



All PE uniforms Available from Kitted Out Schoolwear  
Aigburth Road L17 0BL.



# A REMINDER FOR PARENTS...

## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE FRAMEWORK

### *What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?*

*This is the stage in your child's life that gets them ready and prepares them for school, as well as for their future learning and successes. The EYFS was created to ensure your child's first 5 years are happy, active, exciting, fun and secure, as well as to support their development, care and learning needs.*

*All nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders who are registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.*

### What is the EYFS Framework?

The EYFS Framework is there to support all professionals working in the Early Years age group. It has a large emphasis on the adult's role in helping the children develop.

It sets out:

- The 7 areas of learning and development which guide professionals' engagement with your child's play and activities as they learn new skills and knowledge;
- Assessments that will tell you about your child's progress through the EYFS;
- The expected levels (Early Learning Goals) that your child should reach at the age of 5, which is usually at the end of their reception year.

### How your child will be learning:

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design



