



Dhahran British Grammar School



Things you need to know about

Foundation Stage Two



Your child is now four and ready for Foundation Stage 2 (FS2, formerly known as Reception). This is the second and last year of the Foundation Stage.

Please take time to prepare your child for school so that he/she knows what is expected of him/her.

In order for your child to feel prepared it is important that he/she can:

- Take off, put on and fasten their shoes
- Dress and undress themselves
- Open their lunchbox and eat independently
- Use a toilet by themselves
- Wash their hands

Your child will be developing skills in the following areas

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive arts and design

Much of your child's learning will take place through structured play activities. He/she will be working towards the Early Learning Goals in each curriculum area. There will be opportunities to discuss your child's progress during the year and you will receive two written reports.

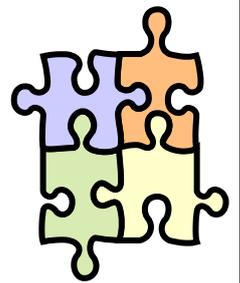
You will also be given many opportunities throughout the school year to come into school for a variety of events such as special celebrations and open mornings. If your child joins us at the start of the school year then your first invitation will be for a Back to School afternoon to see your child's classroom and find out more about the exciting year ahead.

Under school policy, students are expected to achieve a **minimum** of an 85% attendance record. To read the complete policy, please refer to the school website.



We recognise the invaluable role you, as parents, play in your child's learning. Here are some suggestions for ways in which you can support your child's school experiences.

- Ensure your child has a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast every day.
- Talk with and listen carefully to your child.
- Play I spy using letter sounds rather than letter names
- Play games that involve rhymes
- Play games that involve memory
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Cutting out activities
- Simple dice games
- Dominoes
- Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences
- Read together in any language and follow the print with your finger
- Use play dough or other modelling materials to strengthen hand muscles
- Play throwing, catching and kicking ball games
- Take your child to adventure playgrounds
- When out of Kingdom take the opportunity to help your child experience train rides, museums, galleries and other cultural activities
- Cook together



The list is endless and your child's teacher will be happy to make more suggestions should you need them. The main message is one we are sure you don't need – **enjoy the time you have with your child.** We do!



First Day in Foundation Stage 2

This will be a very important day for your child, and a lot will be expected of *him/her*. He/she will be looking to you for reassurance and it is important that you seem confident and calm about the exciting day that lies ahead.



Please try to bring your child to school yourself on the first day. It will give both you and your child's teacher a chance to settle him/her calmly, and to talk about any arrangements or requirements, which may help your child feel at ease.

Please remember that the teachers are there for the children. While parents are of course welcome in the classes, the teachers will not be available for individual parent conferences at this time. At our Back to School meeting, which will be held during the first few weeks of term, there will be an opportunity for you to look at the resources and materials used in FS2 and discuss any queries you have.



The teachers will be eager to talk to and settle all the children in the class. When it is time to leave your child, please do so with a smile and don't linger. The staff are trained to help and support children during this time, and it is easier to divert their attention to happier things if parents are not in sight.

We also acknowledge that this can be an emotional time for parents too! Please presume that your child has settled in to the school. We will call you if any problems arise.

Items your child will need for school

Please, please, make sure that ALL items are clearly named.

A Sun Hat

This is important and children are expected to wear a plain, navy blue cap/hat **at all times** when outside.



A Backpack

That the child can open and close him/herself. We would prefer this to have two compartments: one that is big enough to hold your child's lunch box, and a compartment for his/her reading folder and the weekly library book (approx 40cm x 25cm). Please do **NOT** buy bags with wheels as they are dangerous to other children.

A Lunch Box

A lunch box that children can open and close themselves. We would recommend the insulated variety as food will keep fresher in the hot weather.



The children eat twice a day, once in the cafeteria with other classes and later in their classroom. Please ensure that you provide enough food for lunch and a snack.

The lunch box should contain:-

- At least two drinks, one of which should be water.
- A sandwich or other savoury snack (pizza, cold chicken, pasta etc.)
- Fruit or vegetables that are chopped and ready to eat.
- Yoghurt.

NO sweets or fizzy drinks - No glass containers please.

Please do not send **any** food containing **nuts** to school. This includes items such as **peanut butter** and **chocolate nut spread**.

FS2 children are **not** allowed to order food from the cafeteria.

Your child will need a packed lunch **every** day.

School Uniform

All available from the Academy Store:

Opening Times: 7.45 – 2.15

Footwear

- **Shoes:** students must wear black, plain, polished leather lace-up or velcro style school shoes. Plain black leather trainers are also acceptable. Laces should be black also. Heels should be flat. School shoes are available from Clarks, M&S, British Home Stores, City Plaza, Taba Centre and many other suppliers. For health and safety reasons, shoes should cover the toes and top of the foot. Shoes should not extend above the ankle
- **PE Footwear:** students must change into different footwear for PE. Sports shoes should provide some ankle support and have non-marking soles. Basketball shoes are not permitted for PE lessons.



PE kit

Physical Education uniform should be purchased from the school shop.

Please label all your child's possessions clearly with their name.

Jewellery – For children with pierced ears earrings must be studs only. No other jewellery is allowed.



Transportation

We will also need information regarding your child's transportation requirements to and from school.

On arrival at school you (or your compound bus monitor/driver) need to leave your child at bus stop 1 where a teaching assistant will be on duty from 7.30am. Between 7.30 and 7.45 buses transport the children up to class. This morning routine is an important part of the school day so please ensure that your child is at the bus stop before 7.45am. If you are unavoidably late you must escort your child to their classroom. FS2 children are not allowed to walk by themselves from and to the main gate.

Early Collection from School

If, for some reason, you need to collect your child before the end of the school day, please let the school know. You will need to collect your child from the school office where you will receive a gate pass that you must show at the Security gate.

Stationery/Books etc.

The school will provide all the equipment your child will need, such as pencils, crayons, erasers, so your child will not need to bring these.

We prefer that toys and games remain at home. The Children will be encouraged by their teacher to bring in topic related items for "Show and Tell".



We hope the above information answers some of your questions. We look forward to welcoming your child into school.

If you need to contact your child's teacher, please telephone the office at: **013 330 0555 x 2003 or 2007** and leave a message with the school secretaries. Your child's teacher will return your call as soon as they are able to.

Alternatively you can email the school - dbgs.parents@isg.edu.sa