



Growing Together. Branching Out.

FAQ About Year Two Children Moving Into Year 3 in September 2023

We have used our experience to try and answer some of the very common questions we get asked about moving to Orchard Junior School. We hope they help...

Admin Things:

What uniform will they need?

The school uniform list is available on our website and children are expected to wear their school uniform every day, unless it is one of their PE days. On PE days, the children come to school wearing a plain white t-shirt with dark plain shorts/ tracksuit bottoms and trainers. The children will need to wear their normal school jumper/ cardigan over the top on PE days and not a random sweatshirt. More detail is on the school website.

Who do I contact for various things and how?

The easiest way of getting in touch with the right person is through email **before the end of term:**

For anything to do with day-to-day classroom matters in Year 3:

Mrs Knight's Class (Year Leader): 3RK@orchardjunior.com

Miss Yarrow's Class: 3HY@orchardjunior.com

Miss Manuel's Class: 3LM@orchardjunior.com

For all admin queries, including financial, dinner or medical:

adminoffice@orchard-jun.hants.sch.uk

For SEN matters contact: sen@orchardjunior.com

For ELSA matters contact our ELSA team: elsa@orchardjunior.com

My Child's New Class:

What stationary items will my child need in September?

There is no expectation for any child to have their own equipment as the stationary they need will be provided. However, many children like to have their own pencil case with colour pencils and pens which is fine; the children will be asked to keep these in their trays until needed so please ensure they are reasonably small in size.

Will there be an opportunity for parents to come round the school and visit?

We have already offered the opportunity for parents to visit. Should you still wish for this, please contact the school office!

On the first day...

What will happen on the first day?

On the night before, make sure you are all organized so there are no last minute rushes, including getting packed lunch ready if this is what you choose! Your child will need to be in their full school uniform on the first day.

Our normal "drop off window" is between 8.35 and 8.50; we will need you to bring your child to school between these times. Remember, our Year 3 team is a very experienced, caring team. The Year 3 teachers, LSAs and our School's ELSA team will be on hand to help any children struggling to settle on the first morning. During the first week, all of the Year 3 team will be on the playground at the beginning of the day to greet the children.

Will there be support to help if my child is a little worried?

We completely understand that most children will have nerves of varying degrees right now. This is to be expected. However, remember your child has already successfully joined at least one school (and maybe a pre-school too) so they are probably quite resilient. We hope the transition events help to settle any nerves before the summer.

What about the most important thing... lunch?!

With everything going on lunch is something that worries many parents and children. We use the Scopay system (not linked to OIS) and the school office will send home a letter to set up a new account on the first day. This must be set up in the first two days. Every aren't needs to set up a Scopay account for meals, school events and trips.

So, on the first few mornings, the class teachers will give the children a choice of school dinners, or the option of a packed lunch. Remember, in the Juniors, unless you are a Free School Meal family, all meals must be paid for and, once the system is set up for you, **chosen and paid for** in advance. The dinner menu is available on our school website.

The end of the day...

At the end of the day, which is 3.20pm, please wait for your children on the main playground (between the school building and the ball wall). The teachers will bring the children to you there. Please keep your eyes open as it can be tricky for the children to notice you with so many parents in front of them. As time goes by, we will allow the children to meet you elsewhere, but in the first week please meet your child on the playground so we can get used to faces too!

Academic Things:

Will you speak to the feeder schools to get information about our children?

The year 3 teachers have already been in contact with the feeder schools to gain all the relevant information - just like all other years. The SENCO and year leaders will also communicate with the relevant people at all feeder schools.

Is there any work we can do in preparation for them joining the Juniors?

Not really, just keep their excitement contained or their worries in perspective!!!

How will we at OJS assess each child's attainment when they start?

During the Autumn term the teachers will complete their own assessment of each child in Reading, writing, maths, phonics and spelling and grammar. They will use this along with information from the Year 2 teachers and their own judgment to decide upon any interventions that may be needed. We do not want to assume anything and best practice is always to assess what is in front of you, not based on some prejudged scheme.

If my child is on the SEN register will we have a meeting with the SENDCo to discuss transition?

We have already been in touch with all the feeder schools about the children coming in regards to SEND. If you have particular concerns then please contact Miss Tracey at sen@orchardjunior.com

Please get in touch with us regarding anything else, using the appropriate emails below:

For anything to do with day-to-day classroom matters in Year 3:

Mrs Knight's Class (Year Leader): 3RK@orchardjunior.com

Miss Yarrow's Class: 3HY@orchardjunior.com

Miss Manuels's Class: 3LM@orchardjunior.com

For all admin queries, including financial, dinner or medical:

adminoffice@orchard-jun.hants.sch.uk

For SEND matters contact: sen@orchardjunior.com

For ELSA matters contact our ELSA team: elsa@orchardjunior.com