

# Snowflake School Parents Frequently Asked Questions

Website

[www.snowflakeschool.org.uk](http://www.snowflakeschool.org.uk)

Why do you give my child food at school?	We aim to use a variety of reinforcers, but often food has the highest reinforcer value.
Do I have to buy food reinforcers for my child?	We would encourage you to send in food reinforcers for your child but we are also happy to provide the reinforcers should this be a problem for you.
Do I need to send in money for reinforcers?	No.
Why is my child not eating? Why don't you make the children eat?	There can be a number of reasons as to why your child is not eating. We will always encourage the children to eat, but cannot demand them to do so as we do not wish to create an environment where children can become averse to food.
Did my child eat lunch? How much fruit did my child eat at snack time? Is my child drinking at school? How is my child's toileting?	We will always aim to provide information on if your child has eaten at snack/lunch and how much they have eaten in the home/school book. The home/school book can also be used to provide you with information on toileting. Where ever possible we will send back food so that you can also monitor this.  Let us know if there are any mealtime routines from home which may help e.g eating with a plastic fork.
Can my child sleep at school?	We have a medical room with a bed in case any of the children need to sleep (due to medical related reasons e.g. seizures) but we try to avoid this.
Can my child have a hot lunch?	Parents/carers are welcome to send in hot lunches for us to warm up, however we do not have the facilities to provide school meals.
Can I bring my child's I Pad to school?	The school provides I Pads for the students. If there is a specific app your child uses inform the school and we will do our best to download it.
What clothes should my child wear for yoga?	Loose fitting trousers, jogging bottoms that are comfortable.
Why don't you make the children stand up?	At Snowflake, we want the children to comply

	with instructions rather than force them to do so. We believe this is better for school and home life. We will resort to physical intervention only when the children's safety is compromised e.g in a road.
Why don't you make children work?	We want the children to comply with the demands we give. Each child has an individualised programme which has been developed according to their ability and needs. We find that children at Snowflake School make very good progress.
Why don't you tell the children off?	Each child has a different behaviour management programme. These are dealt with depending on the situation and the behaviours.
How is my child progressing?	Data is taken daily and progress is monitored using graphs. The Home-School book which gets sent home every day provides this sort of information.
Is my child interacting well with others?	Children are given plenty of opportunities to interact with each other and encouraged to do so. For any more questions or further details, ask the key worker.
Why does my child behave so differently at school and at home?	It is a different routine at home and a different environment to school. We do our best to provide information to parents so that they can be consistent with the behaviour management plan. If you need advice on how to deal with specific behaviour management, please ask for a meeting.
Has my child settled well?	Although we do our best to provide a fun and safe environment, it is a new environment and settling in takes time.
Is there a chart I can use to track performance?	We take data on pupil progress and monitor this closely. When a pupil joins Snowflake School an ABLLS assessment is conducted. This is then updated yearly and a copy can be given to you so you can see how your child has progressed over the year. Information will also be provided by our termly reports.
Why is my child not learning to read?	We use assessments to fill in gaps in knowledge and to build pre-requisite skills in order to teach these higher level skills. We want our curriculum to be functional and

	appropriate to our individual pupils.
Why are you ignoring problem behaviour?	If a behaviour is reinforced by providing attention, it may make it more likely to reoccur. The decision to ignore a certain problem behaviour will be based on a behavioural assessment. If you would like more information on your child's behaviour plan please ask in the home school book or ask a member of staff to organise a meeting.
Why aren't you teaching .....?	We use assessments to fill in gaps in knowledge and to build pre requisite skills in order to teach higher level skills. We want our curriculum to be functional and appropriate to our individual pupils.
Will my child get some physical exercise during school hours?	All our pupils access Physical Education. There are activities planned across the week that our pupils take part in. Physical Education sessions include swimming, bike training, dance, yoga and daily trips to the local parks and gardens.
My child has started engaging in new problem behaviour at home and I suspect that they have learnt this at school – what is being done – will the pupil concerned be disciplined?	Sometimes pupils will imitate the behaviour of others at school. As with any problem behaviour an assessment will be carried out and interventions put in place to reduce this behaviour including any appropriate consequences.
Can a tutor work with my child after school/in the holidays?	This should be discussed with the individual tutor and the Head Teacher.
Can I send in spare clothes?	It is advisable that every child has one spare set of clothes, so please do so.
When is swimming?	The swimming schedule is communicated at the beginning of each new school term.
Why isn't my child going swimming?	The swimming schedule is on a rota system. This is alternated each half term to ensure that every child who wants to go swimming is given this opportunity.
Do I need to provide nappies for my child or will the school provide them?	You will need to provide nappies for your child.
How often will I get reports?	We will send reports home each term, and a more detailed report each year. Should you require more information on your child's progress please feel free to ask in the home/school book, or arrange a meeting.
Who is working with my child?	Each pupil has a morning tutor, who is usually designated as their key tutor (that is they

	introduce skills and manage the pupil's data), and an afternoon tutor. Each term, we aim to move one tutor on from each pupil and introduce one new tutor, although sometimes a pupil will keep the same two tutors or get two new tutors. We will write to you on the last day of term to give information on who your child's tutors will be next term.
Why was my child working with someone different today?	If a tutor is absent, the pupil will work with one of the lead tutors, or another tutor who is available that day.
Why do you change tutors so often?	We want our pupils to respond to, and display good behaviour to a variety of people. It is important that they become used to working with a variety of people.
Was my child well behaved today?	Tutors write in the home/school book daily to update you on your child's behaviour. If there is certain behaviour you want updates on please write it in the home school book.
Can I come in and observe?	We find that often children behave very differently when they know a parent is watching. It would be more beneficial for us to film a session and then watch and discuss it together.
Do you need volunteers?	No. Currently we do not need any volunteers however we may need support with fundraising, you can contact Fay about this on 07795181580 or by e mailing <a href="mailto:info@snowflakeschool.org.uk">info@snowflakeschool.org.uk</a>
When does my child get homework?	Some of our pupils receive homework. This is given once a week by our teacher. If you are concerned that your child is not receiving homework, their key tutor may be able to suggest some activities they would enjoy at home.
Why aren't you prompting sentences?	Speaking in sentences may be a long term goal. However, we use our assessments to build programs that fill in gaps in knowledge and give our children the pre-requisite skills to be able to build meaningful language. If children are prompted to speak in sentences before they have the pre requisite skills we often see errors in generalisations.
Why are you teaching my child to sign when they can talk?	Research has proven that combining speech and sign helps to promote vocal communication in

	children whose speech may be unclear or difficult to understand.
What can I do if my child has a problem with toileting or is not toilet trained?	Organise a meeting, using the home communication book to discuss a plan of action. We endeavour to toilet train all our pupils as a main priority, but will normally let them settle into school first.
Who is the consultant?	Carole Roxburgh – <a href="http://www.carboneclinic.com">www.carboneclinic.com</a>
Can I meet the consultant?	Carole is a privately contracted consultant visiting the school for a couple of days per half term. Due to these time constraints it is not possible for her to be present at many of our school/parent meetings. However in some cases it may be possible and we will try to arrange this.  Emily, Katie and Ailish our lead tutors are happy to meet with you and discuss any problems you may be having.
How do I arrange to talk about my child's progress?	Using the home communication book
What is the pupil: staff ratio?	Greater than 1:1
Can I make a suggestion for my child's IEP	Please arrange meetings via home communication book and the school are happy to discuss any suggestions.