



Early Years Information Sheet

School Day Timings

School Day Start			School Day End		
7:00-7:30	Early Drop Off	Early Years Courtyard	12:30	Early Pick Up (Transition Only)	Early Years Reception Area
7:30-7:50	Classroom Drop Off	Open Classroom	12:30-13:45	Afternoon	
8:00	Register Closes	Start of the Day	13:45	End of School Day	Collect from classroom

What to bring to school

- Water bottle
- Change of clothes
- Snack & Lunch
- Swim Kit (check day)
- Toys
- Stationary
- Sweets or Chocolate

Dojo



ClassDojo

We use a parent communication programme called Dojo. You will get photo updates from the class and we also use it as a platform to communicate information and messages.

It is important to check Dojo daily as this is our main platform for communication. We are happy to help if you have any issues or questions.

A Partnership

All children are unique and at USI we believe in meeting the individual needs of every child. We also believe in a partnership between school and families. Our teaching teams are skilled and professional and will always put the needs of the children first. They are also always happy to answer any questions you may have.

Environment

We use the environment as the third teacher (adults and peers are the other two teachers). We create enabling environments that allow children to ask questions, solve problems and explore. The adults work with the children in the environment. They are there to support and extend the learning but also to join the children on their adventures.

Children will have time with their class and build strong relationships with their teaching teams but they will also spend time in Freeflow, exploring and interacting in other classrooms and with other children and adults.

Children learn lots of things at school, but we would also like you to help us at home. We encourage children to be independent and they will be expected to do lots of things on their own when they come to school. We understand that it is sometimes quicker to do things for children, but this stops them developing their skills and independence. A bit of time spent now will mean everything is quicker in the future.

Food and Drink

I can feed myself.

I can drink from a cup by myself.

Children should be eating food by themselves and drinking from a cup not a bottle or sip cup. They should be encouraged to do this independently and not be fed by an adult. Some accidents and spillages can be expected but what is important is that children learn to do this for themselves. We also encourage healthy eating at USI so please try to ensure you support this too.



Independence

Wherever possible, children should be encouraged to do these things independently. Our youngest children may still be developing these skills but promoting independence is important:

1. Getting dressed
2. Putting on shoes
3. Going to the toilet



Books and Stories

I enjoy sitting and looking at books.

I have time with adults sharing books.

Having a quiet time in the day to share books is very beneficial for all children. Spending some special time with books can also increase vocabulary and is a great way to learn new information as well as develop comprehension skills.



Playing with Others

I am happy to play with other children.

I spend time playing with friends.

Children need to learn how to get on with others. At school this is a big part of our learning every day. It is important children have time to experience playing with other children. Visiting parks, going to play groups or playing with friends can develop social and emotional skills.



Outdoors

I enjoy being outside and exploring the world around me.

We believe in the importance of outdoor learning. We want to give children lots of opportunities to be closer to nature, be louder, get messy and develop gross motor skills. Make sure you allow children to spend time outside, talking about what they see and what they experience.



Questions

I am curious.

Everyday children come into our Early Years full of curiosity and questions. We listen to these questions, use them to enhance the learning and encourage children to ask more questions. On average children ask over 50 questions a day. You don't have to answer them all but showing an interest and encouraging this curiosity is what is important.

