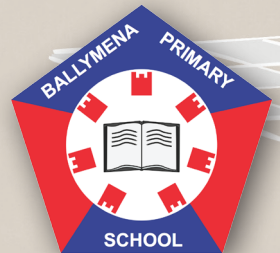


Ella, Sam and Sofia are coming to Ballymena Primary School



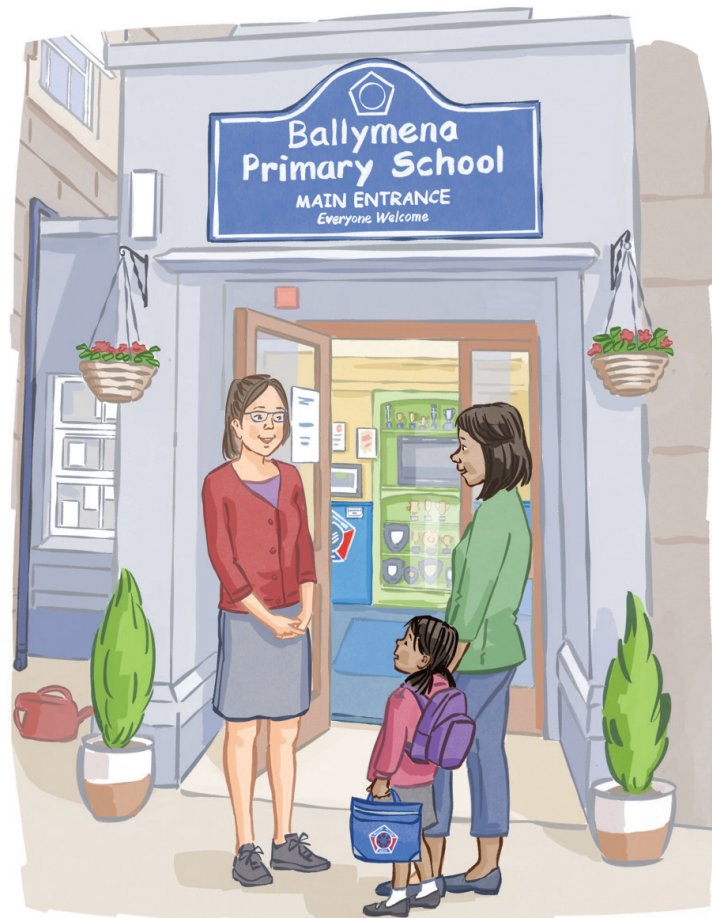
What happens when I get to school?

You will walk through the main gate with your grown-up. Your teacher will be waiting at the front door.

"Hello, Sofia," says the teacher. **"I am so pleased to see you. We are going to have lots of fun at school today."**

For the first few weeks you will be in school for part of the day. Then, before you know it, you will be here for the full day.

After saying goodbye to your grown-up, you will hang up your coat on a peg outside your classroom. Then, you will go into the classroom and put your bookbag in a box and your snack and water bottle in a tray under your desk.



Before school starts, there will be fun activities for you to enjoy. Ella, Sofia and Sam are making friends while they thread beads.

"I'm going to thread 20 beads on my string. How many are you going to thread, Sofia?" asks Ella.

When the day starts, you will sit on the mat while your teacher takes the register and checks who is having a school dinner or a packed lunch.



Are you looking forward to starting school?

What will I do in school?

You will have lots of fun playing and learning and make lots of new friends while you play. Everyone is kind and caring and remembers to share.

Indoors, you will learn to read, recognise sounds, write and count. Sam, Sofia and Ella are writing and drawing with their teacher.

"I love your colourful picture, Ella, and I can see some fantastic handwriting too," says the teacher.



You will find lots of fun activities in the playroom. Sofia and Sam are using the building blocks. They are taking turns to place a block on their tower.

"How many blocks do we need to make our tower as tall as us?" asks Sam.



There's lots to play with outside too. Ella and Sam have put on their wellies to play on the obstacle course.

"I am going to walk carefully so I don't fall off," says Ella.



Then, the children wear their waterproof jackets to keep dry while playing with water.

"Sam, please pick up the blue jug and help us fill up the tub," says Sofia kindly.

You can also play with bikes, scooters, mud, sand, and paint outside. We even have a fire pit where we make delicious snacks.

Sometimes we visit the park for Forest School and to play.



What do you like to play with your friends?

What if I am hungry or thirsty?

You can eat the healthy snack you brought from home during breaktime and have a drink from your water bottle whenever you feel thirsty.

You will eat your school meal in the hall and sit with your friends to eat it.

"My lunch is delicious," says Sam.



If you bring a packed lunch, you will eat it in the classroom with the other children who have brought lunch from home.

There are lots of kind adults to help you at lunchtime. Your teacher will remind everyone to use good manners and be kind to each other.



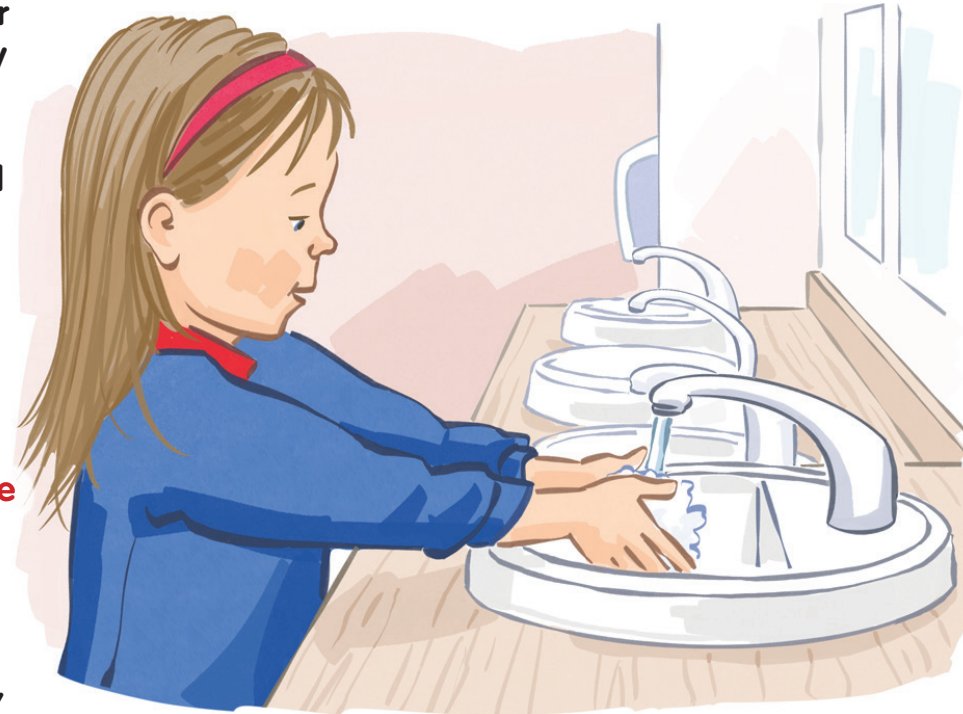
What happens if I need the toilet?

The toilets are in the corridor near your classrooms, so they are easy to find. A teaching assistant will walk with you for the first few months to find the toilets. You will use the toilet by yourself.

Ella has been to the toilet and remembered to flush and then wash her hands to clean all the germs away.

"I am glad I practised going to the toilet by myself before I started school because it is easy to do now," she says.

If you need any help, don't worry, just let a teacher know.



At the end of the day, your teacher will take you to the door. Your grown-up will be waiting for you outside.

Sam, Ella and Sofia
love coming to
Ballymena Primary
School and they think
you will too.



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