



Newsletter—September 2018

Dear Parents,

We are very much looking forward to meeting you and your child at Wellow Preschool this week. School has been very busy over the summer break and the Preschool classroom is now fully refurbished and equipped, ready to welcome the children. The new furniture and resources are beautiful and some of the staff children have already been tempted in to try them out! Term begins on **Tuesday 4th September**.

Preschool team

We are delighted to have recruited three experienced Early Years practitioners: Rachel Glister, Sophie Eagles and Lucy Johnson (who joins us in 2 weeks time). Claire Downs (from Year R) will be working with us during the first 2 weeks as well. Whilst we will all be fully involved with the learning and development of every child, in addition each child will have a key worker- special adult- and we will let you know who your child's key worker is shortly.

Preschool timings, meals and routines

Just as a reminder, our standard ('short') day runs from 8.30am- 4pm and includes morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. Our medium day is 8am- 5pm and also includes breakfast. Our long day is 8am- 6pm and also includes a light tea. Our morning session is 9am- 1pm (morning snack and lunch) and our afternoon session is 12.30pm- 4pm (afternoon snack).

When you and your child arrive, please follow the path to the Preschool classroom door and ring the doorbell. We encourage you to come in with your child, help them to put their coat and bag away, and settle them to an activity (or hand them to a member of the team). When collecting, again please just ring the doorbell. We would also ask you to check that a member of staff has signed your child in and out- many thanks. You are of course welcome to collect earlier than the official end of a session, should this fit better with your work hours- or the end of the school day for an older sibling.

All about me booklets

Thankyou very much to all of you who have filled in and returned the 'All about me' booklets- these will really guide our planning in the first few weeks, while we get to know your child. If you haven't yet returned yours, please do so as soon as possible.



Settling in

We want to make the transition into Preschool as smooth as possible for all our children and families. We appreciate that many of the children are starting from a variety of previous childcare settings. Some children will be confident and excited to start- whilst for others this is their first venture away from you. For any younger children who have never left you before, we would particularly encourage you to stay with your child for their first visit/ session and then plan to leave them with us for a short while during their second session, progressing to leaving them for longer after that.

What to bring

Each day your child needs to bring a small backpack or bag, with a change of clothes, water bottle, nappies and wipes if needed, and a cuddly toy/ comfort blanket etc if liked. They also need to bring a warm waterproof coat with a hood, wellies, and we recommend waterproof trousers too if possible (we have some spares in school if you don't have these). Our Preschool uniform is a jade green polo shirt and navy sweatshirt - these should be worn with their own leggings/ trousers/ skirt. All items should be marked with your child's name please.

Health needs

All Early Years staff hold a paediatric first aid qualification. Please do keep us updated with any relevant medical information, for example asthma or allergies. Many thanks.

Tapestry online learning journey

We look forward to sharing photos and observations of your child's learning via their online learning journey. Please ensure we have received your permission slip at the start of term so we can start using this straight away.

Keeping in touch

If you have any further questions or concerns please do pop in and have a chat, email me on C.Pidduck@wellow.hants.sch.uk or phone the school office- many thanks.

Catherine Pidduck

Preschool Teacher