**The Pre-School PlayStation**

**At the Village Hall**

**Broughton Astley**

**Tel: 01455 282955 /07962104553**

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Prospectus. 

**Welcome to the pre-school playstation.**

The staff at the pre-school play station understand the importance of your child settling in well at the pre-school. You can help your child by bringing them along to the stay and play to allow them to get to know staff, make friends and become familiar with the pre-school, whilst still having the support of their main carer.

We are happy for you and your child to drop in and stay for a while during the normal sessions. In addition to this we can offer home visits made by staff to get to know you and your child in familiar surroundings.

**On your first day** at the pre-school you can wait in the foyer area of the village hall as, we cannot except children into the setting until 9.00am. The children’s names are on the board in the foyer. If you could help your child find their name from the board then hand this to the staff member that is on the door (self registration). Your child will be given a bag with his/ her name on and their key persons name.

It is an OFSTED requirement that parents / carers keep each other informed of children’s interests and milestones achieved. We ask that you keep us informed using tapestry of family events, photos, things your child is working on at home or at another setting, or any thing that we could ask your child about to initiate conversation. Please don’t be offended if your child’s name isn’t on the board as they do get lost, they will be replaced at some point, and this doesn’t mean your child is not welcome.

**When entering the pre-school,** if you couldtake your child to the toilet before they start the session this would be a great help to staff. Their coats can be placed on the coat rail. You will be welcome to stay with your child for a while if you wish, but if you feel your child will settle when you have gone then you can leave them. **Please take notice of notice boards as this is our best way of letting you know what’s going on.**

**A Key person** will be allocated to your child on their first day .Your key person will be your first port of call when wanting to discuss your child. They will be responsible for keeping your child’s learning story, observations and records. You will be required to work with your key person to ensure your child gets the best learning experience during their time at the pre-school and in their early years.

Remember that we want the best for your child and if everyone involved in the child’s life works together we can achieve fantastic results with them.

**Your child’s learning story** will be made up of observations taken in the sessions, their two year check which will be carried out by the key person and parents and people who know your child best. Pictures, photos, and things sent in from home, progress summaries and trackers to monitor your child’s progress, and other snippets that your key person records on a daily basic. You must meet with your child’s key person at least once a week , txt or link up by tapestry

**Clothing** can always be a problem at pre-school. Children do not attend with the intention of staying clean. We want children to be able to explore art and craft activities, sand and water trays and the outdoor area without worrying about staying clean. We suggest that children are sent in old clothes with short sleeves so that this doesn’t interfere with their learning and development. We will be accessing the outdoor each session unless dangerous weather stops us. We have wet weather suits and wellingtons, but if you could provide warm clothing for outdoor play in the winter and hats in the summer this would be appreciated.

**Sun creams** can be applied before entering the pre-school, if parents and carers could please check the weather forecasts and apply accordingly a high protective sun cream that will last for the amount of hours your child will be in the session for that day. On very hot days we try to keep outdoor play in the shady areas of the garden.

**Face Book** if you wish to join us on face book, ask a member of staff and they will see that you are invited to join us.

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# What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

This is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes. From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.

Nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and child-minders registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

# What is the EYFS Framework – why do we have one?

The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child, and was developed with a number of early year’s experts and parents.

In 2012 the framework was revised to make it clearer and easier to use, with more focus on the things that matter most. This new framework also has a greater emphasis on your role in helping your child develop.

How my child will be learning

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

* Communication and language;
* Physical development; and
* Personal, social and emotional development.

These prime areas are those most essential for your child’s healthy development and future learning.

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* Literacy;
* Mathematics;
* Understanding the world; and
* Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child’s learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child’s unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Key persons plan around their key children. It is important that parents keep key persons up to date with progress made at home.

Your key person will put together a progress summery of your child every six months. Please make time to read these and sign them with your comments.

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# As a mum or dad, how can I help with my child’s learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child’s learning as they progress through school. Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time every day to do some of the following things with your child, it will make a real difference to your child’s confidence as a young learner.

Talk about the numbers, colours, words and letters you see when you are out and about

Sing and tell nursery rhymes

Allow your child to cut out and stick pictures from magazines

Plant seeds or bulbs in a pot or garden patch

Cook / bake together

Use the weather – shadows, rain puddles, snow, wind, mist and sun – to extend your child’s vocabulary

Explore the park at a different time of the year – go off the beaten track

Talk to your child at every opportunity – e.g. what you are doing that day

Share a book

On a trip to the supermarket, talk about all the different packaging shapes



When your child is 2

At some point after your child turns 2, the professionals working with your child must give you a written summary of how your child is progressing against the 3 prime areas of learning:

* communication and language;
* physical development; and
* Personal, social and emotional development.

This is called **the** **progress check** **at age 2.**

This check will highlight areas where your child is progressing well, and anywhere they might need some extra help or support – and how mums and dads and other family members or carers can work with the key person to help. You might find it useful to share the information from the check with other professionals such as health visitors (who can use it as part of the health and development review).

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Frequently asked questions.

How do I pay and when?

The pre-school charges for sessions that are not funded. These are before your child is in receipt of funded places or if you require more than the 15 hours (or 30 hours if eligible) funded sessions. The pre- school accepts the nursery voucher scheme where the payments are taken from your wages. You can pay by cash or cheque ,or BAC transfer (ask for details). Please make all payments in advance of the session. These can be made to Sandra or Amanda. We do not normally send invoices out for payments , but in cases where payments are not paid in advance as required then an invoice will be given. The current price for a three hour morning or afternoon session is £13.00 Please be aware that failure to pay could lead to CCJ.

My child is still in nappies?

This isn’t a problem; please bring a bag with nappies, wipes etc. We have a toileting and nappy changing rota. All children in nappies will be checked and changed during each am and pm session, this will be recorded. If you could ensure that your child enters the session with a clean correctly fitted and sized nappy, this in most cases should suffice the session.

Lunch boxes.

Please provide your child with a healthy lunch box. You can ask a member of staff for ideas of what to provide. Do not put chocolate and other sugar loaded treats into your child’s lunch, as these will be removed. Repeated failure to provide a healthy lunch may result in the loss of your afternoon sessions. We have a no Nuts policy.

Can I switch sessions

One months notice needs to be given when changing places. Unfortunately we cannot swap sessions if you can’t attend on that day. You can however pay to have a one of session if places are available.

Failure to attend

Although pre-school is mandatory we have a duty of care and it is an OFSTED requirement to find out why a child is repeatable absent. County hall will recall funding if they feel there isn’t a good enough reason for repeated absents . If a child was repeatedly of due to sickness we may have to contact the health visitor . You will be asked to sign an absent book for all sessions missed.

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