
BRIGHT STARS
PRESCHOOL

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Bright Stars Preschool. We are delighted to provide a rich and varied learning experience for your child in a warm and caring atmosphere. Graded 'GOOD' by Ofsted in September 2019, Bright Stars Preschool provides an excellent start to your child's education.

All the children will be following the Early Years Foundation Stage 'Birth to 5 Matters' Curriculum which encompasses learning and development in 7 main areas.

The **prime areas** are fundamental and support learning and development in all other areas. The three prime areas are:

- **Personal, social and emotional development**
- **Physical development**
- **Communication and Language**

The **specific areas** include essential knowledge and skills, these are:

- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding of the world**
- **Expressive arts and design**

The activities we provide will enable the children to develop in these areas in a happy, safe and playful environment.

The following information will be useful to you while your child is attending Bright Stars Preschool.

<u>Preschool Hours</u>

Our childcare sessions are as follows (Monday – Friday).

Morning session	08:30-11:30
Afternoon session	12:15-15:15 (Mondays – Thursdays) 11:30-14:30 (Fridays)
6 hour funded session	08:30-14:30

There is also the option for children receiving 6 hours of childcare to extend their care until 3.15pm on Mondays - Thursdays (an additional 45min session), or for children receiving 3 hours of childcare to stay for lunch either before or after their session (11.30am – 12.15pm). This session will generally be charged for (see our Fee Policy for details of costs and free entitlement).

Children staying for lunch will need to be provided with a packed lunch. We can only take children for lunch sessions who are able to feed themselves competently.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff. We are all happy to help. Your child will be assigned a key person when they begin preschool. The role of the key person is to help your child become familiar with the preschool and feel confident and safe within it. If you have any worries or concerns always go to your child's key person as the first point of contact.

Settling in

You are welcome to stay with your child to settle them in for their first few sessions at Bright Stars preschool. This process usually takes about a week, but could take longer depending on your child. If this happens, staff use their discretion in consultation with you to reach the most suitable arrangement, your child's needs being our primary concern.

Preschool routine

Our daily routine will be similar to this:

8.30-8.45	Welcome to Preschool
8.45-9.00	Good morning and self-registration
9.00-9.30	Planned activities
9.30-10.00	Child initiated play
10.00-10.15	Snack
10.15-11.15	Child initiated play
11.15-11.30	Stories and preparation for home time

The afternoon sessions have a similar format.

Spare Clothes

Although we do encourage the children to wear aprons, the preschool activities can be very messy. Please dress your child in appropriate clothes that they can manage themselves (e.g. using the toilet independently) and enable them to fully participate without any worries. We also request that parents bring in a full set of spare clothes for their child. This spare set of clothes must stay in school as children can easily get wet in the water tray or slip in the mud and they need

clean, dry clothes to change into. Please name all removable items of clothing e.g. coats, hats, cardigans etc. We have outdoor play every day so please bring their coat and a pair of wellie boots that can stay in school.

Shoes worn at preschool must have closed toes and the children will need to learn to put them on themselves, so Velcro fastenings are ideal. Please do not send your child to preschool wearing shoes with laces as they are too young to learn to tie these themselves. Children should never wear jewellery in order to prevent accidents. Your child's spare clothes, wellie boots and soft shoes can be kept in a named bag on their peg.

Donations

We ask all parents to make a weekly donation of 50p to the preschool fund. This small donation enables us to buy a few extra resources such as cooking ingredients and some additional craft materials. This allows the children to participate in a greater range of activities. We are very grateful for all donations.

Snacks

As part of the foundation stage curriculum the children learn about food that is good for us. In order to encourage children to eat healthily we are having fruit and vegetables at snack time with a drink of water or milk. Children are entitled to free milk up to the age of 5 and this will be provided by the school. Please send your child in with a healthy snack that is clearly labelled.

Packed Lunches

Children who are staying for lunch need to bring their own packed lunch. At Bright Stars preschool we promote healthy lunches, so sweets and sugary/fizzy drinks are not permitted.

Forms

Please make sure that you have given in an application form and a consent form for collecting your child. We must have two emergency contact numbers as well as your own. Please keep us up to date with any changes of address, phone numbers, medical concerns etc.



The staff at Bright Stars preschool are happy, enthusiastic and keen to create a safe and supportive learning environment for your child. Our approach to learning is playful, stimulating and inspiring. It is the right of all children to learn to love learning and have a positive school experience enabling them to reach their full potential.

My new class room



Outside area



My new teachers

Eloise



Lois



Fatima



Louise

