

Lilliput Learners Pre-School
Within Dedworth Library
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SL4 5PE

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PROSPECTUS

Parents speak extremely highly of the pre-school and comment on how well their children are progressing.

They (parents) state that their children love attending and regularly ask if it is a pre-school day, and are genuinely disappointed if it is not.

(views gained by the Ofsted inspector when talking to parents during an inspection in October 2013)

General information

We are open for 5 days each morning offering morning sessions, afternoon sessions or all day. We are open from 8.45 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. and 12.30pm to 3.30 p.m. Children attending all day stay for lunch from 11.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. We provide care and education for young children between the ages of 2 years and 5 years old.

There is funding available for children the term following their third birthday and some funding for 2 year olds who meet certain criteria. This means that children who qualify for funding receive 15 hours of free childcare. Extra sessions are available at the cost of £10.00 per session. £2.00 is payable for lunch club. £5.00 per term is charged towards cooking ingredients as the children are given the opportunity to cook each week. Upon registration there is also a charge of £5.00.

We supply t-shirts, sweatshirts, sun hats and bags for a small fee.

Parents/carers are invoiced at the beginning of each term and we ask that payments are made promptly, either in full or in instalments. Failure to do so may result in additional costs and your child losing their place. Fees will be due irrespective of sickness, holiday or other non-attendance.

We require 6 weeks' notice in writing if you intend for your child to leave the setting.

We aim to support the children in attaining a healthy lifestyle. Parents bring in a piece of fruit each time their child attends, which is then shared between the children at snack time along with milk or water. The children are encouraged to serve themselves and all the children drink from a plastic cup, we do not encourage drinking from bottles and we work with parents to help their child not to rely on dummies at the setting. We also encourage the children to play outdoors and they are given the opportunity to do so at each session.

We have a library system which enables children to take home books and return them when finished.

We support the children in becoming independent in their toileting, and putting on and taking off their outdoor clothes, so we ask that children are dressed in clothes that they can manage easily. Please remember that children will be using glue, paint or digging in the mud, so they should be dressed appropriately.

We welcome children who are still in nappies and ask parents to provide spare nappies and wipes. A set of spare clothes is also a good idea in case of accidents. Whenever possible your child will have their needs seen to by their key person at all times.

Our setting aims to:

- Provide high quality care and education for children below statutory school age
- Work in partnership with parents to help children learn and develop
- Add to the life and well-being of the community
- Ensure that the practitioners are qualified to a level 3 or working towards that goal, have current first aid certificates and attend ongoing training in order to maintain professional development.

We aim to ensure that each child:

- Is in a safe and stimulating environment
- Is given generous care and attention, we have a high ratio of qualified practitioners to children, alongside parent helpers, volunteers and students.
- Most members of staff work full time which enables consistency and routine for the children. All members of staff undergo an enhanced disclosure check with the vetting and barring service. All volunteers undergo a detailed induction and the setting ensures they follow procedures fully.
- Has the chance to join in with the other children and adults to live, play and work together.
- Has a key person who ensures each child makes satisfying progress.
- Is in a setting that sees parents as partners in helping each child to learn and develop, parents have the opportunity to attend on a regular basis.
- Is in a setting in which parents are invited to join our committee and where all cultures and beliefs are celebrated.

Parents:

As a community based voluntary managed setting we depend on the goodwill of parents and their involvement. Parents are asked to donate items such as soap and tissues etc. Which enables us to keep the cost of fees down.

Membership of the setting carries expectations on parents for their support and commitment. Parents are always made welcome in the setting are encouraged to bring in different talents and hobbies that can be shared with the children. This may be cooking, art, reading or just playing.

Learning through play:

Play helps young children to learn and develop through doing and talking. In our setting we plan and provide a range of play activities which help children to make progress. In some instances the children will decide how they will use the activity and, in others, an adult takes the lead in helping the children take part. The adult will join in with the play when invited to do so.

Parents are invited to share with their child's key person, the child's current interests and each key person will then plan for each individual child. If it becomes apparent that there is a common theme with all the children's interests then the most favoured topic may be the focus of the setting as a whole. This of course may be subject to change as we follow the lead given to us by the children.

Assessment and records of achievement:

We assess how young children are learning and developing by observing them frequently. We document their progress from written observations and photographs.

When your child is ready to start school our supervisor will make contact with the school in question and ensure that your child has a smooth transition into school. This may take form as an informal meeting or visiting the school with your child before they start.

The setting keeps a record of achievement for each child and enables us to celebrate his/her achievements and to work with parents to provide what your child needs for their wellbeing and to make progress. Your child's key person will keep this record. She will collect information about your child's needs, interests and samples of your child's work, which will enable her to decide on how to help your child to move on to the next stage.

Your child's file or learning journey belongs to the child and yourselves and can be looked at at any time. At the end of each term we hold an open morning where parents are invited into the setting to look at their child's learning journey and learn what their child has been doing with us throughout the term. Parents are also encouraged to be 'hands on' and try some of the activities for themselves.

Experiences:

At Lilliput Learners we pride ourselves in allowing the children to gain confidence and become active learners. We do this by providing the children with various activities that they might not experience in their daily lives. Some of the experiences enjoyed by our children have been:

- Weddings, the children have attended weddings in the local Church with everyone getting the chance to join in. The bride and groom and wedding party are children who attend the setting.
- Making pizza, we have been to the local take away pizza restaurant, the children were able to make their own pizza.
- Visiting the local vet
- Visiting the hairdressers
- Visiting the baby weighing clinic
- Visiting the garden centre
- Going on a bus into town to watch the changing of the guard at the castle.
- Going to the local prayer room to celebrate Eid

And plenty more, just ask to see the photographs!

If you wish any questions or would like to visit the setting please contact us and we can arrange a suitable time for you and your child to visit. Alternatively, just turn up!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Cath Harman (manager)

(revised 29/08/2016)

