



Oundle Community Pre-School

Fletton House
Glaphorn Road
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4JA
01832 273647

www.oundlecommunitypreschool.org.uk

Registered charity: 10252457

Aims

Formed in 1963, Oundle Community Pre-School aims to provide high quality play-based activities in a friendly and stimulating environment, working in partnership with parents and the wider community. Activities, based upon the interests of the children, are designed to help each individual child to develop its potential, academically emotionally and socially at its own pace within a caring, friendly and fun environment. In addition to a wide selection of toys materials and activities including a well equipped outdoor area which are always available, we also deliver focused adult led activities which are designed to give children access to the government's Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Early Learning Goal stepping stones.

Pre School Staff

Leader: Heather de Gaunza - Certificate in Early Years (Open)(Level 4.)
S.R.N.

Deputy: Alison Flint - NVQ3

Assistant: Janet Haydock - Bsc with Education

Assistant: Jane Walker - currently working towards NVQ 3

Assistant: Will De Gaunza

Assistant: Tracy Upex

General Activities

Our Pre- School offers a wide selection of toys, materials and activities, including an enclosed outdoor playground with many wheeled toys, climbing frame art and craft activities, construction sets, sand and water play, woodwork, cookery. Dressing -up clothes and a shop and home corner promote role play, which are extended via a good variety of books and multicultural toys and activities.

In addition to the in- house play we arrange short visits within the community, i.e., to the fire station, police station, farm visits and summer 'Teddy Bears Picnic'. We also enjoy individuals visiting us to give short talks and demonstrations of activities on subjects of interest to the children, i.e. police, country park rangers, face painting, besides teachers from local schools when children are ready to make transition to school.

Curriculum

Our planning system enables us to provide a curriculum tailored to the needs of each individual. Via developmentally appropriate play activities and with a high adult: child ratio we work towards helping children attain within the government's Foundation Stage Early Years curriculum in the following six areas:

Language and Literacy

In both small and large groups, children are encouraged to extend their vocabulary by talking and listening and by hearing and responding to stories, songs and rhymes. Children are helped to understand that written symbols carry meaning, to be aware of the purposes of writing and when they are ready, to use drawn and written symbols for themselves. A well stocked book corner gives every child the opportunity and encouragement to become familiar with books, to be able to handle them, and to be aware of their uses, both for reference and as a source of stories and pictures. Each morning the staff read stories to the children, thus encouraging

their listening, and memory skills.

Personal and Social Development

Within a nurturing environment, children are individually supported in developing confidence, autonomy and self-respect. They are encouraged to work and concentrate independently and to take part in the life of the group, sharing and co-operating with other children and adults. Through activities, conversation and practical example, they learn acceptable ways to express their own feelings and are encouraged to do so in addition to having respect for the feelings of others.

All children are given the opportunity, as appropriate, to take responsibility for themselves and for the group, its members and its property.

Mathematics

By means of adult supported practical experience, children become familiar with the sorting, matching, ordering, sequencing and counting activities that form the basis for early mathematics. As they use and develop mathematical understanding to solve practical problems, children are assisted to learn and use the vocabulary of mathematics, identifying objects by shape, position, size, volume and number. Songs, particularly finger rhymes, games and picture books help children become aware of number sequences and, when they are ready, to use simple mathematical operations such as adding two numbers or more.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

A safe and stimulating environment allows children to explore and experiment with a range of natural and manufactured materials. They also learn to observe the features of objects and substances, recognising differences, patterns and similarities, and to share and record their findings. Children are assisted in exploring and understanding their environment, both within the group and also in the wider community, as well as learning of different places and cultures. A range of safe and well maintained equipment enables children to extend their technological understanding. We have a range of simple tools, techniques and use of ICT equipment as appropriate to achieve their intentions and solve problems.

Physical Development

A range of equipment and opportunity, both indoors and outside, allows

children to develop confidence and enjoyment in the use and development of their own physical skills. We encourage children to meet physical challenges safely, developing skill and control in moving, climbing and balancing. Simultaneously, children are supported in the development of finer skills required to use tools, including pens and pencils, and to handle small objects with increasing control and precision. We also encourage children to partake in movement and dance.

Creative Development

Children are encouraged to use a wide range of resources in order to express their own ideas and feelings and to construct their own individual response to experience in two and three dimensions. Art equipment, including glue, crayons, pencils, as well as natural and discarded resources, provide for open-ended exploration of colour, shape and texture and the development of confidence in expressing themselves creatively. In addition, children engage creatively in music, stories, and imaginative role-play and in their exploration of the whole environment.

Regarding Particular Needs:

All children are encouraged and helped to develop at their own individual rate of learning and development and we warmly welcome *everyone* to Oundle Community Pre-School. However, should you like to discuss the group's ability to meet any particular or special needs your child may have, including diet, additional learning, speech or health needs, please do not hesitate to contact your key worker or the pre-school Leader or her Deputy.

Parental Involvement

We and the Pre School Learning Alliance recognise parents as the first and most important educators of young children.

Children learn particularly well when relaxed, happy and interested in whatever they are doing and much learning occurs both at home and at pre-school during these occasions. Your observations, together with those taken by staff enable us to adapt the planning and delivery of the National Curriculum. Records, are kept for the purpose of future planning and as a means of informing parents of the progress of their children. in the form of 'Special Books' .

Starting Pre-School

Registration: To register your child for Oundle Community Pre-School

you should:

- Print and complete the application form
- Return it to the pre-school (FAO The Administrator).
- Our administrator will then contact you to let you know of available placements for your child and a subsequent start date.

If you would like to talk any queries through please either telephone 01832 273647 Mon- Friday 09.30- 13.00hrs or pop in and see us. If you are able to come in between 12.00hrs and 13.00hrs (i.e. at the end of a session), we are more able to talk at greater length.

Fees

£12.00 - morning session from 9.10am - 12pm . All children welcome to join us from 2 years and 6 months onwards.

The Government's education voucher system entitles all children in the term after their third birthday to attend a maximum of 5 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour sessions per week free. This voucher is currently £9.05 per session. Our sessions run from 9.10am to 12pm at a cost of £12.00 for the full session. Should you wish your child to attend for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours only (free entitlement) please inform the pre school.

Please note:

Oundle Community Pre-School actively encourage all children to attend for no fewer than two sessions per week.

Committee Management

The Committee are parent- elected from current parents and friends of the pre-school. The committee is renewed annually at the Annual General meeting, usually held in October.

For the Academic Year of 2009-2010 our Committee are:

Chairperson -	Vicky Houghton
Treasurer -	Emily Hadfield
Secretary -	Nicola Gough
Fundraisers -	Claire Swales