



STOKE GOLDINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

We look forward to welcoming your child to  
Stoke Goldington Pre-School



Village Hall  
Stoke Goldington  
Newport Pagnell, Bucks MK16 8NP

Phone: 01908-551576 to arrange a visit  
(9.15am-12.15pm weekdays) or for further information  
call the Committee Chairperson Alison Howkins  
on: 01908-551988.

[www.stokegoldington-preschool.co.uk](http://www.stokegoldington-preschool.co.uk)



STOKE GOLDINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

# PROSPECTUS SUMMER 2009

*'The quality of teaching and learning is good.'*  
(Ofsted March 2008)



- \* Fun & friendship
- \* Individual care & attention
- \* A safe, secure & stimulating environment
- \* A parent-run, community based group

Registered charity no: 1026756

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## INTRODUCTION

We are a parent run Pre-School group working in close conjunction with Stoke Goldington First School. It is a happy, family-oriented group with a strong play emphasis.

We are affiliated to the Pre-School Learning Alliance and as a registered early years' provider we receive the Nursery Education Grant from our local authority for 3 & 4 year olds.

Stoke Goldington Pre-School is inspected regularly by Ofsted and our latest reports are available on request. See page 11 for further information.



## OFSTED REPORT

Our most recent Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education) inspection took place in March 2008. This inspection reviewed the Pre-School against the National Standards for sessional day care. Copies of our last Ofsted report are available for parents to see.

Pre-School was rated **“good”** in its report, both in terms of **“quality and standards of care”** and **“quality and standards of nursery education.”** An inspection judgement of **“good”** indicates that **“this aspect of the provision is strong.”**

Comments received in the report include:

*“Children are cared for in a safe and well-maintained environment”*

*“Staff deployment is good and guarantees children are supervised and safe at all times”*

*“Staff’s sound understanding of the Foundation Stage curriculum enables them to provide planning of activities that cover all areas of learning”*

*“Children’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered”*

*“Children are confident, settle quickly and readily ask adults for their favourite activities. Children freely select from a wide range of resources”*

*“Children enjoy a range of energetic physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle.”*

*“Committed staff consistently promote the children’s well-being, offering a calm and happy environment where good relationships between adults and children are evident.”*

*“Partnership with parents and carers is good”*

*“Children benefit from a healthy diet”*

*“Staff value children’s input, listen to them and respond showing interest and concern.”*

*“Children are developing good relationships and get on well with peers and adults.”*

*Comments taken verbatim as per copyright.*

## OTHER INFORMATION

### FIRST DAYS

We offer settling in sessions and parents are invited to stay on their child's first day. You are welcome to stay for as long as you feel it is necessary; this is at the discretion of the parent.

### FOOD AND DRINK

At each session milk or water is offered plus fruit. If there are any allergies, dietary requirements or medical problems these should be stated on the Pre-School application forms.

### CLOTHING

Please ensure that the children wear older, easily washed clothes. Aprons are provided but accidents can happen, so please provide a change of clothes for your child. Sweatshirts, t-shirts and hats are available from Pre-School. Wellies and coats are required every day for outside play. Please ensure **all items are clearly named**.

### NEWS AND INFORMATION

There is a daily notice board giving information to parents about activities as well as periodic newsletters.

### POLICIES

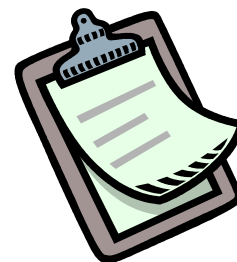
All of our detailed Pre-School policies are available for parents to view on site. All policies are reviewed on an annual basis.

### PARENTS' HANDBOOK

A Parents Handbook giving detailed A-Z information about the Pre-School is available when your child starts.

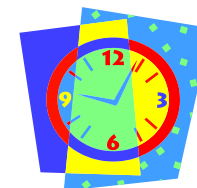
### SECURITY

Please inform staff if someone other than the person known to them is to collect your child. **AT ALL TIMES, WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING THE HALL, THE CHAIN MUST BE PUT BACK ON THE INNER DOOR.**



## OUR AIMS

1. To ensure all children feel included, secure and valued.
2. To prepare the children for compulsory education following the principles for early years education.
3. To ensure individual attention to benefit each child.
4. To develop confidence and social skills through group activities.
5. To provide an effective curriculum that makes learning exciting and fun.



## SESSIONS

Monday to Friday 9.15am—12.15pm during term time.

The places in each session for 2½ year olds are allocated on a date of birth basis. Priority will be given to siblings.

It is our policy that children should attend a minimum of two sessions per week.

The Pre-School is registered for up to 24 children.



## CURRICULUM

The Curriculum provision for children's development and learning is guided by **The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**. From September 2008 EYFS became law. This brings together Birth to Three Matters and the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage. Pre-School's provision reflects the four key themes and 16 commitments of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Children start to learn about the world around them from the moment they are born. The care and education offered by Stoke Goldington Pre-School helps children to continue to do this by providing all of the children with interesting activities that are appropriate for their age and stage of development. The four key themes are:

### A Unique Child

*Child Development: Skilful communicator, competent learner.*  
*Inclusive Practice: Equality and diversity, children's entitlements, early support.*  
*Keeping Safe: Being safe and protected, discovering boundaries, making choices.*  
*Health and Well-being: Growth and developing, physical and emotional wellbeing.*

### Positive Relationships

*Respecting Each Other: Understanding feelings, friendships, professional relationships.*  
*Parents as Partners: Respecting diversity, communication, learning together.*  
*Supporting Learning: Positive interactions, listening to children, effective teaching.*  
*Key Person: Secure attachment, shared care, independence.*

## FEES

Prior to receiving the Nursery Education Grant (NEG) our fees are £8.00 per session. Children receive the NEG from the term after their 3rd birthday and you can claim towards 5 sessions per week. We offer a 3-hour session and the NEG currently covers 2.5 hours, therefore we charge £1 per session for NEG-funded children to cover the final half hour. However, this is a short-term requirement as the Government has announced it will provide funding for 3-hour sessions by 2010.

There is a 10% discount for a second child when you have two fee-paying children at Pre-School.

A £15 registration fee is payable with your application which will entitle you to a school hat and bag when your child starts.

The fees are to be paid half termly. A full half-term's notice is required in advance on leaving Pre-School or fees will be incurred. If there are any problems with fees please contact either the Playleader, the Chairperson or the Treasurer.

## RECORD KEEPING

Throughout your child's time at Pre-School formal and informal observations will be made of your child. All staff may contribute observations. We also have children's books in which they may contribute work and photographs.

When children leave Stoke Goldington Pre-School the records will be given to the parents.

You may, of course, see your child's records at any time. Please give at least one day's notice as some staff like to write up observations at home.

We believe that the most beneficial feedback we give to parents is through informal discussions held at the end of a session or other time mutually agreed by parents and staff.

## PRE-SCHOOL STAFF

The Pre-School committee employs a team of staff who are described below:

### **VICKY CARTWRIGHT: PLAYLEADER**

Vicky has over 5 years' experience of working in a busy Pre-School setting with an average attendance per session of 30-40 children. She has extensive qualifications & experience of working with special needs children. Vicky lives locally with her husband & two children who attended Stoke Goldington Pre-School themselves some years ago & she worked actively on the Committee at that time.

### **LOIS HALLAM: DEPUTY**

Lois has worked in local playgroups, pre-schools & schools for over 10 years. She holds a Diploma in Playgroup Practice & has successfully completed several Pre-School Learning Alliance courses. She is also a qualified first-aider. Lois lives locally & has two children.

### **TERESA POSTAWA: PLAY ASSISTANT/SENCO**

Teresa lives locally and has two children who both attended the Pre-School. She is trained to British Sign Language stage 1 and with experience of working with special needs children is ideally placed as our Special Educational Needs co-ordinator.

### **JULIA BATES: PLAY ASSISTANT**

Julia has 5 years of childcare experience from working in nurseries and childminding at home. Julia & her family live locally and she has two young children of her own who both attended Pre-School.

### **ANGELA CLARKE: PLAY ASSISTANT**

Angela lives in Stoke Goldington with her family and has worked with the Pre-School for many years. She is trained to British Sign Language stage 1.

### **Enabling Environments**

*Observations, Assessment and Planning: Starting with the child, planning, assessment.*

*Supporting Every Child: Children's needs, the learning journey, working together.*

*The Learning Environment: The emotional environment, the outdoor environment, the indoor environment.*

*The Wider Context: Transitions and continuity, multi-agency working, the community.*

### **Learning and Development**

*Play and Exploration: Learning through experience, adult involvement, contexts for learning.*

*Active Learning: Mental and physical involvement, decision making, personalised learning.*

*Creative and Physical Thinking: Making connections, transforming and understanding, sustained shared thinking.*

*Areas of Development and Learning.*

### **The Areas of Development and Learning Comprise:**

Personal, social and emotional development.

Communication, language and literacy development.

Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy.

Knowledge and understanding of the world.

Physical development.

Creative development.

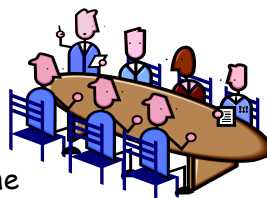


**"LEARNING THROUGH  
PLAY"**

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

### ROLE OF PARENTS

Stoke Goldington Pre-School is a registered charity that is run by the parents who form the management committee.



The committee is elected annually at an AGM in Autumn and we rely on all parents to help in some way. The committee is responsible for the management of the Pre-School and its finances along with the employment & appraisal of our five members of staff. The day-to-day running of the Pre-School, activity and curriculum planning are the responsibility of the Playleader & her team. **Pre-School cannot run without a committee and new members, with or without children attending Pre-School, are always welcome.**

We actively encourage all parents to become involved with our village Pre-School. You may well find you develop new friendships and skills yourself through helping out & getting to know other families with children of a similar age. The success and long-term future of Pre-School depends on **YOUR** support - so get involved with your child's best interests at heart!

### FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is an essential part of the running of our Pre-School and **we rely entirely on parents for this important task.** Funds raised are used to keep toys and equipment up-to-date, buy new items & pay for staff training.

### ROTAS

Our rota system requires all parents to be involved in helping with the group on a regular basis. This system helps to maintain our high adult to child ratio and allows the parent to join the staff & see their child taking an active part in the group. **Help is required 1 morning per Half Term** and is great fun for both you & your child.

## WHAT WE OFFER

We offer a varied selection of play opportunities but certain activities are always available throughout the week for children to take part in.



**SAND OR EQUIVALENT:** Enables co-operative play, sharing, co-ordination, manipulative skills, and early maths and science concepts.

**WATER:** Children find water fascinating and fun. It provides all the learning possibilities of sand and many opportunities of its own.



**MALLEABLE MATERIALS:** Examples include: clay, play-dough, cornflour, shaving foam etc. Can encourage imaginative play, language development and co-ordination.

**PAINTING AND DRAWING:** Children can paint and draw freely; this encourages imagination, creativity and helps hand control.

**HOME CORNER:** Promotes imaginative play, role play, sharing and language development.

**CLIMBING FRAME AND BALANCE BEAMS:** Promotes co-ordination, muscle control and self-confidence.

**LIBRARY:** We have a quiet area where the children have access to plenty of books.



**ALSO:** Outdoor play, puzzles, singing and story time.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:** Music, P.E. cooking and craft.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Trips, celebrating festivals, visitors and simple science.

