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Isleham Preschool's Information sheet for Parents

Thank you for your interest in Isleham Preschool. We are delighted that you are considering us for your child's early years journey.

At Isleham Preschool, we provide a caring, nurturing and stimulating environment where children can learn, play and develop confidence through a wide range of exciting experiences. We understand that every child is unique and work closely with families to ensure each child feels happy, safe and valued.

Opening Times

Isleham Preschool operates for 38 weeks of the year during school term time. We are closed during school holidays, bank holidays and designated staff training days, which will be communicated to families in advance.

Our main intake is each September; however, subject to availability, we may also offer places in January and April.

We are open Monday to Friday from **9:00am to 3:00pm**, with additional chargeable sessions available:

- **Early Morning Session:** 8:30am to 9:00am
- **Late Afternoon Session:** 3:00pm to 3:30pm

We welcome children aged **2 years and 6 months to 4 years**.

To support children's development and help them settle successfully into preschool life, we ask that children attend a minimum of **two sessions per week**, which may be either:

- One full day session (9am to 3pm), or
- Two half-day sessions (9am – 12pm) or (12pm – 3pm)

Supporting Your Child

We recognise how important these early years are in your child's development and are committed to providing the highest quality care and education.

Every child is assigned a **Key Person** who will build a strong relationship with both your child and your family. Your child's Key Person will get to know their interests, strengths and individual needs, ensuring that they feel secure, supported and ready to learn.

Our Curriculum

We tailor our early years programme around the Statutory Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. Our goal is to nurture your child's natural curiosity, helping them grow, learn, and thrive at their own pace through play-based discovery. We support your child across seven essential areas of learning to build a strong foundation for their future.

The Core Building Blocks

These primary areas develop first and are key to your child's confidence, wellbeing, and daily interactions:

- **Communication and Language:** We create a rich, talk-filled environment to help children build listening skills, understand new ideas, and express themselves confidently.
- **Physical Development:** Through active play, we help children improve their balance, fine motor skills, and coordination, while learning about healthy habits and self-care.
- **Personal, Social, and Emotional Development:** We support children in building strong friendships, exploring their emotions, and growing into confident, independent individuals.

Expanding Their Horizons

As children grow, these specific areas introduce them to essential academic and creative concepts:

- **Literacy:** We share stories, poems, and rhymes to spark a lifelong love for reading and early writing.
- **Mathematics:** Through games and everyday puzzles, children learn to explore numbers, shapes, space, and patterns.
- **Understanding the World:** We guide children to explore nature, discover different communities, and learn how things work around them.
- **Expressive Arts and Design:** We give children the freedom to paint, make music, role-play, and unleash their amazing imaginations.

Our Team

Our highly skilled and experienced team is committed to creating a safe, nurturing and inspiring environment where every child can thrive.

Leadership Team

Gemma and Amy, Preschool Co-Managers

Early Years Practitioners

Jade and Rebecca

Support Team

Louise (Office Manager), Ann (Volunteer) and Helen (Housekeeper)

A Day at Isleham Preschool

Every day is carefully planned to provide a balance of play, exploration, creativity and learning. Children have opportunities to learn both independently and alongside others, with regular access to our indoor and outdoor environments.

Explore

Children follow their interests through play-based learning, investigation and discovery.

Learn

Adult-led activities, stories, songs and group times help develop communication, early literacy and mathematical understanding.

Create

Art, music, construction and imaginative play encourage creativity and self-expression.

Connect

Children build friendships, develop confidence and learn to work and play together.

Grow

Through a wide range of experiences, children develop the independence, resilience and skills they need for their next stage of learning.

Our daily routine remains flexible, allowing staff to respond to children's interests, needs and stages of development.

Registering Your Interest

If you would like your child to attend Isleham Preschool, please complete our Waiting List Application Form and return it to us.