



July 2024 Newsletter

Farewell



We would like to wish all of our school leavers the very best of luck at their new schools. Transitions have gone really well and they all seem very excited to start. Staggered starts are being used again so if you still require childcare around their start dates, please let us know as we can help out and take/collect your child if required. Fees will apply at £4 per hour.

Health and Safety



Pergola: Please be aware that we have reported rot damage to one of the main structural supports of our pergola. The use of the ramp is temporarily out of use to the main entrance of the building. This does not impact on the safety of the building but will mean that children will not be playing adjacent to the building until the pergola is structurally safe at the far end..

Education



If your child has turned three since 1st April or will be three before 1st September, please ensure that you apply for your 30 hour code from HMRC and forward it to me with the NI number so that I can process the code.

Please remember that working parents of babies over 9 months from 1st September are also now entitled to 15 hours funding. Please apply on Childcare Choices on your HMRC account and forward your code and NI number to me as soon as possible.

Health and Safety



Food Reminder: Please ensure your child does not bring nuts, chocolate or sweets in any form to pre-school. Please ensure that sausages, tomatoes, grapes and olives are chopped lengthways in half as these items are major choking hazards for children at this age. In order to promote 'healthy eating' please only provide one yoghurt and as a maximum one sweet item such as a biscuit or cake and ensure your child has at least one item of fruit or vegetable per day.

Planning:



- Summer and Transitions
- Holidays and Transport

Sun cream:



When the weather is forecast to be hot please ensure that you apply sun cream to your child before entering pre-school. Please ensure that your child still wears shoes that cover their toes. Whilst we are using water to keep children cool outside, please provide crocs, beach or swimming shoes as we have noticed that their wellies are rubbing their legs.

Dates for Diary



Teddy Bears' Picnic TBC (weather permitting)
 Last Day of Summer Term Monday 22nd July
 Leavers' Party Monday 22nd July (no parents!)

Holiday Cover

Mon 5th Aug, Tues 6th, Thurs 8th

Mon 12th Tues 13th, Thurs 15th

Mon 19th Aug, Tues 20th, Thurs 22nd

Anyone else who would like to book on, please let me know. We are going ahead with all of these dates.

First Day of Autumn Term 2023/2024 Tuesday 3rd September.

A calendar of opening times can be found on our web site www.saplingspreschool.co.uk under 'Our Week'.

Lost Items:



It saddens me to ask parents to please be courteous to my staff when items go missing. They are all working extremely hard with unquestionable patience and deserve the same respect that we promote to the children they care for. Please remember it is very difficult to remember all of the childrens' belongings and although we are encouraging them to place items on their pegs or in their drawers it is a long process.

Thank you.

Organisation:



Due to the demand for early years' places for babies under two and the funding incentive for 15 hours childcare from 1st September 2024 we have decided to restructure our setting to accommodate the demand for spaces within each age group.

From September, our smaller room will be for babies under two and as such we do not need to divide the room enabling the under two's to have a separate area as per the statutory guidance as they will have the entire room. We have created a smaller area for those babies who are pre-walkers.

Our main room will return to being for children ages two to five and my intention is to leave this as a room where all children will have access to all of the areas. Even though our cohort for next year is very young, I am intending to have a member of staff working closely with our two year olds to ensure their safety in the larger room.

Chloe will be the Assistant Manager
Vicky will be Supervisor
Clare will be Two Year Old Leader
Louise will be Acorns' leader (running the smaller room).

Photographer Wednesday 26th June:



I would like to let you have some lovely feedback from our photographer on the day:

"As an early years' photographer with over 30 years experience, I've had many challenges and often go home exhausted. I've visited Carol at Saplings many times over the years, and I have to say, the children today were an absolute pleasure. All the children were so happy, which Carol and her team should take lots of credit for. The children's behaviour, speech and understanding were probably the best I've seen in a long time. Many pre schools and nurseries could learn a lot from whatever you're doing Carol, thank you for having me again, and I look forward to seeing you all next time.

Kind regards Mark"

Hopefully, you are all pleased with your photos. Please access the website to view them as soon as possible.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful and safe summer.

With thanks Carol and the Saplings' Pre-school Team