

Newsletter



February
2020



WELCOME

Parents/carers, please feel free to chat with staff or committee members if you need any information or have a question. We will all be happy to help or to point you towards someone who can.

NON-ATTENDANCE POLICY

Rationale; It is important that our records of children's attendance are accurately kept and regularly monitored to ensure that we can identify any potential problems and look for patterns. Here at Preschool 345 our team are alert to signs that children and learners who are missing might be at risk of abuse or neglect, and appropriate action is taken when children and learners stop attending. We are aware that attendance is not statutory, but that non-attendance could be an indicator of other concerns.

Policy statement

It is our intention to improve communication about absences. We aim to ensure as many methods of communication are available to busy parents and these are accessible through open, fair and clearly communicated procedures.

Procedures

We ask all parents to tell us if their child is going to be absent and to provide a reason, for example because they are sick.

We expect parents to call us between 8am and 10am on the first day their child is absent.

We expect parents to phone, text or email. Parents are told this when registering with the setting and reminded on termly invoices and newsletters. The telephone number for the setting is also available on the website.

Tel and Text; 0781 637 6726

E mail: manager.preschool345@hotmail.co.uk

- If we have not heard from a parent by 10am the lead practitioner of the day will contact the parent.
- We will endeavour to make phone contact with a parent in the first instance. If this is unsuccessful we will text and email.
- If there is no reply when we call the parent and the child does not arrive on the next day we will phone the first emergency contact on the child's registration documentation. This will be a discreet phone call where the emergency contact is not given any details of the child's absence, but they will be asked to let the parent know that we are trying to contact them and to ask them to make contact using the methods above.
- If we are concerned about the welfare of the child we follow our safeguarding and child protection procedures.
- We ask parents to tell us about any planned holidays in advance.
- We understand that if a child is registered to attend our setting on certain days but is regularly absent, we will be asked to demonstrate to an auditor the reasons we have claimed the Nursery Education Funding for those days. For example we may be asked to demonstrate the steps we have taken to make sure that the parents are aware of the entitlement and the attendance requirements at the setting.

This policy will come into force on 24th Feb 2020.

Show & Tell

Have you been on an exciting adventure or holiday, celebrated a special occasion or welcomed a new baby into your family? Maybe your child would like to tell their key worker all about it. We are encouraging children to bring in an object, souvenir or photo that will help them to talk about their experience with their key worker and maybe other children. They can do this at any point during the term or whenever they have something they are keen to share. We'll look forward to seeing what they share with us!



A visit from Phoebe!

Marie's baby dwarf hamster called Phoebe came for a visit, the children were excellent at following rules. They whispered when looking at her and didn't put their hands anywhere near the cage. They thought it was very funny when Phoebe hung from the cage roof, like she was on the monkey bars! Phoebe was delighted to nibble on the banana Mandy sliced up for her. We all think she would love to visit again.



WATCH OUT – COMING SOON!

This is our latest purchase that the children will soon be able to enjoy. Thanks to all your generous support at our fundraising events and of course our amazing committee and their dedicated support. We really could not do our job without you.



Mandy's Bit

Behaviour Support



It's excellent that toddlers are growing in independence but sometimes we want them to do something which isn't that appealing to them, e.g. going upstairs to bed. This can leave us feeling a little frustrated (or possibly screaming like a banshee)

Often how we phrase something can change a little one's opinion,

"If you aren't up those stairs before I count to ten!" - not many adults respond well to threats so it's probably not a good idea to try it with your offspring.

However, "I wonder if you can get right to the top of the stairs before I count up to ten?" could be viewed as a more exciting challenge?

There might still be occasions when you end up with a small person stuffed under your arm struggling, but you do need to get them upstairs!

However please try the "I wonder if...?" and see if it works.

Language tips

One of the first building blocks for language and communication is Attention and Listening Skills.

Children find it hard to listen when there is a lot of background noise, make time each day to turn off devices like TVs, tablets and phones and spend time listening to and talking to your child. Does this sound familiar

Adult: What have you been doing at preschool today? Child: Nothing.

Walking to preschool is a great time to share a conversation with your child maybe about what you think you might do while they are at preschool and small suggestions like 'do you think the dinosaurs will be out today?' may prompt your child to talk about what they might do at preschool. On the way home you can share the events of the day this also helps develop your child's memory skills talking about things they can't immediately see.

Have that special time to talk and listen.

Mandy

Mandy is our very own Language Leader. She regularly attends networking events and courses so she can keep up to date with the latest research and ideas to help develop your child's language skills. If you have any worries or questions please feel free to speak to her or your child's key person.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term holiday – Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb

Inset day – Fri 22nd May



- Our newsletter is published once every half term
- You should receive an email with a link during each half term
- Paper copies are also made available on the parent/carers information table



Dr Tom's tips

Healthy teeth

Dr Tom is one of our preschool daddies and will be offering advice in each of our newsletters



- Parents or carers should brush or supervise brushing with a fluoride toothpaste
- Teeth should be brushed twice daily
- Take your child to the dentist as soon as their first milk teeth appear then go for regular checkups
- Best snacks for children: fruit, raw vegetables, toast, rice cakes
- Best drinks for child's teeth: water or milk
- Avoid fizzy drinks as they contain large amounts of sugar
- Avoid fruit juice and sweets in large quantities and especially before bed

Paper plate Crafts

