

At Southgate Pre-School, we are here to give your child a happy and healthy start in life, by providing high quality childcare that meets your child's needs and interests. We hope this guide gives you an introduction to how we will go about this, using the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

### Your child's key person

Will work closely with you and your child, to build a positive relationship that makes him/her feel safe and secure as he/she settles in; giving him/her the confidence to participate and enjoy their time with us.

She will observe your child to ensure that the care we provide meets his/her individual needs. Your involvement is essential in this, therefore, we will keep you regularly informed of your child's progress and, in turn, the information you provide to your key person about your child's interests, development and experiences at home will help us to build on your child's development. She is here to listen and help, so please feel free to share any comments or concerns you may have.

### The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a legal framework which provides a set of requirements that we adhere to, to ensure that all children from birth to five years old who attend our provision are safe and healthy, and that they are supported to learn and develop to their full potential. The EYFS requirements cover the following.

- The *learning and development requirements* shape the activities and experiences we provide for your child.
- The *early learning goals* provide a general level of progress, covering knowledge, skills and understanding, that we will support your child to work towards having by the end of the academic year in which they turn five.
- The *assessment requirements* detail how we will monitor and plan for your child's progress.
- The *safeguarding and welfare requirements* are steps we follow to ensure your child is kept safe and has their welfare promoted.

Our policies and procedures explain in detail the steps we take to satisfy the requirements of the EYFS in our everyday practice. Please ask any member of our team to view our policies and procedures, or we can provide you with copies to take away and read. We are inspected and regulated by Ofsted on the quality of our childcare provision against the requirements of the EYFS. Please ask Sophie or any member of our team to view a copy of the EYFS or our most recent Ofsted report. Alternatively, you can download the EYFS at [www.pre-school.org.uk/whats-new/new-eyfs](http://www.pre-school.org.uk/whats-new/new-eyfs) and our Ofsted report at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report).

## How we support your child's learning and development

There are seven areas of learning and development within the EYFS through which your child will be gaining knowledge, learning skills and showing understanding. These areas form the basis of the activities we provide for your child, alongside their unique interests and needs, and enable us to plan for their progress.

### Prime areas of learning and development

- Communication and language.
- Physical development.
- Personal, social and emotional development.

### Specific areas of learning and development

- Literacy.
- Mathematics.
- Understanding the world.
- Expressive arts and design.

These areas are connected, with learning and development in each area contributing towards that of the others. Building confidence in the prime areas of learning and development is particularly important for children, as it enables them to progress well in the specific areas of learning and development. As we support your child towards achieving the early learning goals for each of these areas of learning, we aim to tailor the opportunities we provide to meet their personal learning and development needs.

## How we assess your child's progress

We observe your child throughout the day to identify their interests, how they learn and their progress in each area of learning and development. As you know your child best, we also want to hear your observations of your child; what he/she likes to do at home, as well as any significant events, achievements or concerns. This assessment of your child helps us to identify and plan their next steps. In addition to our ongoing observations, two reviews of your child's progress will be shared with you.

### ■ Progress check at age two

When your child is aged between two and three years, your key person will work with you to prepare a summary of his/her development in the prime areas of learning. The review may show that your child is progressing at a faster or slower rate in a particular area; this will generally be a normal part of your child's unique developmental journey. Where we have concerns, we will carry out further observations and may seek your consent to share the review with other professionals where we feel their support would benefit your child.

### ■ Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

As your child prepares to start school at age five, an Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) is completed. The EYFSP aims to present a well-rounded picture of your child's knowledge, understanding and abilities; providing a review of your child's progress as they come to the end of the EYFS, against the expected levels of development in the early learning goals. Due to the timing, it is likely that your child's reception class teacher will carry this out; however, the records and knowledge we have of your child will help to inform this process. On completion of your child's EYFSP, the results will be shared with you, giving you the opportunity to ask questions.

## Contact us

We aim to ensure our setting is friendly and welcoming for all families and want you to feel comfortable to approach us at any time. If you have any questions you would like to ask, please speak with your key person - (This information will be posted directly to your home address), or any member of our team. Alternatively you can contact us by phone on 01284 703181 or Email - [southgatepreschool1971@gmail.com](mailto:southgatepreschool1971@gmail.com)