



## **Welcome to Newnham St Peter's Pre-School**

**Our pre-school provides a safe, well-supervised, friendly, and stimulating environment for children to learn, explore and develop through play.**

Our pre-school offers places to children aged 3 years to school age. Pre-school children form part of our EYFS unit, alongside Acorns class (reception, and year 1 children) based in the infants' area. Pre-school children are included in many aspects of the school day and love:

- Our fun and stimulating early years outdoor area with our mud kitchen, climbing structure, tunnel and digging pit.
- Stories, songs and play time
- Exploring our open-ended resources
- Arts, crafts and messy play
- Outdoor learning in our on-site Forest school
- Visiting the school library.

Each day is a new and exciting adventure. Children learn through a variety of open-ended and adult-led activities, with support, encouragement & suitable challenges.

### **Sessions**

We are open Monday to Friday during term-time offering full day sessions (09:00 to 15:00) or half-day sessions (09:00 to 12:00; 12:00 to 15:00).

### **Drop off and collection:**

- For a full day session: Please enter and exit via the black gate, located in the park. A member of staff will be on duty at the Acorns class gate at 9am and 3pm.
- For a morning session: 9am drop off at the Acorns class gate, pick up at midday from the school office.
- For an afternoon session: Drop off at midday at the school office, pick up at 3pm at the Acorns class gate.

**NB: No vehicles are permitted in the school car park.**

### **Snacks, Lunch and Drinks**

Please provide a **clearly named** drinks bottle, filled with water for your child's session. Fresh drinking water is available to refill your child's bottle. Milk is also available at snack time along with a piece of fresh fruit &/or veg. If you wish to provide your own snack, please ensure this is fruit or veg only.

If your child attends all day, or for the afternoon session, please provide a healthy lunch box and ensure your child's lunch bag is clearly named. **Please cut grapes, cherry tomatoes, sausages etc. in half/quarters, lengthways.**



**Newnham St Peter's C of E School**  
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Please note: due to allergies our school is a nut free zone – please ensure no nuts or products containing nuts such as peanut butter and oat /nut-based bars are included in your child's lunch box.

**Below is an extract from Public Health website for a helpful guide, as to what we encourage to see in your child's lunch box:**

- A good portion of starchy food, for example wholemeal roll or bread, wraps, pitta pocket, pasta or rice salad.
- Plenty of fruit and vegetables, for example an apple, satsuma, handful of cherry tomatoes or carrot sticks, mini-can of fruit chunks in natural juice or a small box of raisins.
- A drink of semi-skimmed milk or a portion of dairy food, for example individual cheese portion or pot of yogurt.
- A portion of lean meat, fish, eggs or beans, for example ham, chicken, beef, tuna, egg or hummus.
- A drink, for example, unsweetened fruit juice, semi-skimmed milk or water.

### **Communication Book**

A communication book will be given for parents/carers and staff to communicate. The communication book is read daily by a member of staff and sent home at the end of each session. Please use this for any small matters such as, sleepless nights, minor concerns, minor injuries, out of pre-school achievements, exciting news or to let us know who is collecting your child (if it isn't your child's usual person collecting). If you have any urgent matters, please speak to a member of the pre-school team or pop to the School office. Staff will also use this book to communicate 'low priority' information. There is always time for brief informal chats at the beginning and end of each session or appointment for more in-depth conversations can be made.

### **Illness / Medication**

We follow the public health 'Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings'. We impose a strict policy with sickness and diarrhea of 48-hours after symptoms have stopped. Some illnesses do not exclude but we do ask that children are not sent into pre-school if they are too poorly to take part in the day. If you are unsure if there is an exclusion period for an illness, please see the Public Health guidance link below or contact the school office to enquire.

### **Public Health Guidance link:**

[https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance\\_on\\_infection\\_control\\_in%20schools\\_poster.pdf](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf)



**If your child is absent for any reason, please inform the school office as soon as possible.  
[admin@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk)**

If your child becomes ill at pre-school, staff will make a judgement and if necessary, will contact parent/s or one of your emergency contacts to collect.

**Medication:**

Medication can be administered by school staff but, requires a medical form. Please ask at the school office.

**Allergies:**

Please ensure any known allergies are recorded on your registration form and discussed with a member of staff.

**Accidents:**

If your child is involved in an accident at home, we require you to complete a pre-existing accident form.

Any accidents that happen during pre-school will receive first aid treatment by a qualified first aider and an accident form will be completed, which you will receive a copy of.

**Special Educational Needs**

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCo), Kirsty Harbin, ensures that the special educational needs of children are met. We work closely with parents and have access to outside agencies, who can make their expertise available to all. Parents are fully informed, consulted and involved in all programmes of support.

**Ofsted**

The last Ofsted inspection was prior to the merge with Newnham St Peter's School on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 where Newnham Early Birds Pre-School was rated a **GOOD** provider. All future Ofsted inspections for Pre-School, will be combined with the Newnham St Peter's School inspections.

**Introducing the EYFS – A Parent's Guide**

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) sets out the learning and development stages for children from birth to five years.

It includes –

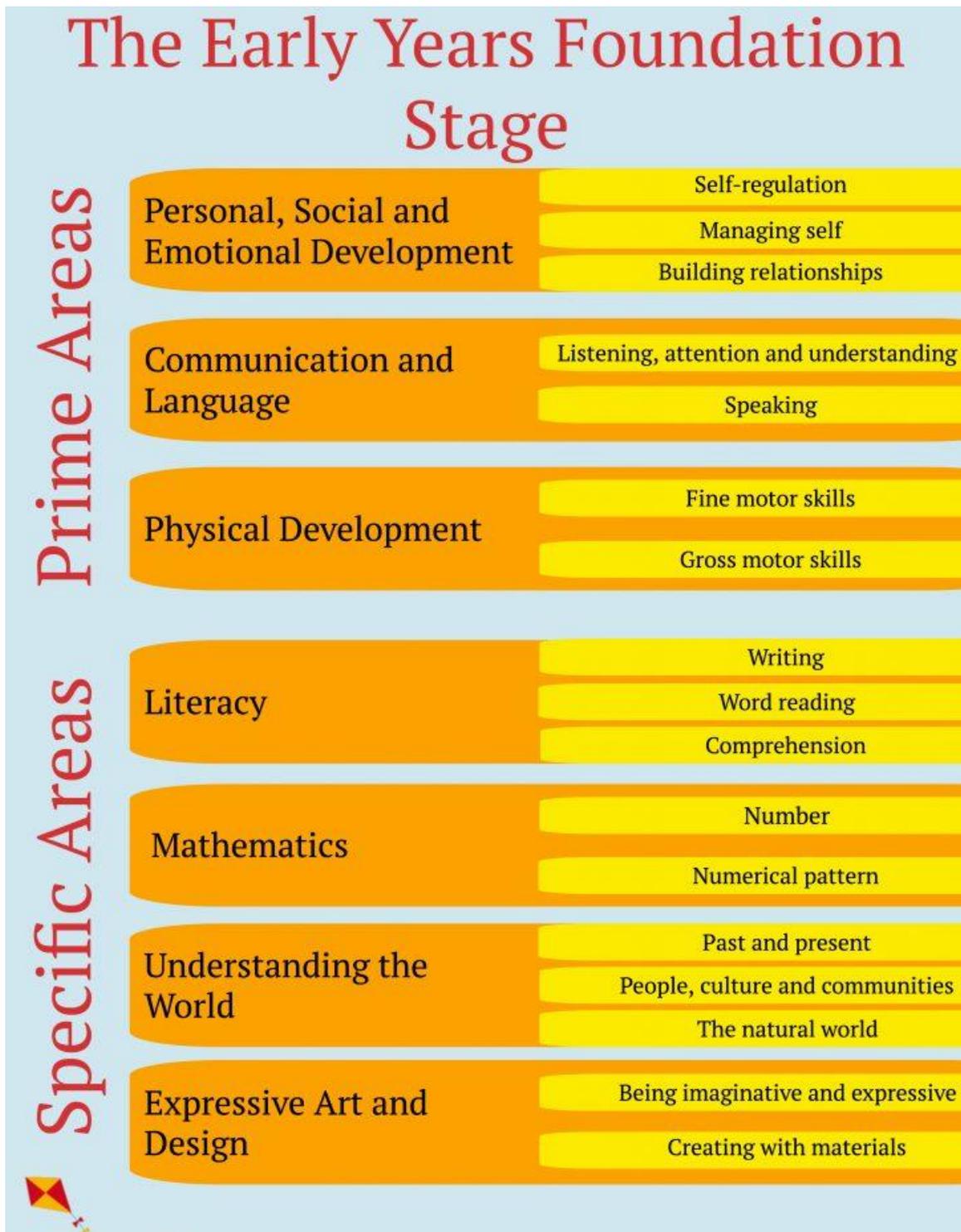
- The legal welfare requirements that we must follow to keep your child safe
- The seven areas of learning and development, which we use to guide your child's play and activities they take part in
- Assessments that will tell you about your child's progress through the EYFS
- Expected levels that your child should reach at age 5, usually the end of the reception year. These are called 'Early Learning Goals'.

The EYFS explains our statutory responsibility to ensure your child is supported in their development. Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through seven areas. These areas are split into three prime areas and four specific areas.



Children should mostly develop the three prime areas first, as they are the most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in specific areas – but they are all important and interconnected.

This image lists each area of learning, with its Early Learning Goals.





# Newnham St Peter's C of E School

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As practitioners, we observe how children learn and support them in developing skills in all of these areas of learning.

During play sessions, we provide a range of exciting, educational and stimulating activities and experiences to support children's development in a playful way. Adults support the children using a 'scaffolding' approach - this means that they will provide lots of support and guidance initially when children are learning new skills or tackling new activities, but then, as the child's knowledge and skill grows, they will gradually withdraw the level of support to enable the children to become capable, independent learners.

### **Assessments and Planning**

In early years settings we use a combination of formative and summative assessments in respect of your child's development. Key adults will observe the children engaged in a variety of activities, both child-initiated and adult-led, in order to make judgements about their stages of development within the different areas of the EYFS Framework.

The adults use these observations and assessments to plan for your child's 'next steps' in learning, which we facilitate through a variety of child and adult led activities and other experiences.

Parents/carers will be invited in, periodically, to discuss their child's development.

### **Clothing**

Please bear in mind that in line with the EYFS curriculum, we actively encourage messy play that may include using sand, water, mud, paint, glue and other items – as such please do not send your child to pre-school in their best clothes. Although, we do ask the children to wear protective clothing for messy play, they will inevitably at times get paint, mud, water etc on their clothes.

**We love to get outdoors in all weathers, and enjoy visiting the 'Forest School' area, so wellies and waterproof coats are a must. These are to be kept at pre-school all year round!**

**Cold Weather:** Warm, waterproof coats, hats, gloves and scarves are essential.

**Warmer Weather:** Light, waterproof coats, sunhats. **PLEASE APPLY SUNCREAM BEFORE THE SESSION.**

### **Funding**

All 3 year olds are entitled to 15 hours free childcare the term after their third birthday (September, January & April)

Some working families are entitled to 30 hours free childcare. To check eligibility criteria and to apply please visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

### **Fees**

All non-funded hours are chargeable at £4.15ph.

Some working families are entitled to Tax-Free Childcare, for every £8 the government pay £2. To check eligibility criteria and to apply please visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>



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### **New Starters**

Enrolling your child in an early years provision can be an emotional and anxious time. To help ease any worries, meet the staff and familiarise yourself with Newnham St Peter's school we offer a school visit to meet the Head and staff in Acorns class after school and a free taster session (3 hours) to all our children.

We understand that some children can find settling into nursery difficult and that children settle into a new environment in lots of different ways and timescales. We advise discussing a settling in programme with a member of the Acorns class team, who will happily offer a more flexible approach.

Leaving when your child is upset can be upsetting for you, however, children often calm down once their parents/carers have left. Rest assured if your child does not settle or becomes unsettled during their session and staff are unable to comfort them, a member of staff will give you a call to discuss/arrange collection.

**Attending Newnham St Peter's pre-school gives children an excellent foundation in helping them become school ready. With an early introduction to the school premises, daily routines and staff, this will help support their transition into reception.**

**Please be aware, attending Newnham St Peter's pre-school does not guarantee your child a place at the school. School applications will need to be submitted via Gloucestershire County Council, who allocate places based on the admissions process. More information on the admissions process can be found on our website.**

### **Useful Info**

Newnham St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Station Road, Newnham, Gloucestershire, GL14 1AT

**School Office: 01594 516208**

Head Teacher – Mr. Phillips

EYFS Lead/Acorns Class Teacher – Mrs. Robinson

Early Years Team – Miss. Handscombe

Early Years Team – Mrs. Bridgwood

Early Years Team – Ms. Murdock

Pre-School Administrator – Mrs. Young - [earlybirds@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:earlybirds@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk)

Business Administrator – Mrs. Tetlow [admin@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk)

Website - <http://www.newnhamstpetersschool.org.uk>

**Facebook – Please like our page, Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School and Pre-school**