

**EVERTOTS** Pre-school first opened its doors on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and just one year on, in October 2011 was judged outstanding by Ofsted. We are now coming to the end of our fourth year of providing first-quality early years education and care.



Judged Outstanding by Ofsted in October 2011.

### **About the Pre-School**

This 15 place pre-school offers daily sessions for children from the term of their third birthday. Our high staff to child ratio allows for a more supportive environment tailored to the individual needs of each child. Qualified, experienced staff will work together with parents and carers to ensure that every child not only achieves, but also enjoys their time at the Evertots Pre-school.

All sessions are child-led which means that children are able to develop and learn at their own pace, by exploring things that interest and excite them. An outdoor learning environment, essential to the healthy development of young children is freely available, along with a range of stimulating resources and challenging activities which will help children to discover and learn while they play.

## **High expectations**

Children have been central to the way the pre-school has moved forward, which is how it should be. Our activities fully reflect their interests, abilities and stages of development. Each child is an individual, and we have worked hard to ensure this is considered in all areas of our planning. This is not to say that children have it all their own way! We have high expectations of every child, and encourage independence in daily routines, such as putting on their own coats for outside play, hand-washing and tidying away.

## **Learning through Play**

As experienced early years' practitioners, we appreciate that children learn best while playing. It is our responsibility to ensure that they have the right resources at the right time to meet their full potential.

While recognising that many children will not be ready to start their formal learning until much later, we also know that some children start to explore the written word at an early age. We will help support this development at the appropriate time, using a range of media including sand, cornflour, chunky chinks, large paintbrushes, etc - and of course pencils and paper!

## **Where are we?**

The Pre-school is situated within Everton Lower School, a beautiful Victorian building which has served the community since 1837. Being within a school, we have access to a wide range of expertise and resources - including a heated swimming pool, which has been particularly popular, allowing children to swim daily (British Weather permitting!).

The transition into full-time education can be a difficult time for children and their parents. Being situated within the main school, takes away much of the worry, making the move into 'Big School' seamless. And even if your child attends a different Lower School, you can be certain that they will be well practiced in the daily routines of school life.

## Admission Criteria

Children may start to attend during the term of their third birthday, but this must be privately financed. Children receive fifteen hours' of free childcare from the term following their third birthday. This is not as confusing as it sounds, and staff are happy to advise!

Attendance at Evertots Pre-School does not guarantee a place within Everton Lower School. Parents must apply for a place within main school through the local authority, using the defined admissions criteria. For more information on this, please look at the Central Bedfordshire website - [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).

## Opening Times

Pre-school sessions run daily during term-term, as follows:

	Morning	Lunch Club	Afternoon
Monday	9.00- 12 noon	12.00 - 1.00 pm	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Tuesday	9.00 - 12 noon	12.00 - 1.00 pm	
Wednesday	9.00 - 12 noon	12.00 - 1.00 pm	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Thursday	9.00 - 12 noon	12.00 - 1.15 pm	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Friday	9.00 - 12 noon	12.00 - 1.00 pm	

## Costs

For those who have not entitled to free childcare, we charge £3.70 per hour. We will normally invoice half-termly, but are happy to make other arrangements.

## Lunch Club

Our Lunch Club runs daily, from 12 noon - 1.00 pm, allowing you to extend the morning session. School meals are available at a small charge (currently £2 per day), for those wishing to their child to enjoy a hot midday meal. A seasonal menu is available each term to ensure you that know what is on offer. You are, of course, free to provide your own packed lunch.

## SnackTime

Being recipients of the 'Healthy Schools Award', children are able to choose from a seasonal selection of fruits and vegetables. We make snack available throughout the session to ensure that they are able to eat and drink when they need to. This ensures that we do not interrupt their play, while encouraging a sense of independence.

**Staff**

Mrs Hayley Smith BA (Hons), EYP

Mrs Sandra Mercer, Level 3

Miss Annie Davies, Level 2 and working towards Level 3

**Why not call in to find out more?**

Visits to Evertots are actively encouraged for parents and carers looking for a smaller, supportive learning environment. For more information about the Pre-school or to arrange a visit, please contact the Pre-school leader, Hayley Smith on 01767 680534 or email [HSmith@evertonlowerschool.org.uk](mailto:HSmith@evertonlowerschool.org.uk)

Please note that Evertots is currently full from September 2014. However, if you would like to put your child's name on the waiting list, you are very welcome to do so by calling or e-mailing, using the above contact details. We are currently taking names for the 2015/16 school year.