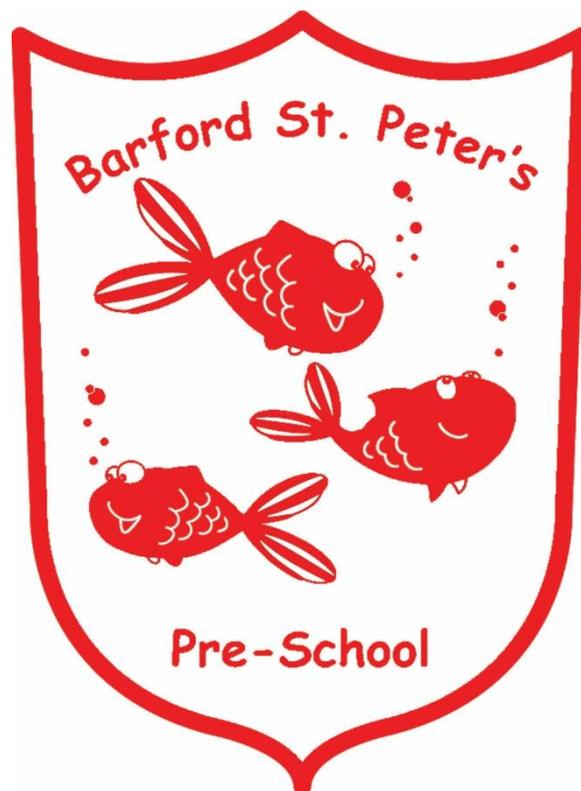


Barford St. Peter's

Pre-school



'Outstanding teaching in the early years results in the children making excellent progress. All adults in Nursery and Reception work together to create a strong and effective team.'

OFSTED 2014

Parent Information Booklet

Introduction

Welcome to Barford St. Peter's Pre-school. We hope that this booklet will provide all the information that you need as your child starts Barford St. Peter's Pre School. We are housed in a purpose built Foundation Stage Unit that is part of Barford St. Peter's C.E. Primary School in the village of Barford. Barford St. Peter's School was judged to be good overall by Ofsted in November 2014 and the Early Years provision was judged to be outstanding. We have capacity for 16 places each session and take children from the age of three. Please see our admissions policy for further details.

We look forward to welcoming your child into our school community and working in partnership with you to ensure that their life at Barford St. Peter's Pre-school proves to be a very happy, rewarding and successful experience. We value the role that parents play in the education of their child and firmly believe that children learn and develop when there is a strong partnership between Pre-school and parents and carers.

You are always welcome in Pre-school to chat, discuss anxieties, help with activities or offer particular expertise, whatever it may be. A safeguarding DBS disclosure check is required for parent volunteers, the school office will be able to help you with this. We have a booking sheet in the cloakroom for you to sign up to help and always welcome any help in Pre-school.

Starting at Pre-school

Having booked your child's place at Barford St. Peter's Pre School, you will receive a letter the term before your child starts. This will include the date your child is due to join us and details of the sessions you have booked. You will also be invited to book a taster session for your child a few weeks before they start. The session lasts for an hour and is an opportunity for you and your child to meet their key worker and find out any information you need. This is also an opportunity for the key worker to find out about your child's likes and dislikes and other information about your child, such as allergies, that we might need to know.



Our Day

We offer morning, afternoon and all day sessions depending upon your child's needs and availability of sessions.

Morning sessions

Morning sessions start at 9am and end at midday. At the beginning of the morning session parents are encouraged to bring in their child and choose an activity with them and then leave when they are settled and happy. When the session ends at 12.00 you can collect your child from the Pre-school entrance where they will be handed over to you by one of the Pre-school staff.

Afternoon sessions

Afternoon sessions start at 12.15pm and end at 3.15pm. At the beginning of the afternoon session parents are welcome to come in and help to settle their child at the lunch table. When the session ends at 3.15pm you can collect your child from the Pre-school entrance where they will be handed over to you by one of the Pre-school staff.

All day sessions

These start at 9am and finish at 3.15pm. Your child will have lunch at 12.15pm.

Please inform staff if someone other than yourself is collecting your child.



Lunches

Children who attend for a whole day or an afternoon session are able to have a hot dinner or bring their own sandwich lunch. The lunches are cooked at school and are very popular with Pre-school children and are eaten in the Foundation Unit. We have a 3 week cycle of lunches and you will be given the menus so that you can choose what your child would like to eat.

Policies

We have a number of policies that are designed to offer your child a safe, educational and rewarding experience whilst here at Barford St Peter's Pre-school. As the Pre-school is under the governance of the school these are school policies and many can be found on the school website or do feel free to request copies at any time.

What does my child need?

We encourage all children to wear our uniform which consists of;

- Red Barford Sweatshirt which can be bought online (Tesco online uniform) or through Rascals at 1 Coten End in Warwick.
- Dark coloured trousers or jogging bottoms
- Waterproof coat
- Wellington boots in a labelled bag that can be left on your child's coat peg
- Water bottle
- Sunhat in the summer
- A change of clothes (in a labelled bag) just in case of accidents
- A book bag can be purchased from Pre-school which can be used for letters and books that your child chooses to take home to share

Please ensure that all items of clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Communication

'There is an excellent partnership with parents, who are encouraged to attend the 'stay and play' sessions held throughout the term. Parental attendance is frequently 100%.' OFSTED 2014

The Key Person System is in place to ensure that each child is cared for and treated as an individual. Each member of staff has a small group of children who they will monitor, observe and keep records for, during their time at Pre-School. This is the person who parents can liaise with and discuss any concerns or achievements as required.

Throughout your child's time in Pre-school you will receive a variety of communications to keep you up to date with what your child is doing at Pre-school. You will receive a letter each half term to give you information about the activities planned. Information is available in the school newsletter as Pre-school is very much part of the wider school activities.

You will also be given information about your child's progress. Your child will have a Learning Journal that will be a record of their achievements through observations of their play, photographs and examples of their own activities such as mark making or artwork. Learning Journals will also include a termly summary of their achievements in key areas of the curriculum and report what stage of development they are at. Your contributions to their Home Learning Journals are very welcome and you can look at them or take them home at any time.

We also run a Stay and Play session each half term when you can come in and spend some time with your child to really see what they do! In the Spring term all parents will be invited to come in and formally discuss their child's progress with their key worker. Key workers are always available at the beginning or end of each session if you wish to discuss anything or have any concerns.



Curriculum

Once your child has reached the age to receive funded nursery education, which is the term following their 3rd birthday, we offer 15 hours of funding so he/she is entitled to a maximum of five free sessions per week, during school term times until commencement of compulsory education. This is subject to availability of places. More details can be obtained at the school office.

Barford St. Peter's Pre-school supports all children in developing at their own pace. Our Key Worker system enables us to observe, evaluate and ensure a planned curriculum that meets the needs of each individual child. We realise the importance for children to have rich and stimulating experiences within the learning environment and provide many opportunities for the children to explore, experiment, plan and make decisions, therefore enabling them to learn and develop.

'Children are given many opportunities to demonstrate they are confident and enthusiastic when left alone to explore, make their own discoveries and solve problems.' OFSTED 2014

We organise our sessions so that the children can choose from, and work at, a range of activities and, in doing so, build up their ability to select and work through a task to its completion. The children are also helped and encouraged to take part in adult-led small and large group activities which introduce them to new experiences and help them to gain new skills, as well as helping them to learn to work with others. Outdoor activities contribute to children's health and well-being, their physical development and their knowledge of the world around them. The children have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to take part in both indoor and outdoor activities. The setting caters for children's individual needs for rest and quiet activities during the day.



The Early Years Foundation Stage

Every child deserves the best possible start in life to fulfil their potential. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right, and provides the foundation for children to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the framework that provides this.

Below lists the education programme we follow for each area of learning:-

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children are provided with experiences and support to help develop a positive sense of themselves and others, social skills and a positive disposition to learn.

Physical Development

The physical development is encouraged through opportunities for them to be active and interactive and to improve their skills of co-ordination, control, manipulation and movement. They are supported in using all of their senses to learn about the world around them and to make connections between new information and what they already know. They are supported in developing and understanding the importance of physical activity and healthy choices in relation to food.

Communication and Language

Children's learning and competence in speaking, understanding, listening and attention is supported and extended.

Literacy

Opportunities are provided to encourage and support reading and writing.

Mathematics

Children are provided with opportunities to practise and extend their skills in this area and to gain confidence and competence in their use.

Understanding the World

Children are supported to help them make sense of the world. They are offered opportunities to use a range of tools safely, encounter creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments and real-life situations, undertake practical 'experiments' and work with a range of materials.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children are provided with opportunities to explore and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through art, music, movement, dance, imaginative and role-play activities, mathematics and design and technology.



The curriculum is planned to encourage children:

- to engage in co-operative play
- to engage in both child and adult-led activities
- to apply knowledge, skills, attitudes and practical abilities that will become a firm foundation for future learning and a resource from which further development will draw meaning
- to move towards acquiring a reasoned set of attitudes, behaviour and values, including a respect for other children's race and culture
- to develop a good self-image, self-motivation and independence
- to look outside themselves, to begin to appreciate other points of view and to represent objects and situations in their play.
- to appreciate creative thought and action through art, music, drama and dance and to experience some personal achievement in these.
- to develop personal agility, physical co-ordination and confidence in movement
- to develop an enjoyment and appreciation of the literature, language and music of other cultures as well as their own.
- to develop an awareness of the total environment of the school and its community and encourage the development of investigation, observation and some awareness of cause and effect.



Snacks

Your child is eligible for free milk and a piece of fruit each day. We have a self- service snack table in the unit where the children are able to eat their fruit and have milk when they wish. Children are encouraged to drink plenty of water and your child should bring a small, named water bottle each day.

Absences

If your child is unwell it would be helpful if you would ring school and let us know. Children must stay at home for 48 hours following a case of diarrhoea and vomiting. We will contact you if your child becomes unwell whilst at Pre-school. Please let us know any changes in your contact details so that we can contact you quickly when we need to.

Friends of the School

All parents are automatically members of F.A.B.S. - Friends of Barford St. Peter's School. Our present committee works very hard to organise social, educational and fund raising activities. Events organised benefit all children and F.A.B.S. would welcome additional support.

Further information

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tel (school office): 01926 624244

Email: admin3587@welearn365.com

School website: www.barfordschool.org

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet. We look forward to the opportunity to show you why Barford St. Peter's Pre-school is a special place where we provide a happy, caring and nurturing environment so that children can develop and flourish and reach their true potential.

Madeleine Garner
Early Years Leader

