



Norton Little Learners Pre-school

Information pack

2020/2021



Strive Think Act Respect Shine

Norton Little Learners Vision - STARS

S

Strive to nurture and enrich each individual's development through play.

T

To express their ideas through creative and critical thinking.

A

Aiming to enter reception with the necessary skills to promote lifelong learning.

R

Role play everyday experiences and to learn empathy and how to care for each other.

S

Spontaneous learning in a safe and stimulating environment





A Little bit about us.....



Norton Little Learners provides a safe, stimulating and fun environment for children from 2 years, 9 months until 4 years old. With a real passion for Early Years, the staff share the same aim of wanting the children to build lots of happy, positive memories whilst building the love of learning. Through a mixture of child initiated and adult planned activities, we ensure the children are well supported to develop and reach their goals.

The setting provides a smooth transition for those going into the reception class; our reception teacher often joins us for story time, we join in with the whole school assemblies, have older children read to us and we go to Open the Book assemblies. We also join the infants for some activities such as play time Welly Wednesday.

In Little Learners we operate a key person system where each child is allocated a staff member to oversee the journals and assessments. We pride ourselves on the close relationships we build with the families and understand the importance of working together to best support the child's development. Each child has a learning journey; this is shared with parents/carers regularly. Regular assessments are carried out within the setting and reports are shared with parents at parents evenings three times a year (Nov, Feb and June). We will invite you to join us at open days and occasions throughout the year to share what we do.



Our environment.....



Our current room is within the school and we make the most of all the space. We have free-flow into an outside space which is connected to the playground. Being within the school means we see school staff and children, giving us a strong connection with everyone else and helping with transitions if your child was to attend Norton Primary School. The children love exploring all the toys, and we change the resources we have out each week according to our weekly theme and the children's interest.



Our learning...



Activities are all play based following the children's interests and planned to incorporate the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. Staff have regular planning meetings and will include the children's ideas and feedback from home.

Early learning goals

Personal Social and Emotional Development: Making relationships, self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviour.

Communication and Language: listening and attention, understanding, and speaking.

Physical Development: moving and handling, health and self-care.

Mathematics: numbers, shape, space and measure

Literacy: reading and writing

Expressive Art and Design: exploring and using media and material, being imaginative

Characteristics of effective learning

Playing and Exploring: finding out and exploring, playing with what they know, being willing to 'have a go'.

Active Learning - Motivation: being involved and concentrating, keep trying and enjoying achieving what they set out to do.

Creating and Thinking Critically - thinking: having their own ideas, making links and choosing ways to do things.



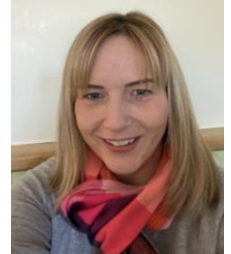


Meet the staff.....

Leah Powell - Pre-School Lead

I started working in early years when my son was little as a childminders assistant and soon realised that I loved working with young children. From there I went on to become a childminder myself but still felt that there was so much to learn so I enrolled in university as a mature student to do a foundation degree in early childhood studies which I am currently completing. I have also managed a committee run playgroup in Abbeydale which has taught me a lot about how to work with parents and children together. I am very excited about being a part of the Little Learners at Norton School as I will love seeing how the children develop past the preschool years.

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my own two children, going on holiday and trying to relax when I do get a spare minute.



Fionn Humphris - Early Years Educator

Hello, my name is Fionn (but you can call me Fi!) I have just completed my HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) and I am currently working in Little Learners every morning, and supporting a child 1:1 in reception every afternoon. I have worked in most classes throughout the school, but my favourite is definitely early years. Reception and pre-school are so much fun, always diverse and each day is different this is definitely where I feel most at home! Outside of school I enjoy spending time with friends and family, occasionally I will drive a digger or dumper for my dad! I love to sing and play my guitar and I enjoy exploring the countryside. You may also find me curled up with a good book and some white chocolate!!



Laura Emmerson - Early Years Educator

I started working as a volunteer teaching assistant in September 2019, while completing my level 2 STLS course and got signed off this May. I was fortunate enough to be offered a permanent position with team Norton in October and have loved every second of it! I was given the opportunity to work in Little Learners at the beginning of this year and have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the children use their imagination and initiative to problem solve. I can't wait for September, when I'll be working in Little Learners three afternoons a week and be part of their journey for school readiness. In my spare time I love to be with my own two children (there's never a dull moment!), yoga and rebounding classes. I have also just started to learn to play the piano.





Photos of our setting...



We love our room with the free flow, we spend a lot of time outside and love exploring the field too. We even have a tent!



Whatever the activity or experience we always get stuck in! We love having visitors and each day is totally different to the next.





2019 Testimonials...

(Please note any children's names have been removed)

"I particularly like the fact that my child is so happy, secure and thriving. I think that speaks volumes. But I also like that staff are so approachable, friendly, child centred and obviously love the job!"

"I particularly like the staff - they could be based in the local smelly tip and they would still love it at LL."

"My child loves coming to NLL he gets so excited and doesn't want to have days off which is lovely to know he is happy"

"I like that NLL communicate a lot with the school it's not going to be a shock to start school."

"Lovely, friendly staff who bring out the best in the children. I love the variety of activities and especially their time spent outdoors."

"My child is happy, settled and secure at NLL. Any problems have been identified and acted upon quickly and sensitively."

"Oh Little Learners how we love you all! My child is happiest on a 'school day'. The activities you offer and the opportunities the children get to embrace being 3 years old is totally amazing!! Thank you."

"My child really loves Little Learners and asks if she can go every day... even weekends!"

"Thank you for making my child feel so welcome, he loves coming to Little Learners."

"My child loves NLL and all the children in there. She has come on so well with her learning. Thanks girls!"

"We are extremely pleased with how our child has fitted into LL and also how she has come out of her shell a lot more than she had at her previous nursery!"

"My child is learning brilliantly in LL and loves the sessions. Thank you."



Information...



Pricing policy

Our sessions run Monday to Friday (term time only) between;

9am-12am Monday to Friday.

12noon-3pm Monday to Friday

9am - 3pm Monday to Friday

Costs:

- Full day: £30.65
- Session: £15.90
- Dinner hour: £5.50
- Late fee: £3.47 per 15 minutes.
- Snack: 25p per day

Invoices are sent out 6 times a year, within the first couple of weeks of each term.

Prices will be reviewed September 2020 for January 2021

Funding - Free for 3 & 4

Norton Little Learners is registered to take part in the Free for 3&4 Funding scheme. A parent/carers declaration form will be given out at the beginning of the autumn, spring and summer terms. This is to be completed and returned to school by the required date to ensure funding is received. Failure to return the completed form by the date required may incur charges.

Lunches

We follow the schools policy on healthy eating and only allow water in their bottles in preschool.

You are welcome to bring in a packed lunch for your child. Hot dinners are available at a charge of £2.32. There is a choice of 3 meals each day. If you would like your child to have a hot dinner please tick off the dinner register when you sign your child in, or phone in the order before 9:15am if your child is in for the afternoon session.

Please note, if no payment is received we will be unable to order a hot meal for your child.

Communication

Little Learners use the school Dojo to communicate with parents and for parents/carers to communicate with staff. Dojo is also used to upload pictures of our daily fun. Parents/carers will be sent paperwork to set up an account when their child starts. The Dojo app is free to download.

Teachers2Parents is a texting service that is used by staff on some occasions.

Information can also be found on the schools website:

<https://www.norton.gloucs.sch.uk/website>

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority of Norton Little Learners. Please ensure you sign your child in and out on the register at each session. Should you be unable to collect your child and you have arranged for someone else to collect them, please inform us when you drop off or call the school office with the person's name and password that should be given when collecting the child.

Clothing

We ask that your children wear practical clothing that may get muddy or covered in paint! Please bring in a spare set of clothing to each session. We spend a lot of time outside and ask that weather appropriate protection is brought in every day. (Wellington boots, a water proof coat, gloves, hats, sun hats, sun cream). Please also supply a named water bottle that can be left at the setting.

Illness

If your child is unwell and unable to attend Little Learners, please ring the school office (01452 730531) before 9:30am. Please be considerate when deciding if your child should be brought in if unwell, a good indication they should stay at home if Calpol is needed. If you are unsure of incubation period of contagious illnesses (such as Chicken pox) please contact us for guidance.

If your child has a sickness and/or diarrhoea our policy in preschool is that they should be kept off for 48hours after the last time they were ill.

Medicine

If your child requires medication you are welcome to come in at the required time to administer the medication yourself. If you would like one of the staff to administer medicine to your child, please complete the medicine form at the school office and leave the medicine with the staff who will secure it in a locked cabinet.

Access

Access into Little Learners in the mornings is via the school playground gate which is opened at 8.45am and closed at 9am. If you arrive late, then please enter the main school via the front reception. Access to collect your child will be from the school playground gate at 12pm and 3pm.

Extended Services

The school runs a before and after school club (chargeable) which can be used by children attending Little Learners. See appendix A for more information.

GDPR

We value your right to choose what we do with any personal information that we hold. We will ask you to complete a form at registration that expresses your wishes regarding sharing of photos or information in learning journals, classroom displays or on the school website. For any additional GDPR needs throughout the school year, we will ensure you are fully informed and aware.

Policies

All policies are listed on the school website and are updated regularly.

APPENDIX A

The before and after school club is available to children attending Norton Little Learners. If this is something you require, please download a booking form from the school website or a paper copy from the school office.

Terms and Conditions for the Before and After School Clubs

In order that we can provide a safe and well organised club there are a few important points that **MUST** be adhered to:

- At the end of the prior term you must inform the school of the sessions your child will be attending for the following term by completing a booking form (download from the website or collect from the school office).
- The only exception to this is an emergency booking whereby you **MUST** phone the school at your earliest convenience. Please note: We cannot guarantee the after school facility until 5:30pm for emergency bookings.
- If you wish to cancel a pre-booked session, please notify the school by letter or email (admin@norton.gloucs.sch.uk) 24 hours' before.
- A late fee of £5 will be charged from either 5pm or 5:30pm (depending on what you have booked) for each 15 minutes thereafter. ***If you are late on 3 occasions within a school year, the after school club will no longer be available for your child/ren for the remainder of that year.***
- Children attending a school run club will be taken to the After School Club when their club finishes. The whole session cost still applies.
- Registration of children will be similar to that of the school register - if your child is unable to attend, we must know as soon as possible as safety is of utmost importance.
- Please sign your child in school for the before school club.
- Please sign your child out of the after school club.
- The school behaviour expectations and the school policy still apply.

Age

- 2yrs 9 months – 11 years old children who are attending Norton Primary School or Norton Little learners.

Hours

- Before School - 8:00am until 8:45am, Monday to Friday (includes breakfast)
- After School - 3:15pm until 5:30pm, Monday and Thursday
- 3:15pm until 5pm, Tuesday and Wednesday

Charges

- Before School Club -- £1.30 per child per session
- After School Club until 5pm -- £4.08 per child per session
- After School Club until 5:30pm -- £5.05 per child per session
- Late Fee -- £5 per 15 minutes

Invoice

- Payment is required on receipt of an invoice. Invoices will be sent out at the end of each short term for that term.

We pride ourselves on offering extended services whilst striving to keep our prices low, as this remains a non-profit making service.