



Norton Little Learners Pre-school Information pack 2017/2018



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 and stimulating 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 learn and develop whilst having lots of fun! 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; we join the whole school assemblies, have older children read to us in the library and have sports sessions with the sports coach. We also join the infants for some activities such as play time and Welly Wednesday. Also in the summer term we eat our lunch with the school in the dinner hall.

In Little Learners we understand the importance of working closely with the children's parents/carers to best support their development. For example, we have monthly 'open afternoons' where family members are welcome to come in and play. Each child has their own communication diary and learning journey, this is shared with parents/carers and we welcome any input. Regular assessments are carried out within the setting and shared with parents/carers to ensure we are all working together towards the same goals.





Activities are planned based around the Early Years Foundation stage framework, including the early learning goals and characteristics of effective learning:



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.....



Natalie – Pre-school Manager

Hello, Natalie here!! After a career in Crop Inspection, my passion for early years began when I had my two, much longed for and very gorgeous sons. I immediately swapped driving tractors to adventures involving the magical world of Forest School, mud kitchens, messy play, fairies, elves and wonderful stories. Passion for early years has become a career for more years than I like to admit! I qualified as a Forest School leader in 2012 and graduated as a mature student (in age not personality) with honours in Early Years Childhood Studies with Early Years Teacher Status. I have previously managed settings and Forest Schools and am delighted that in 2018, I have now found 'my forever home' at Norton C of E School. What a special place it is!



I live on a farm with my husband, two teenage sons and a very naughty golden retriever called Amber.

Lois – Play Assistant

Hi! My name is Lois and I am Play Assistant within the Little Learners team and I have achieved my level 2 & 3 NVQ in childcare. I have had the opportunity to work in three other playgroups as a volunteer and this has helped me develop my passion for working with children. I also have a 5 year old god-daughter who likes to keep me on my toes and loves to teach me all that she learns at school. I feel very excited to be able to work as part of the Little Learners team and look forward to getting to know each and every child as each year passes!



Fionn – Play Assistant

Hello, I'm Fionn! And I am a qualified TA and looking to specialise in SEN. I have had many different roles around school and I am very excited to be working in Little Learners ☺ I love being in a place where imaginations can run wild and where we are always kept on our toes!





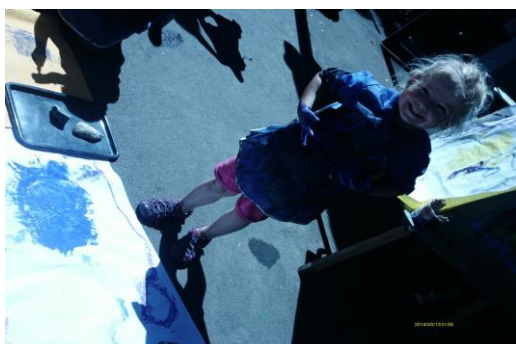
Our environment.....



We love going on to the school field and having space to build and run!



Our room where we have lots of different areas to have fun in!



The playground is where we go on the bikes, pirate ship and play sports.



Our own area for growing things, building, getting muddy and having so much fun!





Fun in Little Learners...



A visit from a parent vet



Sports day



Muddy welly Wednesday



Fun, stimulating activities



Parents open afternoon



Great problem solving



Snack time outside



A visit from the fire service



Learning through play



Cooking





Testimonials...



"As a parent it's so important to feel free and comfortable when approaching a teacher & Gemma and Lois are incredibly welcoming. I like to touch base every time I collect Iris and both are always. More than happy to take the time to let me know how she got on that day"- K. Broady 2016

"Like the home stars as feel this could really bring on confidence. Like that they have access to main playground and sometimes merge with infants. Think it's generally a very good setting! Also feel that it has a more personal touch being a smaller setting than say Nursery. Feel like Toby prefers it. Love the communication system in place between Little Learners and home, as I like to know what Toby has done in the day as we end up talking about it or carrying on with activities at home" - N. Newton 2016

"Little Learners is the perfect setting for Beth, preparing her well for the transition to school and focusing on making this an easy and positive experience. Beth loves being a member of Little Learner's and particularly likes the interactive activities Rosie and Gemma engage the children in, such as nature walks, singing, dancing, vegetable growing and water play. We can see Beth develop and grow all the time, both socially and academically, and her enthusiasm for learning is strongly encouraged and always praised. The school's attitude towards caring for others and the integration of the pre-school into the school is outstanding and this is reflected in the children's good behaviour. T. Bailey 2014

"My child is so happy at Little Learners and cries on the days he can't go" P. Balding 2014





Information...



Pricing

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

9am-12am Monday to Friday.

12noon-3pm Monday to Friday

Costs:

- Full day: £29.47
- Session: £15.30
- Dinner hour: £5.30
- Late fee: £3.36 per 15 minutes
- Snack: 25p per day

Invoices are sent out 6 times a year. This is usually within the first couple of weeks of each short term.

Funding

Norton Little Learners is registered to take part in the Free for 3&4 Funding scheme and the extended 30 hours childcare with a valid eligibility code.

Parents/carers must apply for the eligibility code (issued by HMRC) by:

- 31st August for the autumn term
- 31st December for the spring term
- 31st March for the summer term

A parent/carer declaration form is issued at the beginning of the autumn, spring and summer terms. This must be completed and returned to Little Learners by the required date to ensure you receive the correct funding. If funding hours increase or decrease within a term it is the parents/carers responsibility to complete the paperwork to make the funding adjustments.

Lunches

Hot dinners are available which are supplied by Edwards and Wards at a charge of £2.36. There is a choice of 3 meals each day on a 3 weekly rota. Hot dinners are to be ordered on the morning (before 9:30am) of the day hot dinners are required.





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



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 unexpectedly be unable to collect your child and you have arranged for someone else to collect them, please inform us with the person's name and password that should be given when collecting the child.

Uniform

We ask that children wear practical clothing and footwear that are comfortable and doesn't matter if they get muddy or covered in paint! Whilst not compulsive, we do have Norton Little Learners sweatshirt available to purchase for £7.

We ask that every child has a pair of welly's and a water bottle that they keep 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.

Medicine

If your child requires medication we are happy for you 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. They will ensure the medicine is put in the locked medicine cabinet.





Access



Access into Little Learners is via the back gate, located at the side of the village hall.

The gate will be opened and manned by a member of staff at 8:45, 12pm and 3pm. If you arrive late and the gate is locked, then please enter the main school via the front

Open Afternoons

We hold an open afternoon on the first Thursday of every month from 2-3pm. We will send out a letter with all of the terms open afternoon dates on, as well as reminders by the register. Please feel free to come along and join in with your child at play! It's a great opportunity for you to see what your child enjoys to do and how much fun they have when they're here!

Facebook

Norton Little Learners is on facebook! Please 'like' us to see photos of what the children have been doing and to keep up to date with what's happening.

