

Lechlade Little Learners Preschool Prospectus



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Welcome to Lechlade Little Learners Preschool

Lechlade Little Learners is an early years preschool setting providing quality early years education. We are situated in the heart of Lechlade next to the local Primary School. The Lechlade Playgroup was founded in 1971. Lechlade Playgroup had a humble beginning, starting in the spring of 1971. In 1981 we acquired the building we now call home. In September 1982 the doors of the building opened for children and we have gone from strength to strength. In 1997 Lechlade Playgroup became Lechlade Little Learners.

Lechlade Little Learners is a parent governed preschool, staffed by early years professionals with the aim to develop a child's feeling of security, independence, self-worth and confidence in a stimulating environment where they can foster a love of learning. We provide the crucial first step in children's learning and educational journey.



Our aim

Lechlade Little Learners aim to develop a child's feeling of security, independence, self-worth and confidence in a stimulating environment where they can foster a love of learning.

Children are at the heart of everything we do. We allow the children to follow their own interests and those of their peers, to create a rich learning experience. We do not follow one set approach or pedagogy in our setting, but instead draw from some of the greats, such as Reggio and Montessori. One size does not necessarily fit all, and that is most certainly the case with children. At Lechlade Little Learners we treat every child as an individual, celebrating their uniqueness. "When we expose children to different environments and various learning experiences, we allow them to explore their self-awareness and curiosity, enabling them to gain a solid sense of the world around them. Children leave Little Learners fully prepared for the next stage of their young lives."



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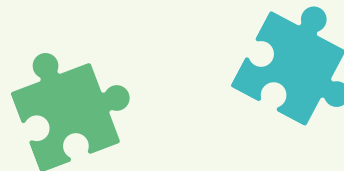
Learning and development

Lechlade Little Learners aims to develop a child's feeling of security, independence, self-worth and confidence in a stimulating environment where children can take pleasure in learning. During each session, we operate a free flow approach, which allows the children to be in control of what they would like to play with and where they would like to play. Staff setup provocations to interest and entice the children and allow their curiosity and imagination to run free. The children are also able to self-select toys and resources throughout the session. Both our indoor and outdoor areas help to support children in the seven areas of learning and development of the Early Years Foundation Stage. We always ensure the seven areas of learning and development are covered with the resources on offer and use our own knowledge of the children to develop learning experiences throughout the day.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early years' providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life. It sets out:

- The learning and development requirements
- Assessment requirements
- The safeguarding and welfare requirements



The EYFS seeks to provide:

- Quality and consistency in all early years settings, so that every child makes good progress, and no child gets left behind.
- A secure foundation through planning for the learning and development of each individual child and assessing and reviewing what they have learned regularly.
- Partnership working between practitioners and with parents and/or carers.
- Equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every child is included and supported.

There are four guiding principles that should shape practice in early years. These are:

- Every child is a unique child
- Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships
- Children learn and develop well in enabling environments with teaching and support from adults
- Importance of learning and development

Children will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

3 Prime areas:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

4 specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design



Our curriculum

Intent - we aim to develop a child's feeling of security, independence, self-worth and confidence in a stimulating environment where they can foster a love of learning. We want children to be exposed to new activities, environments and experiences, from social skills and creative expression to exploring the world around them. We build on the strengths and interests of each child, helping build a solid foundation on which they can develop their futures. We want children to be actively involved and motivated in their learning and creative in their own thinking. We provide the crucial first step in children's learning and educational journey.

Implement - everything we do forms part of our curriculum and at the centre of everything is the children. We use children's interests, experiences and staff's knowledge of child development to enrich children's learning and development and extend the understanding of the children in our setting. Our curriculum is like a jigsaw puzzle, each piece is part of a bigger picture.



Impact:

- Children feel happy, safe and secure at preschool and in the transition to school.
- Children are confident in their own abilities and feel confident with their own ideas.
- Children have a love for learning and gaining knowledge.
- Children are aware of emotions and can self-regulate.

Admissions

- Lechlade Little Learners opens Monday to Friday 8:45am to 3:00pm, term time only
- We request children do a minimum of 2 sessions a week
- All sessions are subject to availability and we may operate a waiting list for some sessions



Sessions

- MORNING - 9:00am to 12:00pm (3hours) or 9:00am to 1:00pm (4hours)
- AFTERNOON - 12:00pm to 3:00pm (3hours) or 1:00pm to 3:00pm (2hours)
- FULL DAY - 9:00am to 3:00pm (6hours)
- EARLY START - 8:45am to 9:00am (15mins)



Fees

- STANDARD RATE - £8.00 per hour this rate applies to non funded hours
- EARLY STARTS - £2.00 this session is not covered by funded hours



Funding

- FUNDED HOURS - Funding is for up to 30hours per week, 38 week of the year
- APPLYING FOR FUNDING - Working families funding should be applied for the term before funding begins. It is also the responsibility of parents to reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months
- FUNDING START DATE - Early years funding starts the school term after the child's 2nd or 3rd birthday and does not therefore apply immediately after the child's birthday.
- CONSUMABLE CHARGE - A non mandatory charge of £1 for morning snack and 50p for afternoon snack. The consumables charge does not apply to families who currently receive certain means-tested benefits for example children in receipt of pupil premium or a means-tested 2-year-old funding code.

For more information regarding funding visit: <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/>

Registering at preschool

To enrol your child, you will need to complete a registration form. We use a secure online system called eyworks. The registration form is a digital form which will be sent out on request. No child will be able to start at Lechlade Little Learners without a complete registration form.

New starters will be invited to attend free settling sessions before they official start. These sessions are important for your child especially if they have never been in an early years setting, they allow them to become familiar with the setting, staff and other children and to realise that they aren't being left for ever and you will return. Settle sessions also give your child and their key person a chance to build a relationship and for the staff to see what your child does and doesn't like.

eyworks

We use an online Management system called eyworks. The system includes registers, logging of nappies, accidents, medication along with a learning journey and invoicing.

We know that often it is difficult to fully hand over everything the children do on a day so eyworks allows us to keep everyone updated.

The learning journey section is added to regularly by staff with pictures of what the children have been doing. It also enables staff to link the observations directly to the eyfs. We actively encourage parents to engage and add to the learning journey.



Key person

Your child will be allocated a key person when they start at pre-school. The key person will build a relationship with your child to ensure they feel safe and secure and have high Well-Being. This in turn will allow your child to have high involvement in their play which will foster and enable brain development and progress. We use an online Journal and registration system which your child will be registered onto. Our online journal system is called eyworks.

