



Keep Guard Keep Safe Keep Playing
Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Newsletter

September 2018

Good afternoon to you all,

Where has September gone? We are over half way through the first half term already and all the children have settled well back into the learning environments.

I would like to thank all the parents who have been so helpful in completing their funding forms, this is a process that happens each term and is a form that must be completed by parents, not the setting. Without this form completed, Bedford Borough will not release the funding monies and therefore not pay for the childcare our funded children receive.

Just a reminder that we use the outdoor space all year round in all weathers therefore can I please ask that you ensure children are appropriately dressed for nursery, with a rain mac or coat and wellies (if your child does not have a pair in nursery) for the cooler autumn days that have arrived. With the trees outside, on windy days it can be quite blowy in the garden and children need to wear their coats to stay warm. Could I also take this opportunity to remind you all to label EVERYTHING with your child's name, so we can re-locate the owner quickly.

As some of our Pre-School parents are aware, Sarah who joined the team at the beginning of term unfortunately needed to leave us and become a carer for her father quite suddenly. The rest of the Pre-School team have been looking after Sarah's Key Children, but it is with great delight that I can announce that from the 8th October we have a new EYP joining the team, called Sian. I am sure you will join me in welcoming her on board the Keep Guard Team. Sharon has also had to make the tough decision to leave us at half-term to become a carer for her mother. Sharon will be missed greatly, and we wish her all the best for the future. Selina will also be leaving us shortly for a very special arrival, we hope little one arrives safely and Selina has a well-earned rest before the sleepless nights begin!

We really appreciate your parental observations, photographs and videos; as they really do support your child's learning journey and encourage you to send them in as often as you can. Many of your child's important learning experiences occur away from nursery at home. Parental observations will give us important information about your child's interests, experiences and developmental progress which we can use alongside our observations of your child to support their learning journey. If you haven't activated your eyLog link please do so, each child has their own personal learning journey and it will be great for you to keep up to date with their learning process.

We have a Harvest Donation box in the main entrance, please feel free to add in any tinned or dried food for our Pre-School children to take with them when they visit the Transfiguration Church in Kempston on Thursday 4th October. Tomorrow (Friday 28th September) is our annual cake sale for Macmillan, remember to bring your pennies and we are selling a plate of cakes for £2.00. All cake donations are greatly received and will form part of the cake sale.

Some key dates for the diary are our 'Stay, Play and Learning Weeks' where we invite you in to see what learning experiences your children receive in setting. These start after half term and we are lucky enough to have Jill Stevens from the Children Centre join us on two afternoons if you want to pop in and talk to her about family worries, finances, housing, support with paperwork or just a chat! The dates are in the diary section.

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Please ensure that you keep us updated of any changes to telephone numbers, addresses, emergency contacts and email addresses, so we can always ensure effective contact with you.

Please continue to read on for further information and most importantly diary dates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Lynn and all the staff team at Keep Guard Day Nursery.



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2 Year Old Funding

Have you got a 2 year old?

Did you know your 2 year old could get up to 15 hours a week free care, learning and play here?

Your child will have the opportunity to learn through play, make new friends, try different activities, improve their communication and get a good start to their education.

Your 2 year old may be eligible if one of the following apply:

1. You are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support through Part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child tax credit, and have a annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190

2. Your family received working tax credit with a household income of less than £16,190

3. Your 2 year old has a statement of special educational needs or an education; health and care plan or is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.

4. The 2 year old is currently in the care of the Local Authority (LAC) or has left care through a special guardianship or an adoption or residence order.

To find out more and apply go to www.bedford.gov.uk/2yearfunding or call Bedford Borough Family Information Service on 0800 023 2057.

30 Hour Offer

The eligibility checker at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk> is now live for you to check if you are eligible for the 30 hours offer for working families with 3 and 4 year old children.

You will receive a DERN code that you will need to provide us with along with your name or names and your National Insurance number/s which we will need to send in to the Local Authority with your consent along with your child's name and date of birth to confirm your eligibility for the funding.

Without this information **we will not** be able to provide you with 30 hours funding offer: however you will still be eligible for the 15 hours universal funding.

Parents need to check their eligibility on line every three months and in turn inform us that they are still eligible; otherwise they may not continue to receive the additional funding.

If you encounter any difficulties applying on line please contact HMRC on 0300 0123 4097

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Some children who are receiving the 3 and 4 year old free 15 hour education entitlement could be eligible for EYPP. This means that your child's nursery, preschool or childminder could get up to £300 each year to support your child's learning.

We will work with you to consider the learning needs of your child and the additional funding will be used to support your child's development. This could be through the purchase of new resources, training staff or buying services from external agencies such as toy libraries and music groups.

During our recent Ofsted inspection we were required to show how the funding is used.

Is my child eligible?

3 and 4 year-olds in state-funded early education will attract EYPP funding if you meet at least one of the following criteria:• Income Support• Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance• Income-related Employment and Support Allowance• Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999• The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit• Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190) • Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit• Universal Credit

How do I apply?

You can check if you are eligible go to the online checker on the My Early Learning website (<https://www.myearlylearning.co.uk/EarlyYears/About>) Click on 'Apply Now' under EYPP - You will get a reference number when you apply and if you are eligible give this to your child's setting. **Your child may also be eligible if:** they are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales; they have left care in England or Wales through: adoption; a special guardianship order; a child arrangement order.



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2 Year Old Integrated Review

We are continuing to take part in the 2 year old integrated review scheme within Bedford Borough. The aim of the review is to bring Health, parents and Early Years settings together, because age 2 is an important time for children and their parents. It is a time when problems with language development and behaviour can start to be identified and at an age where interventions can be more effective than they would be for an older child, making a real difference to a child's future.

Before this session Parents will have been asked to complete a ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) provided by the Health Visitor and your child's Key Person will have completed an EYFS 2year old Progress Check. Then during the session these documents will be discussed and shared and parents will have the opportunity to discuss any concerns or worries with the Health Team. We have been lucky to have Nicole Weston CNN (Community Nursery Nurse) to carry out these sessions along with the Health Visitor. She also carries out height and weight checks.

The reviews are carried out here at Keep Guard in a private room and you will be sent a letter to invite you to the session. Please remember your child's red book in order to updates charts.

It is the aim of the Health service that children are seen at 27 months (2 $\frac{1}{2}$).

Collection Times

We would kindly ask that all children are dropped off and picked up on time. The biometric finger print system has been successful, however if you are late collecting your child, the system will not let you in. Parents will be charged £5 for 'up-to' every 15 minutes they are late. Full day care finishes at 6pm, and children need to be collected by 6pm at the latest. Unfortunately when children are picked up late, this has a knock-on-effect for staff that may need to catch buses or collect their own children as they finish their shift at 6pm. We appreciate your cooperation with this issue.

Developing Independence

We actively encourage children to be as independent as possible getting their coats and shoes on. Unfortunately some children are struggling to put their shoes back on due to 'laces'.

Velcro shoes are perfect for nursery and offer the children a sense of pride and achievement once they are on.

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

If your child has had a bout of diarrhoea OR sickness, they must remain at home for 48 hours after their last bout, as stated in our 'Sickness and Illness' Policy.

Parking

We ask that all parents and visitors using our car park, park their vehicles in the designated parking bays, and do not park across three spaces or drop off right outside the main entrance. This causes congestion and danger to children and their families.

Nappies and Toilet Training

Please can I remind parents with children requiring nappies to ensure there is a sufficient amount brought in for your child.

We would kindly ask that if your child is toilet training then you provide plenty of changes of underwear, socks and joggers or leggings. Plastic 'croc' style shoes or jelly shoes are also a good idea as these can be easily washed if an accident does occur.

Please see the 'toilet training' display in the entrance hall for lots of ideas and support.

Birthdays

If your child is celebrating their birthday whilst at nursery and you would like to bring in a treat to share, we would kindly ask you to bring in NON FOOD gifts, for example; balloons, bubbles, pencils. NO SWEETS/CAKES/RAISINS. Thank you.

Five to Thrive

We would like to introduce Five to Thrive to all of our Parents, which is the things you do every day that help your child's growing brain. Your child's body grows better when you give your child good food. Your child's brain grows better when you do five simple things that feed their growing brain:

Respond

Cuddle

Relax

Play

Talk



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Medication

We would like to remind all our parents that if your child needs liquid paracetamol or similar medication during their time at nursery, such medication should be treated as prescription medication with the onus being on you the parent to provide the medicine you wish to use. Please ensure all medicines are clearly named and are in date. Thank you. Please see our medication policy for further clarification, which can be found in the entrance hall on the top shelf.

Fledglings

Come and join other new Mums and their babies on Friday mornings between 10am and 11.30am, to share a cup of tea or coffee in a cosy setting to celebrate your new baby. FREE and Term Time only. The Children's Centre joins us every 6 weeks to offer advice, support and baby weighing. Don't forget your red book!

Mums with bumps are also welcome to attend.

Paper Request

Does your work throw out any old paper big or small, end of big rolls or use large computer paper (tricky now as everyone is trying to go paperless) or rolls of wallpaper?

We are always in need of paper for the children's drawings and paintings. If you know of any paper being thrown out please see Esther.

Christmas Closure 2018

Please note that the whole of Keep Guard will be closed over the Christmas period from Friday 21st December 2018 and then back open on Wednesday 2nd January 2019 for full time children. Funded children will be back on Thursday 3rd January 2019.

Diary Dates

Friday 28 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning - bring some pennies
Thursday 4 th October	Pre-School visit to Transfiguration Church
Thursday 18 th October	Photos
Friday 19 th October	Jeans for Genes - donate £1 and wear jeans
Friday 19 th October	Last day of term for Funded and Term Time Only children
Monday 29 th October - Friday 2 nd October	Pre-School - Stay, Play and Learning Week (between 9am-11:30am and 1:30pm-4:00pm)
Tuesday 30 th October	Funded and Term Time Only children return
Wednesday 31 st October	Jill Stevens (from the Children's Centre) in to join Learning Week (1:00-2:30pm)
Monday 5 th November	Pre-School visit to the Gurdwara
Monday 5 th November - Friday 9 th November	2-3 Room - Stay, Play and Learning Week (between 9am-11:30am and 2:00pm-4:00pm)
Friday 9 th November	Jill Stevens (from the Children's Centre) in to join Learning Week (11:00-11:30am)
Monday 12 th November - Friday 16 th November	Under 2's - Stay, Play and Learning Week (between 9am-11:30am and 2:00pm-4:00pm)
Wednesday 14 th November	Jill Stevens (from the Children's Centre) in to join Learning Week (1:00-2:30pm)
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need
Wednesday 19 th December	Last day of term for Funded and Term Time Only children
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Closure
Wednesday 2 nd January 2019	Nursery re-opens
Thursday 3 rd January 2019	Funded and Term Time Only children return