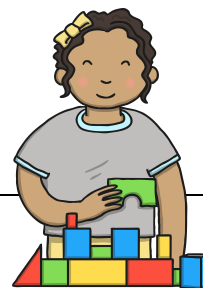




Duxford Preschool Newsletter

January 2021



Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome to you all as we begin the new year at Duxford Preschool. After a roller coaster of a year in 2020, it looks like 2021 may follow the same path. Nonetheless, it is a pleasure to welcome back the children, and to meet the new families who are starting their early-years journey at Duxford Preschool. We hope to offer a slice of normality in the current circumstances, and we are very much looking forward to teaching and caring for your children, helping them to grow and develop, and providing the best foundation to their early years' education.

Important Request

We are cleaning all lunch boxes on arrival at the Preschool as part of our COVID-19 measures, so could you please send your child's lunch in a **wipeable container** please?

Dates to Remember

15th- 19th February – Half term holiday

Friday 26th March – Last day of term

Tuesday 13th April – First day of term

Health Eating Reminders

At Duxford Preschool we promote healthy lifestyles, and this includes healthy lunchboxes. As we start the new term, we would like to remind you of the following:

- Please do not send your child into Preschool with any sugary drinks such as squash or 'fruit shoot' style drinks or smoothies. We provide milk and water throughout the day.
- We are a **NUT-FREE setting** so please check the ingredients of any pre-packaged items you may send in with your child. Remember that chocolate spreads often contain nuts!
- Please slice grapes, tomatoes, olives and any other small round fruits and vegetables lengthways to reduce the choking risk.
- It is okay to include a small treat in your child's lunchbox (such as chocolate, cake or crisps), but we will generally encourage the children to eat the other elements of their lunch first.

If you would like any advice on healthy lunchboxes please ask a member of staff or visit the NHS Change4Life website <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>, which has some good ideas.

Every Child a Talker (ECaT) Top Tip

Demonstrate rather than correct. If your child says something incorrectly, repeat what they've said, but in the correct way and try to keep it in the conversation. You can do this with individual words, e.g. if they say "tat" you can repeat "ah, you saw a ...cat", or sentences e.g. if they say "dog runned" you can say, "yes, the dog ran, didn't it."



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Facebook

Don't forget to 'like' the Duxford Preschool Facebook page! We often post pictures of what the children have been doing & activities we think parents/carers might be interested in trying at home. If you have any ideas of things you would like to see on our page, please let us know. It really helps when you comment on and like our posts, as this boosts our online presence and helps our Facebook reach, so that when we are fundraising, (for example), our events get seen by more people online!

Policies

All the Preschool Policies can be viewed on our website. They are updated on a regular basis and the latest version will always be online for you to view under 'About Us' and 'Policies'.

Home Clothes & Uniform

Can you please ensure that you label your child's clothes, shoes, coats, and wellies? We have some children who have the same clothing as each other and it makes it very difficult to match the right clothing to the child!

As we offer a 'free flow' setting where the children can choose to be indoors or outdoors, the main room can get a little chilly when the back door is open. Please pack spare clothes for your children so we can layer them up if necessary!

We are about to place another order with the uniform supplier, so if you would like to purchase anything, please let us know ASAP. Our new blue uniform comes in sizes 3-4 (24-26 inches) or 5-6 (26-28 inches) and we offer:

- T-Shirts - £7.00
- Sweaters - £10.25
- Zipped Fleeces - £12.25
- Zipped Hoodies - £12.00 (+£1 for age 5-6)

Forest School

As we head into what is usually the coldest part of the year, please remember to dress your children in lots of layers to keep them warm, and to allow us to remove one or two if necessary.

If you would like some advice on choosing suitable clothes, please speak with Carrie or Heather, our Forest School leaders.

Invoices

Please be aware that all invoices have now been sent and are due for payment within 14 days unless a payment plan has been agreed. If you have any questions about paying in instalments, then please let Natalie know.



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COVID-19 Drop Off & Pick Up

We would like to remind you of our current procedures for collecting and dropping off your child from Preschool and ask for your agreement to abide by these requirements.

1. Only ONE parent/carer is permitted onto the Preschool site to drop off and collect a child;
2. Only individuals that we have been previously told form part of your 'Childcare' or 'Support' bubble are permitted to drop off and/or collect a child;
3. Parents/carers MUST wear a mask at all times while on Preschool site unless we have been previously notified of an exemption;
4. Parents/carers must clean their child's hands with the antibacterial hand foam which will be in the waiting area BEFORE allowing their child to approach a member of staff.
5. Upon arrival for drop off or collection, all parents/carers MUST wait in the designated waiting area. Please DO NOT walk up the ramp and approach the door. Please call 01223 830459 if you are waiting and no one has come to collect your child.

If you haven't yet completed our form to show your agreement, please can you do so ASAP:

<https://forms.gle/s1KLuqr26EvGMaka8>

There is only so much we can do at the Preschool itself. We need to reduce to risk of transmission into the Preschool from the community, and we need to ask that everyone follows the current guidance & requirements for the Coronavirus Tier which we find ourselves in:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home>

Email Contacts

Pippa - manager@duxfordpreschool.org.uk (staffing, teaching and learning, child-related concerns or complaints)

Natalie - businessmanager@duxfordpreschool.org.uk (admissions, session requests, invoicing, funding, general business development, or absences)

Key Workers - keyworker@duxfordpreschool.org.uk (questions about your child's development or behaviour)

Forest School Leaders (Heather and Carrie) - forestscool@duxfordpreschool.org.uk (specific questions or feedback about Forest School)

Kayleigh and Carrie - deputy@duxfordpreschool.org.uk (in the Manager's absence)

