



SHANKLEA EYFS

Parent Information Packs

Policy Control Details			
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Prepared by:	Kay Laughton	Signature	Date
Approved for issue by:	Helen Brown	Signature	Date
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Shanklea EYFS

Parental Information/Welcome Pack

Our Setting Aims to:

- provide high quality care and education for children below statutory school age;
- work in partnership with parents to help children to learn and develop;
- add to the life and well-being of the local community; and
- offer children and their parents a service that promotes equality and values diversity.

Parents

Parents are regarded as members of our setting who have full participatory rights. These include a right to be:

- valued and respected;
- kept informed;
- consulted;
- involved; and
- included at all levels.

We aim to ensure that each child:

- is in a safe and stimulating environment;
- is given generous care and attention, because of our ratio of qualified staff to children.
- has the chance to join with other children and adults to live, play, work and learn together;
- is helped to take forward her/his learning and development by being helped to build on what she/he already knows and can do;
- has a personal key person who makes sure each child makes progress;
- is in a setting that sees parents as partners in helping each child to learn and develop.

Children's Development and Learning

The provision for children's development and learning is guided by The Early Years Foundation Stage (DCFS 2007). From September 2008 the Early Years Foundation Stage became law. This brings together Birth to Three Matters and the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage. Our provision reflects the four key themes and 16 commitments of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

A Unique Child

Child Development: Skilful communicator, competent learner.

Inclusive Practice: Equality and diversity, children's entitlements, early support.

Keeping Safe: Being safe and protected, discovering boundaries, making choices.

Health and Well-being: Growth and developing, physical and emotional wellbeing.

Positive Relationships

Respecting Each Other: Understanding feelings, friendship, professional relationships.

Parents as Partners: Respecting diversity, communication, learning together.

Supporting Learning: Positive interactions, listening to children, effective teaching.

Key Person: Secure attachment, shared care, independence.

Enabling Environments

Observation, Assessment and Planning: Starting with the child, planning, assessment.

Supporting Every Child: Children's needs, the learning journey, working together.

The Learning Environment: The emotional environment, the outdoor environment, the indoor environment.

The Wider Context: Transitions and continuity, multi-agency working, the community.

Learning and Development

Play and Exploration: Learning through experience, adult involvement, contexts for learning.

Active Learning: Mental and physical involvement, decision making, personalised learning.

Creativity and Physical Thinking: Making connections, transforming and understanding, sustained shared thinking.

Areas of Development and Learning.

How We Provide for Development and Learning

Children start to learn about the world around them from the moment they are born. The care and education offered by our setting helps children to continue to do this by providing all of the children with interesting activities that are appropriate for their age and stage of development.

The Areas of Development and Learning Comprise: 3 prime areas

- Personal, Social and Emotional development;

- Communication and language
- Physical development

4 Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematical development
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design.

For each area, the practice guidance sets out the Early Learning Goals. These goals state what it is expected that children will know and be able to do by the end of the Reception year of their education.

The practice guidance also sets out in 'Development Matters' the likely stages of progress a child makes along their learning journey towards the early learning goals. Our setting has regard to these matters when we assess children and plan for their learning.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our programme, which includes SEAL as followed by the main school, is covered under the PSCH scheme purchased from 3 Dimensions, and supports children to develop:

- positive approaches to learning and finding out about the world around them;
- confidence in themselves and their ability to do things, and valuing their own achievements;
- their ability to get on, work and make friendships with other people, both children and adults;
- their awareness of, and being able to keep to, the rules which we all need to help us to look after ourselves, other people and our environment;
- their ability to dress and undress themselves, and look after their personal hygiene needs; and
- their ability to expect to have their ways of doing things respected and to respect other people's ways of doing things.

Communication and Language

Our programme which includes activities from Letters and Sounds and Sounds Great, supports children to develop:

- conversational skills with one other person, in small groups and in large groups to talk with and listen to others;

- their vocabulary by learning the meaning of - and being able to use - new words;
- their ability to use words to describe their experiences;
- their knowledge of the sounds and letters that make up the words we use;
- their ability to listen to, and talk about, stories;
- knowledge of how to handle books and that they can be a source of stories and information;
- knowledge of the purposes for which we use writing; and
- making their own attempts at writing.

Physical Development

Our programme supports children to develop:

- increasing control over the large movements that they can make with their arms, legs and bodies, so that they can run, jump, hop, skip, roll, climb, balance and lift;
- increasing control over the small movements they can make with their arms, wrists and hands, so that they can pick up and use objects, tools and materials; and
- their understanding about the importance of, and how to look after, their bodies.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

Our programme supports children to develop:

- understanding and ideas about how many, how much, how far and how big;
- understanding and ideas about patterns, the shape of objects and parts of objects, and the amount of space taken up by objects;
- understanding that numbers help us to answer questions about how many, how much, how far and how big;
- understanding and ideas about how to use counting to find out how many; and
- early ideas about the result of adding more or taking away from the amount we already have.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Our programme supports children to develop:

- knowledge about the natural world and how it works;

- knowledge about the made world and how it works;
- their learning about how to choose, and use, the right tool for a task;
- their learning about computers, how to use them and what they can help us to do;
- their skills on how to put together ideas about past and present and the links between them;
- their learning about their locality and its special features; and
- their learning about their own and other cultures.

Expressive Arts and Design

Our programme supports children to develop:

- the use of paint, materials, music, dance, words, stories and role-play to express their ideas and feelings; and
- their interest in the way that paint, materials, music, dance, words, stories and role-play can be used to express ideas and feelings.

Our Approach to Learning and Development and Assessment

Learning Through Play

Play helps young children to learn and develop through doing and talking, which research has shown to be the means by which young children learn to think. Our setting uses the practice guidance Early Years Foundation Stage to plan and provide a range of play activities which help children to make progress in each of the areas of learning and development. In some of these activities children decide how they will use the activity and, in others, an adult takes the lead in helping the children to take part in the activity. In all activities information from the practice guidance to the Early Years Foundation Stage has been used to decide what equipment to provide and how to provide it.

Assessment

We assess how young children are learning and developing by observing them frequently. We use information that we gain from observations, as well as from photographs of the children, to document their progress and where this may be leading them. These are put in the children's Learning Journal. These Learning Journals will be sent home periodically as we believe that parents know their children best and we ask them to contribute to assessment by sharing information about what their children like to do at home and how they as parents are supporting development.

Staff and parents working together on their children's Learning Journals is one of the ways in which the key person and parents work in partnership. Your child's Learning Journal helps us to celebrate together her/his achievements and to work together to provide what your

child needs for her/his well-being and to make progress. The Learning Journal will be sent home every half term.

Your child's key person will work with you to keep this record. To do this you and she/he will collect information about your child's needs, activities, interests and achievements. This information will enable the key person to identify your child's stage of progress.

Working Together for Your Children

In our setting we maintain the ratio of adults to children in the setting that is set through the Welfare Requirements – 1 adult to 8 children. This helps us to:

- give time and attention to each child;
- talk with the children about their interests and activities;
- help children to experience and benefit from the activities we provide; and
- allow the children to explore and be adventurous in safety.

The staff who work at our setting are:

Name	Job Title	Qualifications and Experience
Mrs Kay Laughton	EYFS Leader and Reception Teacher	BA (Hons) Care and Education in Young Children and Professional Practice studies PGCE Primary
Mrs L Morris	Nursery Teacher (Maternity Leave Nov 2017 – July 2018)	BA (Hons) Care and Education in Young Children and Professional Practice studies PGCE Primary
Mrs M Short	Reception Teacher	BA (Hons) English PGCE Primary
Miss S Harris	Reception Teacher	BA (Hons) Acting PGCE Primary PGCE Special Needs and Inclusion
Miss K Spence	Nursery Teacher (Maternity Cover)	BA (Hons) Business Studies PGCE Primary
Mrs L. Connelly	Shanklea Nursery/Squirrel Leader	Level 3 NNEB Diploma in Nursery Nursing 1993

		Paediatric First Aid
Mrs D. Fenwick-Dunn	Nursery Leader	Level 3 NNEB Diploma in Nursery Nursing 1996
Mrs H. Jackson	Teaching Assistant	Level 3 NNEB Diploma in Nursery Nursing 1997
Mrs J. Turnbull	Teaching Assistant Lunchtime Assistant	Level 3 NNEB Care of Young Children 1977
Mrs J. Ainsley	Teaching Assistant Lunchtime Assistant	Level 3 Cache NVQ 2009
Mrs H. Hansom	Teaching Assistant	Level 3 Cache Diploma in Specialist Support for Teaching and Learning in Schools 2014
Staff from main school who cover in Pre-School.		
Mrs H McClurry	Teaching Assistant	Paediatric First Aid
Mrs S Shires	Teaching Assistant	
Mrs G Earle	Teaching Assistant	
Mrs G Trood	Teaching Assistant	

All staff have attended Child Protection, Prevent, Safeguarding and Emergency at Work First Aid Training.

We are open for 38 weeks each year.

We are closed 14

We are open for 5 days each week

The times we are open are 8.45am -3.30pm

How Parents Take Part in the Setting

Our setting recognises parents as the first and most important educators of their children. All of the staff see themselves as partners with parents in providing care and education for

their child. There are many ways in which parents take part in making the setting a welcoming and stimulating place for children and parents, such as:

- exchanging knowledge about their children's needs, activities, interests and progress with the staff;
- sharing their own special interests with the children;
- helping to provide, make and look after the equipment and materials used in the children's play activities;
- taking part in events and informal discussions about the activities and curriculum provided by the setting;
- joining in community activities in which the setting takes part; and
- building friendships with other parents in the setting.
- Parents have online access to tapestry our online journals. They are encouraged to comment and add observations.

Key Persons and Your Child

Our setting uses a key person approach. This means that each member of staff has a group of children for whom she/he is particularly responsible. Your child's key person will be the person who works with you to make sure that what we provide is right for your child's particular needs and interests. When your child first starts at the setting, she/he will help your child to settle and throughout your child's time at the setting, she/he will help your child to benefit from the setting's activities.

Learning Opportunities for Adults

As well as gaining qualifications in early years care and education, the setting staff take part in further training to help them to keep up-to-date with thinking about early years care and education.

The setting also keeps itself up-to-date with best practice in early years care and education, From time to time the setting holds learning events for parents. These usually look at how adults can help children to learn and develop in their early years.

The Setting's Timetable and Routines

Our setting believes that care and education are equally important in the experience which we offer children. The routines and activities that make up the day in the setting are provided in ways that:

- help each child to feel that she/he is a valued member of the setting;
- ensure the safety of each child;
- help children to gain from the social experience of being part of a group; and
- provide children with opportunities to learn and help them to value learning.

The Session

We organise our sessions so that the children can choose from, and work at, a range of activities and, in doing so, build up their ability to select and work through a task to its completion. The children are also helped and encouraged to take part in adult-led small and large group activities which introduce them to new experiences and help them to gain new skills, as well as helping them to learn to work with others.

Outdoor activities contribute to children's health, their physical development and their knowledge of the world around them. The children have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to take part in outdoor child-chosen and adult-led activities, as well as those provided in the indoor classrooms.

Snacks and Meals

Children can have lunch in the main school hall which is made by the catering team or alternatively children may bring their own packed lunch. The setting makes snacks and meals a social time at which children and adults eat together. Do tell us about your child's dietary needs and we will make sure that these are met.

Policies

Copies of the setting's policies and procedures are available for you to see at the setting.

The setting's policies help us to make sure that the service provided by the setting is a high quality one and that being a member of the setting is an enjoyable and beneficial experience for each child and her/his parents.

Safeguarding Children

Our setting has a duty under the law to help safeguard children against suspected or actual 'significant harm'.

Our employment practices ensure children against the likelihood of abuse in our settings and we have a procedure for managing complaints or allegations against a member of staff.

Our way of working with children and their parents ensures we are aware of any problems that may emerge and can offer support, including referral to appropriate agencies when necessary, to help families in difficulty.

Special Needs

As part of the setting's policy to make sure that its provision meets the needs of each individual child, we take account of any special needs a child may have. The setting works to the requirements of the 1993 Education Act and The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2001).

Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is Miss Sarah Harris

Starting at our setting

The First Days

We want your child to feel happy and safe with us. To make sure that this is the case, the staff will work with you to decide on how to help your child to settle into the setting.

Clothing

We provide protective clothing for the children when they play with messy activities.

However toileting accidents do occur and we would appreciate a named change of clothing in a named bag.

We encourage children to gain the skills that help them to be independent and look after themselves. These include taking themselves to the toilet and taking off, and putting on, outdoor clothes. We hope that you and your child enjoy being members of our setting and that you both find taking part in our activities interesting and stimulating. The staff are always ready and willing to talk with you about your ideas, views or questions.

