

# WINYATES PLAYGROUP

## Newsletter

June 2018

Welcome to the June newsletter of Winyates Playgroup, and a special welcome to all the new children and their parents/carers. Our newsletter is produced so that we can let you know what the children will be doing in the coming months and provide you with information about the playgroup.

### Activities

This term the children will be concentrating on:-

Characteristics of Effective Learning, we have attached a short story to explain how children learn. The children will be provided with a wide range of activities and opportunities to explore, however, **less** finished work will be going home. Different foods will be sent home for you to share with the children, this is to introduce the children into trying new foods.

Malleable and Messy play. This means the children will be exploring and experimenting with different textures and substances.

### Health and Safety

Whatever the weather head lice can always be a problem. Don't Panic! - Our staff can advise you of the appropriate action to take.

To avoid infection, if your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea please leave **48 hours** after recovery before sending them back to Playgroup.

Reception; please use the **correct** gate (the **IN** gate on entering and the **OUT** gate on departing). This is so we can protect your child from not getting lost.

Please inform us when **ANYONE DIFFERENT** is picking up your child, or if you are going to be late. **Please keep the playgroup up to date on current contact details** or ANY change of circumstances.

Following recent Fire Marshall Training on evacuating the premises, we cannot accommodate bikes, pushchairs etc. in the reception area, we need clear routes to get your children out safely.

Please remember to sign the medication book if you want nappy cream or medication used in playgroup.

### Healthy Eating

We are still promoting Healthy Eating in the group, by providing fresh fruit daily. Please support us by encouraging healthier options within your child packed lunches. **No sweets, chocolates or sweetie/chocolates yoghurts please.** Please wrap food in food bags, foil or cling film. Your child's leftover food is wrapped up and sent home, so you know what your child has/not eaten. Please supply your child with adequate drinks, they are allowed one third of a pint of milk free per day. We provide water if your child's drink has run out. If your child is at playgroup all day, make sure the packed lunch has an ice block in it. We provide Spoons for yoghurts. **Could you please peel, cut up pieces of fruit and halve grapes/grape tomatoes, so they are ready for your children to eat safely.** As you can understand that most days there can be 26 children for lunch there isn't time for us to do this. Thank you.

### Comments Book

We invite you to make use of our 'Comments' book. Your views and ideas are always welcome. Also please feel free to discuss any problems or queries with a member of staff. We have had good feedback about putting the coat and lunch box trolleys outside after group; it has reduced congestion in the reception.

### Playgroup Fee's

Fees must be paid on a weekly basis.

### Reminders

Please name all dummies, lunch boxes, flasks and coats. Please supply enough Nappies and wipes, if your child is not toilet trained. Please put your child in suitable clothing, especially for outside play. Toys from home to be placed in orange tug.

If you want to start toilet training your child, please discuss with a member of staff, they will only be delighted to help and advise you; e.g. loose clothing making it easier for your child.

### Journals

You are always welcome to view your child's journal and discuss your child's/children's progress. Would any parent like us to set up a parent evening to discuss your child's progress?

### Lateness

Could you make sure all contact numbers are up to date, also please could we have an alternative contact number we could contact if there had been an incident. Our policy is if a child has been left after 1 hour and no contact with parents has been established the local police will be informed. Also, regular lateness is going to be charged for by every 15 minutes. We close at 2.50pm.

### Holidays

We are closed after session on Friday 20th July and return Monday 10th September.

### Absences

Could you please inform us about absences we are obliged to record absences.

### GDPR

General Data Protection Regulation.

Due to the new legislation that has come into effect we are obliged to inform you of our Privacy Policy and where childcare funding is provided Worcester CC Privacy Policy, detailing how and why we collect, record, share and retain your and your child's personal information. In principle, this is only for our contract and obligations in providing Childcare and fulfilling our Safeguarding responsibilities for your child.

Copies of these policies accompany this newsletter.

The same regulation requires us to ensure that all personal data we hold is accurate and up to date. To this end we will be asking you to complete a form to reaffirm your and your child's details.

### 30 Hours and tax free Childcare

From September 2017 parent who meet the following criteria are able to get the Extended Entitlement of 30 hours per week free childcare.

A child qualifies for free childcare if they are resident in England, 3+ years old and under compulsory school age, if,-

- Both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), and
- Each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage (NMW) or National Living Wage (NLW), and
- Each parent earns less than £100,000 per year.

Foster carers are not eligible for the extended entitlement for the children that they foster.

Families where one parent does not work will not *usually* be eligible, however, the Extended Entitlement will be available when:-

Both parents are employed but one (or both) is temporarily away from work on Parental/maternity/paternity or adoption leave

Both parents are employed but one (or both) is temporarily away from work on Statutory Sick Pay.

Apply on [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) for your voucher code.