

Grove Pre-School
St Mary's Grove,
Nailsea,
BS48 4NQ
Tel: 07749240004 (during session hours)
07722326993 (alternative/out of hours)
Email: info@grovepreschoolnailsea.co.uk
Website: grovepreschoolnailsea.co.uk



Spring Term 2 Newsletter 2025

We hope you are enjoying your week. The next term is a busy term, we will be holding our parents/carers consultations, World Book Day, Easter Hat making and we will finish the term with our Easter Hat parade and festivities. We are looking forward to the first day of the new term **Monday 24th February 2025**

Themes and learning opportunities

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 should support children to gain a broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life. We also follow the non-statutory guidance, 'Development matters' to help support our own knowledge.

We will provide a high quality, enabling environment that supports the seven areas of learning and nurtures children's interests. The curriculum will continue in the format of 'themes' and will support each unique child. The themes will be as follows:

24th February- 21st March: People who help us

24th March- 2nd May: Spring and animals

5th May- 6th June: Health and wellbeing

9th June- 4th July: Space, the world, travel, summer

7th July- 21st July: School and transitions

We will also be following and supporting the children's interests and incorporating them to support their learning. Alongside our themes, we have accompanying songs and themed poems from 'The Poetry Basket' as well as letters of the week – the first letter of the first week back will be 'U', the number of the week will be number '1' and the poem will continue to be 'Popcorn' for the rest of the month.

You can view the poem on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r95dKqmWMCU> or [Poetry Basket - Popcorn](#)

Show and Tell

At Pre-school we welcome every child to bring something in from home to 'show and tell' during morning registration. It's a great opportunity for them to extend their communication, language and personal, social and emotional development. To make it fair, we ask that children show something **once** a week to allow everyone to have a turn. We are asking for children to bring in specific items such as something that shows their achievements, something they have made, something related to our letter of the week or an item related to our current theme. Our next letter of the week is the letter 'U'

Take Home Ted

Take home Ted is our Pre-school Teddy, children who are due to start school this September will all have a chance to take him home for a week so he can join them on their adventures- this could be anything from a trip to the library or visiting family. Please add pictures, some words or allow your child to draw a picture of them with Ted visiting so they can share it with their friends when he returns with them to Pre-school.

Planned Educational Visitors to Pre-school

This term we have two more sessions with Ella from 'Rock Out Baby'! She plays covers of well known songs as well as classic nursery rhymes, with sessions involving interactive games, sensory scarves, bubble discos and a 'musical' parachute. The sessions are to help to further develop children's confidence, support emotional wellbeing and creativity.



People Who Help Us Visitor Request

For our next theme 'People Who Help Us' we are hoping to have some visits from 'people who help us' and are looking to invite more people who have occupations that would reflect 'helping people' this could be police officers, doctors, nurses, dentists, librarians etc. if you or anyone you know has a job that 'helps' and would be happy to come to Pre-school to give a short talk to the children about this, please let us know.

Parent/Carer and Key Person Consultations

Working in partnership with you is an important element in supporting your child's learning and development.

From the week commencing **Monday 17th March** and **Monday 24th March** we will be having parent/carers and key person meetings to discuss your child's progress in more depth, these will last up to 10 minutes each, if you would like a longer appointment, this can be arranged.

There will be sign up sheets from the week commencing **Monday 24th February** please book a slot with your child's key person, if you are unable to make any of the days allocated to your child's key person, or unable to sign up, please speak to a member of staff or email info@grovepreschoolnailsea.co.uk

The meetings are an opportunity to discuss things in more detail, however, key people or Leader, Caroline Reynolds can be available whenever it is needed to have a more detailed chat.

We will also be handing out Parent/Carer questionnaires to help us, please complete these and return them to Pre-school.

Easter Hat Making and Easter Hat Parade

For the week commencing **Monday 3rd March** we are inviting parents/carers in to Pre-school at 9am to create Easter hats with your child. If you cannot attend the dates, please let a member of staff know and we will make a bag of crafts up for you to make the Easter hat at home with your child.

There will be a sign up sheet from the week commencing **Monday 24th February** so that we have an idea of numbers on each day.

The top 3 will win a small prize, we will be looking for the Easter hats that have the most child input.

On **Friday 4th April from 1.30pm**, we are inviting **all children** and their families to join us for an Easter Hat parade, refreshments and an Easter hamper draw this- will take place in The Grove, please drop children attend on a Friday at The Pre-school door, then all adults (and siblings) are to enter the main G the building and take a seat in the bar area, ready for the parade to start around **1.40pm**

The fundraising committee will be using some of the funds raised on the day to buy new or replace broken resources for the children such as puzzles, books, activities and games.



We will also be donating some of the funds raised to St Peter's Hospice, in memory of a family member close to Pre-school. You can also donate here:

muchloved.com/Donate?id=46941e10-c93b-4c79-8ac8-02481de60211





CONTEMPORARY NURSERY PHOTOGRAPHY

PLEASE BRING ALONG ANY SIBLINGS YOU
WOULD LIKE IN YOUR SHOOT.

NO OBLIGATION TO BUY (PRICES FROM £6)

A PERCENTAGE FROM EVERY PRINT SOLD
GOES TO YOUR GROUP.

CHECK OUT OUR GREAT SPECIAL OFFERS
& PRODUCTS.

WE WILL BE AT YOUR GROUP ON

Wednesday 7th May

CONCEPT PHOTOGRAPHY
WWW.CONCEPTPHOTOGRAPHYLTD.CO.UK

Photographer at Pre-school

This year, we will be having a photographer visit Pre-school on **Wednesday 7th May**.

All children in on that day will be photographed and you will receive a sample and be able to buy digital or physical copies if you wish.

If your child does not attend on a Wednesday and you would like photographs, you will be able to sign up for a time slot so that you can bring them to Pre-school for their photo on the day.

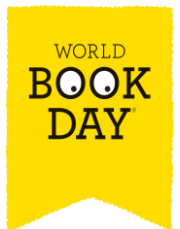
Please keep an eye out for a sign up sheet.

World Book Day - Week!

From the week commencing **Monday 3rd March**, we will be celebrating World Book day, this takes place On Thursday 7th March but to make sure all children are included, we are looking at World Book Day all week!

We are asking every child to bring in their favourite book from home on a day they attend during the week to share with their friends.

We are not asking for children to dress up, although they can if they wish to – we know siblings often dress up at school.



Fundraising

Currently, we are raising funds to replace and purchase new and updated resources.

We are also looking at lowering the ceiling in the Pre-school room- this is something that will be costly and will be carefully planned to ensure it will not disrupt Pre-school.

Lowering the ceiling will help to reduce the rising heating costs and improve the acoustics in the Pre-school room. There has been a gofundme set up by a parent, if you are able to donate, any amount will be gratefully received. As I write this, we currently have £1095.00 raised!

Donations can be made here: <https://gofund.me/504e1ef8> or using the QR code below.



Easter Hampers

We are asking for donations of Easter chocolate/ gifts and crafts for our Easter hamper draw at the end of the term. Money raised from this will be used to buy an experience or resources for the children as well as donate to a charity chosen by Pre-school



Volunteers

Mrs Brierley and Mrs Ferguson have taken over the running of Grove Pre-school fundraising committee, if you have any spare time and ideas and would like to help with the running of the committee, please let a member of staff know.

Term Dates January 2025- July 2025

Term	First Day of Term	Last Day Of Term
Spring Term 2	Monday 24 th February 2025	Friday 4 th April 2025
Summer Term 1	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Friday 23 rd May 2025
Summer Term 2	Monday 2 nd June 2025	Monday 21 st July 2025

Pre-school is closed during Bank holidays.

This year this includes Easter Monday - 21st April 2025 and May Bank holiday Monday 5th May.

It looks unlikely that we will be able to offer alternative sessions for those bank holidays due to being full on most days, I will update ASAP.

New term dates from September 2025 will be announced as soon as funding dates are announced by North Somerset

Extra Sessions and Bank holidays

We are now full for September 2025, with some children on the waiting list. We were looking to rearrange sessions for the two bank holidays, however, due to child ratio to staff requirements, this may not be possible. I will update you with more information as soon as possible.

New Advice on Toilet training

When to start toilet training

Every child's development is unique. Some children can be toilet trained earlier and faster than others. It is important to support children to learn at their own pace.

The advice on when to start toilet training children can vary. NHS guidance explains that most children are ready to begin toilet training from around 18 months to 2 years. However, some people may choose to start earlier.

Starting toilet training after 2 and a half to 3 years can make it harder for some children to learn this new skill. Different cultures may start toilet training at different ages. Toilet training should be guided by you and at Pre-school we will support this by working in partnership with you.

Please discuss any toileting needs or changes with your child's key person as soon as they arise.

For more information please visit:

[PT-Toilet-training-FINAL-VERSION-17.04.23.pdf](#)

Or

[Potty and toilet training | Contact](#)

And

[How to potty train - NHS](#)

iHV Parent Tips

iHV Institute of Health Visiting
Specialist Health Visiting



Family Corner by The Early Years Alliance

At Pre-school, we are a member of Early Years Alliance, they are now offering a new service for families -

[Family Corner | Features and tips about your child's development](#) / https://www.familycorner.co.uk/#msdynmkt_trackingcontext=475c98c2-952f-4a0e-a049-1f8c15ad0462

Family Corner: helps families to develop positive home learning environments.

On Family Corner, the Alliance's family arm, they offer a wide range of exciting sessions for parents and carers who would like to learn more about supporting their children's learning.

Supporting children with SEND- Special Educational Needs.

At Grove Pre-school Ms Reynolds is our INCCO – inclusion co-ordinator.

We support children of all abilities using tools such as Makaton, a routine board, visual prompts and self regulation support. We use documents such as individual progress plans, nurture plans and ABCC charts to give children the extra help they need with their learning and behaviour.

We also look closely at speech and language support and refer those who meet criteria, for more information and resources to help your child with their speech and language, please visit - [Early Years Speech & Language Therapy – Children and Young People’s Services](#) or <https://sirona-cic.org.uk/children-services/services/early-years-speech-language-therapy/#resources>

In North Somerset there is a great organisation that supports parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities, they hold events, workshops and offer advice.

For more information you can visit their website:

[NSPCWT](#) or <https://www.nspcwt.org/>

There is a great YouTube channel that shows some Makaton in action- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVR4-zug_Upe9pWcz1jRalw or [\(1203\) Makaton with Lucinda - YouTube](#)

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding statement: “We are committed to promoting the welfare of and safeguarding all of our children and expect everyone to share this commitment”

Our designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is Nicola Brierley, the designated safeguarding officer (DSO) is Caroline Reynolds. Nikki Ferguson is also undergoing training to be qualified to deal with any instances or queries relating to safeguarding. If you would like to speak to us privately, we can accommodate this.

Below is a reminder of our statutory duties in safeguarding all children:

There may be times when staff are required to have difficult conversations with you. Where staff are concerned about a child’s safety or welfare, they may ask questions you may find uncomfortable or upsetting. Please understand they are normal procedure and we are not passing judgement.

If we need to take further action, as a result of our conversation, we will inform you, unless we feel doing so would cause more risk. We must do this as part of the statutory duties that apply to **all** early years providers. We are required to note any existing injuries on an existing injuries form.

Please let us know if your child has an injury at home or on their way to Pre-school. We understand that children have accidents. If you do not inform us when you drop your child off, we will need to ask you how your child has any injury such as a bruise or other mark. This will then be recorded for you to sign.

If you would like to discuss anything further, please speak to a member of staff.

Absences

Please let us know via telephone call, each day of absence before 9am if your child will not be attending and why, for our safeguarding and records. You can call either telephone numbers 07722326993/07749240004. If you are unable to call, please email us: info@grovespreschoolnailsea.co.uk.

Please do not post on Tapestry as this may not be seen soon enough.

Please do not expect a reply, if we have not received communication from you, for safeguarding reasons, we will contact you.

School Starters September 2025

Primary school places for September 2025 will be announced on 16 April. We will be asking what place our child has after the Easter break.

Fees

Invoices are issued via Tapestry 'Memos' – if you have any questions please speak to Caroline Reynolds

Session Fees

If paying privately the cost is **£24.00**, per session (3 hours) this can be paid monthly/weekly/daily or half termly in advance.

Fees continue to be payable if a child is absent.

Where there is availability, we will sell sessions.

Please ask a member of staff if you would like to book any temporary extra sessions.

Early starts from 8.30am are available, paid privately at the cost of £6.

Each child's attendance is conditional upon continued payment of any necessary fees and/or funding.

We expect children who are eligible for funding to use funding for all their sessions at Pre-school or to pay fees as above, we therefore expect that at the end of the first week of term we will have received a payment from each parent/carer for a monthly/weekly/ daily or half termly payment or a completed Funding form.

2 year old 15-hour codes and 30-hour codes last approximately 3 months from the date you received the code, you should receive an email but please make a note to re-check/verify every 3 months.

For more information visit: www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare

Tax-Free Childcare

You can subsidise payments via tax free childcare if you are eligible, a contribution is made towards your payments, for more information visit: [Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare) or

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

The URN Ofsted registration number, if using tax free childcare is: 2653730

Registered as: Mrs C Reynolds, Grove Preschool



Resource fee

We ask for a resource fee contribution, without it we would be unable to cover extras such as fruit, drawing materials, extra resources, Mother's/Father's Day, Easter gifts etc. You can pay termly (6 times a year) or yearly.

Hours attending per week	Resource fee per term	Total per year
3-15	£11.00	£66.00
16-30	£16.00	£96.00

Late Collection Fee

If you are consistently late to collect your child, due to at least two paid members of staff having to stay with them at Pre-school, a charge of £6 per 15 minutes will be incurred

Bank details for Pre-school

Grove Preschool Nailsea Limited

Account number: 19949720

Sort code: 04-06-05

Please use your family name as the reference.

We do not take cash payments.

Information for new starters and reminders

Pre-school Curriculum goals

At Grove Pre-school we will provide an enabling environment that supports and extends all children's learning and development, including children with English as additional language and Special Educational Needs.

We will implement the Early Years Foundation Stage to holistically cover all 7 areas of learning and development and support all characteristics of effective learning through flexible planning which is responsive to individual children's needs, interests and experiences.

As follows are goals that are important to us at Grove Pre-school. We aim to work in partnership with parents/carers to help children to be able to learn, remember and master some important skills by the end of their journey at Pre-school.

Communication and language:

- To know and be able to recite, with actions, at least 6 poems from the Poetry basket with support
- To know and be able to sing at least 6 familiar songs, with actions
- To be able to retell our chosen Pre-school stories - 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle, 'Misha Makes Friends' by Tom Percival, 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and 'The Three Little Pigs' by First Readers

Personal, social and emotional development:

- To be aware of their different emotions and know at least 2 healthy ways to help regulate their own emotions, with the help of our wellbeing area.
- To know our pre-school 'take 5' rules that support our British values. –listen to others, take care of our things, play safe be safe, share and take turns, be kind to all.

Physical Development:

- For children to be able to complete an obstacle race
- To be able to be independent and knowledgeable about their self care -to be able to use the toilet, washing their hands properly, putting their shoes and coats on.
- To make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and oral hygiene

Literacy:

- To show an early interest in stories and a passion for reading with a focus on our 4 chosen Pre-school books - 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Misha Makes Friends', 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'The Three Little Pigs'
- To know the structure and storyline of our 4 chosen Pre-school books and be able to reference them and describe what happens during the different parts – beginning, middle and the end.
- To recognise and write some of their name

Maths

- For children to be able to subitise and have a deeper understanding of numbers 1-5
- To be able to describe a familiar walk and route we take at pre-school

Understanding the world

- To know the metamorphosis process of a caterpillar to a butterfly and to know how to grow a seed into a plant
- To have positive attitudes about the difference between people

Expressive Art and Design

- To be able to show different emotions through the media of dance, paint and role play
- To be able to play percussion instruments with increasing control and meaning

Food and drink



Please inform us of any changes to allergies or dietary requirements as soon as possible.

As part of the EYFS we will be encouraging children to make healthy choices about food and drink, please help support this by providing healthy food choices in their lunch box and only water in their water bottles for Pre-school.

Snack time

We will provide a variety of different fruit/ vegetables alongside a drink for your child to choose for a snack during the morning session- the cost is covered in the resource fee.

Lunch boxes

Children staying past 12 or attending at 12 for lunch will need to bring a packed lunch in a named washable lunch box with and ice pack - we will provide a safe space for lunch boxes.

Please remember to cut grapes and cherry tomatoes as these are a choking hazard for young children. We are a nut free setting, please do not include any nuts or foods containing nuts. Please do not include popcorn in your child's lunch.

Drinks

We provide milk or water in a cup at snack time and lunch time. **Please provide a named water bottle for your child so they can have access to water throughout the day.**

Clothing

We encourage outside activity and regularly go for walks.

With the changeable weather, please ensure your child has suitable clothing - no shoulders showing, and footwear- no open toed shoes.

Please provide named wellies in a bag, these can stay at Pre-school.

Please apply all day sun cream and provide your child with a named sun hat on sunny days.

Uniform is optional. Please provide changes of clothes in your child's bag,

If you wish to purchase any you can do so online:

<https://www.gouldgarments.co.uk/grovepreschool>

We sometimes have a selection of uniform you can purchase at a discounted rate, ask a member of staff for details.

Books and book bags

We are very fortunate to have several boxes of books at pre-school the children can borrow these (new children will receive a book bag during their first week at pre-school, if not before) this will include a book to record any comments about the books read, what your child thought about the books and any reading progress. You can also use the record book to write a note for your child's key person.

There is also a 'Family book' enclosed, please fill this with family members, pets and anything of importance to your child. These are a great resource to help your child settle and to help them share their home life with us.

There are some information sheets in the bag, please take time to read them.

We will be sending several books home at a time so please only send in book bags a maximum of once a week or when the books have been read.

Emergency Closures

In the event of extreme weather or illness causing staff shortages resulting in us having to close, a memo will be posted on Tapestry and a Facebook post will confirm this.

Contact Details

It is important that we have up to date contact details- phone numbers and address, in case we need to contact you urgently to collect your child or if we have to close suddenly. Please notify us of any changes as soon as possible so we can update our records.

All our contact details are at the top of the newsletter.

Online Communication

Tapestry

We use Tapestry as our primary source of communication to work in partnership with parents.

Tapestry has multiple functions, not only can you view your child's personal online learning journal with records of photos and observations of your child you can also view documents and memos which will include information, **updates, newsletters, invoices, fee reminders and emergency closures due to weather etc.**

Please check Tapestry regularly to view your child's observations and important Memos

Once you have read memos, please give it a 'like' so we know you have seen it.

Email invites have been sent out from Tapestry to all new families and re-sent to parents/carers who have not yet set their account up (Please check junk/spam)

Thank you to the parents who have already signed up- if you are having any trouble accessing this or would like to add another family member to receive updates, please email and let us know.

New Families

Please go into your child's account, on the right-hand side it says "About me" please complete this section to help us learn more about your child and create a starting point to help us support continual progression.

Please note: the staff have a rota for observations each staff has multiple key children, with this in mind, there will not be updates every time your child attends, but there will be focused observations and 'Wow' moments, There is a general update weekly for all families.



Facebook

We have a Facebook page where we share more general information and updates, to like our page search **Grove Preschool Nailsea**

Instagram

Follow us on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/grovepreschoolnailsea>

If you are having trouble accessing anything online please speak to a member of staff.

You are welcome to chat to a member of staff at any time, call us during session times or email us if needed.