



Totterdown Preschool

Terms and Conditions Updated March 2021

Admissions

It is the intention of Totterdown Preschool to make our provision accessible to children and families from all sections of the community. Our admission policy operates in conjunction with our Valuing Diversity and Promoting Equal Opportunities Policy to ensure that it is applied in a fair and unbiased manner. Children may attend Totterdown Preschool when they are 2 years of age and stay with us until the term before their 5th birthday.

Registration Fee and Deposit

Once you have decided to send your child to Totterdown Preschool, you will be required to complete and sign a Registration Form and Terms and Conditions. Applications for places must be accompanied by a £35 non-refundable registration fee. We will also need to see the child's birth certificate.

In the event that a preschool place is not immediately available, then your child's name will be put on the waiting list. We arrange our waiting list on a first come, first served basis, whilst taking into account any siblings that may already attend as well as the length of time that the child has been on the waiting list.

Attendance

We are flexible about attendance patterns to accommodate the needs of individual children and families and recommend, where possible, that children attend for a minimum of two sessions per week. This is to ensure that children benefit from continuity and stability in their learning environments. If you wish to increase the number of sessions your child attends, you must notify the Preschool in writing and you will be advised as to the availability for your child.

Opening Hours

Our opening hours are as follows: Morning sessions run from
7:45-8:15 Breakfast Club (not included in funded hours)
8:15-9:15 Early Drop
9.15- 12.15 Morning session
12:15-1:15 Lunch Club
1:15-2:15 Activities Hour
2:15-4pm Extended Day (not included in funded hours and only for children aged 3 plus)
Totterdown Preschool will be open for up to 38 weeks of the year, term time only. This means that the Preschool will be closed on all bank holidays and all school holidays, as well as pre-arranged INSET training days for staff

Lunch

If children are staying at Totterdown Preschool for the whole day, they will need to bring in a packed lunch, in line with our Health and Safety Policy and our Healthy Eating Policy. Their lunch should contain a selection of healthy foods, with no nuts, fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars.

A healthy snack and either milk or water is provided to each child in the form of a “rolling snack bar” each day. There is a choice of fruit and one other textured snack that the children may access after register has been taken. Water is available all day for the children to independently access and milk is also on offer during snack time. A member of staff oversees the snack bar and encourages children to be as independent as possible in pouring and choosing their snack.

Timings, Fees, Payments and Funding

Timings:

Our aim is to be as flexible as possible with what we offer, therefore allowing parents to choose the configuration that works best for them. There is an option for additional breakfast club and extended day for those parents needing a longer day. The preschool times are set out below:

7:45 – 8:15 Breakfast club (not included in funded hours)

8.15 – 9.15 Early drop

9.15 – 12.15 Morning session

12.15 – 1.15 Lunch club

1.15 – 2.15 Activities hour

2:15 – 4pm Extended day (not included in funded hours and only for children aged 3 plus)

All of the above, except those stated, can be paid for by your 15/30 hour government funding or by yourselves

Funded hours are between 8:15am and 2:15pm. As a parent you can use your funding any way you wish as long as you do not split a session e.g. you would not be able to bring your child in for the morning session, take them home for lunch and then bring them back afterwards; or start a session at 10:15 etc. Funded hours cannot be swapped mid term. If you wish your child to attend a different day on one week then it is chargeable and at the discretion of the preschool as to whether this can be accommodated

Charges

Totterdown Preschool fees are set at a competitive level in order to achieve and retain highly qualified staff, which include an Early Years qualified teacher with QTS, to provide high staff ratios and to maintain a sustainable and well -equipped setting. Totterdown Preschool welcomes Early Years Funded Entitlement vouchers both the universal 15 hours and the extended 15 hours, as well as FEET funded children.

Any sessions that are above and beyond this free entitlement are as follows:

Charges are as follows:

3- hour morning session - £16.50,

Full day - £33. (This equates to £5.50 per hour from 8:15am to 2:15pm)

Breakfast club - £4
Early drop - £5.50
Lunch club - £5.50
Activities hour - £5.50
Extended day - £10

There will also be an additional consumable charge at £2 per day. This is due to the Government funding only providing sufficient funding to cover a basic provision. This consumable charge is used to provide the children with an enhanced curriculum and a wide range of learning experiences as well as a healthy and varied snack. If you do not wish to pay this charge, then we can issue you with a list of resources that will need to be brought in on a half termly basis in order that your child can have full access to the curriculum we offer. This charge is reviewed annually.

If your child wishes to take part in one of our outside provider classes, such as forest school, this will incur an additional charge. These charges are reviewed yearly.

We offer a sibling discount of 10% which is valid on all paid for sessions but excludes consumables, breakfast club and extended day.

Invoices are sent out termly, two weeks before each term ends and are payable prior to any sessions commencing. Alternative payment schedules can be discussed. Totterdown Preschool reserves the right to refuse entry if fees have not been paid.

Payment should be made within 7 days of receipt of invoice. Fees should be paid via standing order. Fees for the first half term that your child starts, must be paid within 14 days of your child's start date. If your child's start date is within 14 days of starting, the payment must be made as soon as Totterdown Preschool has written to you to confirm the start date. Fees are payable by the parents/guardians, individually /and or jointly, who have signed and returned the terms and conditions and registration form. Fees are reviewed annually and are subject to change. We will provide written notice, of at least one half term if fees have to be increased.

Absences

All fees, including consumables are payable in advance for all sessions booked. No refunds will be made if your child is absent from Totterdown Preschool, even if the absence is due to illness, holidays or other such reasons..

Non-Payment and late Fees

If fees are not paid as agreed, the Preschool will note the delay and ask for payment in writing, stating that the child's place could be withdrawn if payment is not forthcoming by a specified date. In the event that payment is not received, Totterdown Preschool reserves the right to terminate and/or amend this contract with immediate effect and withdraw the child's place. The Preschool also reserves the right to apply a late payment fee of £50 and reserves the right to pursue non-payment of fees in the small claims court.

We appreciate that if a family is experiencing financial difficulty, it may be hard to make full

payment in one instalment. In such situations, and on a case by case basis the Preschool will negotiate payment in alternative monthly instalments.

Late Collection Charge

You are required to inform the Preschool as early as possible if you are going to be late collecting your child; this is to ensure that sufficient staff cover can be arranged. If a child is not collected before the standard finishing time of a session, the Preschool reserves the right to charge a late collection fee of £5 per 10 minutes until the child is collected. Late collection charges are due for payment, when the parent/guardian is invoiced for the pre-booked sessions. In the event that no contact can be made within 30 minutes either with those with parental responsibility or emergency contacts then Totterdown Preschool will contact Social Services for further advice.

Local Authority Funding

The Preschool is approved to accept government Early Years Free Entitlement Funding for children aged three and four year olds, and FEET (Free Early Years Education for Two Year Olds). The Early Years Entitlement funding entitles a child to have up to 15 hours of funded early years provision a week, for 38 weeks a year. The first term that your child is eligible, you will be asked to fill in an Early Years Free Entitlement Registration Form. We will need to see your child's birth certificate or passport as proof of identity and eligibility. You will also need to complete an Early Years Free Entitlement Declaration Form at the beginning of every term, stating the exact number of hours your child will be attending. These are not transferable.

In addition to the above, any parent wishing to claim the +15 hours (30 hours) will need to provide their National Insurance number and eligibility code, which will need to be obtained through the government website. Please note that in the case of 30 hour funding parents will need to join the scheme in the previous term to starting Totterdown, as the funding is provided at the beginning of each new term (Autumn, Spring and Summer) and cannot be applied for once the term has commenced.

When a parental contract has been signed agreeing to take the funded entitlement, the Preschool will get secure funding for a full term. Totterdown Preschool reserves the right to hold funding for the duration of the notice period.

Termination or Cancellation

If you wish to remove a child from our setting, or want to reduce the number of sessions attended, parents/guardians must give at least 6 weeks notice (not including holidays) of the change in writing. Fees will be payable (or grant claimed by us), until that date, whether your child attends the Preschool or not. Any postponements of the agreed start date for your child will require one calendar month's written notice, failing which fees will be charged from the original start date.

Child Illness and exclusions

If children appear unwell when they arrive in the morning, the Preschool reserves the right to ask the parent/guardian to take them home. If, during the day, children appear unwell and have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the Preschool reserves the right to contact you to ask that you collect your child, or send an

emergency contact (as stated on the Registration Form) to collect on your behalf.

Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents/guardians are required to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the Preschool. If a child is prescribed antibiotics for a contagious infection, such as impetigo, slap cheek, worms etc, you are required to keep your child at home until the antibiotics course is finished.

All parents are required to inform the Preschool if their child has been ill over the weekend or overnight before a session, and if they have been given any medication for the illness. Any child that is administered any paracetamol or ibuprofen prior to attending their session will be refused entry on the grounds that to be given medication the child must be unwell and therefore needs to be at home.

Any child who is sent home due to a high temperature will be asked to be kept at home for 24 hours after, so that they may fully recover.

You must also inform the Preschool if your child has any contagious illness such as measles or chicken pox, so the other preschool parents can be informed.

We also ask that should your child be absent from Preschool that you telephone and leave a message, on the first absent day, stating your child's name, reason for absence and when you think they will be likely to return. We will follow up any non-informed attendance with a telephone call or a text message.

In the case that live headlice are detected then parents will be informed and children may be asked to be collected.

If your child has suffered from vomiting or diarrhoea, we require that they be kept away from preschool for at least 48 hours.

You may also be required to withdraw your child if we have reasonable cause to believe that the child is, or may be, suffering from any contagious disease or condition. This is to ensure that the risk of spread of disease to other children and staff is kept to a minimum. We exclude children who have communicable diseases for the recommended time required. The Preschool holds a list of communicable diseases and the incubation periods/exclusion times and will advise parents accordingly. The Preschool reserves the right to send home an unwell child or to refuse a child if we feel that they are unwell.

Removal

In extreme cases, and as a last resort, we may require you to permanently withdraw your child from the Preschool on grounds of a child's disruptive or inappropriate behaviour, if it is in the best interests of your child and/or other children who attend the setting. We will consult with you before making such a decision.

Abuse to Staff

Totterdown Preschool will not tolerate any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation or violence towards any member of staff. If a parent intimidates or acts in an aggressive manner towards a staff member, they will be asked to leave the premises immediately. This

may result in the loss of your child's place at the Preschool. More serious incidents will be reported to the police for further action.

Liability

Totterdown Preschool accepts no liability for any pecuniary or other loss suffered by you arising directly or indirectly as a result of the Preschool being temporarily closed or the non-admittance of a child to the Preschool for any reason.

Property and Belongings

Totterdown Preschool cannot be held responsible for the loss or damage to children's property, unless damage is caused due to the negligence of our staff. Every reasonable effort will be made by the staff to ensure that children's belongings are not lost or damaged. Parents should supply sufficient, practical clothing, labelled with your child's full name, for your child's daily needs.

Preschool Closure

On occasion there may be circumstances beyond our control (for instance weather conditions, flooding, medical emergencies) that means the decision has to be taken to close the Preschool. If the Preschool is obliged on these occasions to pay the staff, then the Preschool reserves the right to charge for any session which your child would have attended.

Disclosures

Totterdown Preschool needs to be informed about any medical and non-medical conditions, health problem, allergy or suspected learning difficulty affecting your child. We also need to be informed of any family circumstances or court order that may affect your child whilst in our care. Please ensure that such information is disclosed on your child's registration form. In addition, you are required to inform the Preschool in writing of any changes to the information held by us (eg, changes to emergency contacts, allergies, medical conditions, address etc).

Security

The safety of the children is our paramount concern. Under no circumstances will a child be allowed to leave the Preschool with anyone unknown to the staff, unless previously arranged by you. If you make prior arrangements by telephone, the Preschool will require the name and telephone number of the chosen person, as well as asking for the nominated password.

The Agreement

The Registration Form and these Terms and Conditions represent the understanding between Totterdown Preschool and the Parent(s)/Guardian(s). The signing of the Terms and Conditions, and the date that written confirmation of your child's place at Totterdown Preschool is issued, gives rise to a legally binding contract on the above terms between yourselves and Totterdown Preschool and constitutes commencement of the Agreement. Any breach of the Terms and Conditions will result, if necessary, in your child's place being withdrawn and possible court action, to recoup any money owed to the Preschool.

I understand the terms and conditions of Totterdown Preschool and agree to abide by them. I understand that the Preschool reserves the right to amend the Terms and Conditions from time to time and that I will be given reasonable notice of any such amendment.

Parent/Guardian 1

Parent/Guardian 2

Print name _____

Print name _____

Signed _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Date _____

Relationship to child _____

Relationship to child _____

Please ensure that the completed and signed Registration Form, a signed copy of the Preschool's Terms and Conditions and a non-refundable registration fee of £35, (cash and bacs transfers are accepted).

Totterdown Preschool Harpers
Harpers Scout Hut
Ash
Aldershot
GU12 6DA.

Or emailed to:

enquiries@totterdownpreschool.co.uk or
harpers@totterdownpreschool.co.uk