

Dulwich Village Pre-school

Welcome to Dulwich Village Pre-school

We realise how daunting this time can be for parents and children alike. For this reason, we have put together some information which should help clarify any questions that you may have regarding the pre-school.

Please note that we are led by an elected committee, which ensure that major decision making is in the hands of the parents. All parents are welcome to join the committee and support the school.

We also hope that you will join in with some of our events. They are lots of fun, always popular with the children and a great way to get to know everyone.

In the meantime, if you have any questions which are not covered, feel free to chat to us at any time.

Best wishes,

Beatrice and Amy

Committee members

**Book Bags**

All new children are given green book bags to put their pictures, letters and books in. If you are in a hurry in the morning and want to speak to a teacher but do not have time, please put a letter in your child’s book bag as we check them at the start of each session. Please remember to check your child’s book bag for any school letters or information. Children are encouraged to bring their favourite books in from home. These will be read at story time and then returned to the book bag.

**Red Books**

All children at the pre-school have two books…..

1. The pre-school journal

We ask that parents provide us with photos of holidays, outings, family, friends or anything that would be of interest to your child. The idea is to encourage children to talk about their life outside the pre-school, and create their own journal in the process. Please feel free to include photos in the green book bag. The journal is given to the child at the end of their stay with us and is a great keepsake of their time with us.

1. The pre-school development book

The development book encourages children to practice their pencil skills. Children are encouraged to draw anything that is significant, for example it might be something relating to the term’s topic or a story that has been read in pre-school. Children will also practice writing their names, numbers and shapes.

You can take a look at your child’s journal or development book any time during the school term.

**Lunches**

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide meals at the pre-school. However we provide a light snack during the morning and afternoon sessions.

We encourage parents to pack a healthy lunch and avoid certain foods such as crisps, chocolate and fizzy drinks. Food containing nuts are banned from the pre-school due to possible allergies.

For information about what makes a healthy, balanced lunch box visit [Eat Better Start Better](http://media.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/2015/05/CFT-Packed-Lunch-Guidance.pdf). For ideas of what to include in a packed lunch you could visit [Children's Food Trust](http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/parents/your-childs-food-at-school/packed-lunches/what-to-put-in-a-lunchbox/) and [Good To Know](http://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/recipes/pictures/29229/30-packed-lunch-ideas).

Please note we cannot heat up any individual meals so to bare that in mind when choosing a packed lunch for your child.

Parents are welcome to bring in birthday cake to share for those special celebrations!

**Communication**

Each week the committee send an email outlining what has gone on at the pre-school that week and what’s coming up in the upcoming weeks. Please make sure that we have an up-to-date email address and that you regularly check for messages.

You can always have a quick chat with your child’s key person at drop off/pick up or arrange a meeting if there is something you would like to discuss in more detail.

**Reports**

6 weeks after your child starts at the pre-school you will be invited to a review meeting with your child’s key person to discuss their progress and to set targets for your child.

Written reviews are done in the Autumn and Spring Terms.

A review meeting is held during Summer Term for all parents. If your child is leaving to go into Reception year a Transition Report Meeting is held where a more targeted discussion takes place. These meetings take place with your child’s key person

**Annual events**

We run a number of special events throughout the year including the Halloween party, Christmas play, Christmas party, Easter bunny egg hunt, Summer BBQ and Sports day.

We also run coffee mornings for parents/carers to get to know each other. Younger siblings are always welcome, with some toys available to keep them entertained.

**Driving at the pre-school**

Please remember that there is a 10mph speed limit on the drive, in order to keep everyone safe.