



Ofsted reg. no. EY336516  
Company no. 5799606

## Information for Parents - Prospectus

Martyrs Church Hall

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Telephone: 07909 948 943

[www.hopscotchplaygroup.com](http://www.hopscotchplaygroup.com)

Hopscotch Playgroup opened in September 2006 and provides child centred care and early education for children aged between 2 and 5 years.

We have four members of staff as well as several regular volunteers and students. Lorraine Pointon is the team leader and is an experienced early years teacher.



At Hopscotch we aim to provide:-

- a safe, friendly and fun environment
- opportunities for children to gain in confidence as they develop independence and explore an environment away from their homes and families
- a rich environment, enabling children to learn through play and extend their learning through good quality talk and interactions with adults
- a high standard of care
- a range of learning opportunities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

### Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

We aim to provide every child at Hopscotch with the same opportunities; no child is discriminated against because of religion, race, gender, ability or background. Resources are chosen with care in order to avoid stereotyping and to offer an environment that reflects the diversity of our multi-cultural society. Children are encouraged to respect one another and to value and celebrate our differences. We will offer opportunities to learn about different religions and cultures.

Racism will not be tolerated.

### Special Needs

We aim to be inclusive at Hopscotch and will accept children with special needs, as long as we have the equipment, space and staff expertise to provide for their individual needs. We work closely with parents and other agencies to ensure these needs are met.

## Child Protection

We follow the local 'Safeguarding Children' procedures. The safety and protection of the children is our first priority. If we feel a child is at risk, then it is our duty to inform the relevant authorities whose responsibility it is to conduct further investigations.

## Behaviour Policy

We aim to provide a caring and friendly environment so that every child can reach her/his full potential. We encourage everyone at Hopscotch, children and adults, to be polite, kind and helpful and to show respect for other people and their property.

We reinforce these values through praise, encouragement and recognition of achievement.



We have a number of policies and procedures that inform our practice, the above is just a brief overview. Copies of all our policies are available at [www.hopscotchplaygroup.com](http://www.hopscotchplaygroup.com), and at Hopscotch, on the parents' notice board.

Please ask if you would like to borrow copies.

## The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the framework that all OFSTED registered early years settings and schools now work to. It maps child development and sets standards of care and the play and learning experiences that children and their families can expect from all settings. It covers children from birth to the end of the academic year in which they have their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is a play based and principled approach to childhood experiences and learning.

The introduction to the framework states that "A safe, secure and happy childhood is important in its own right, and it provides the foundation for children to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up."



The EYFS is organised into four themes:-

1. A Unique Child
2. Positive Relationships
3. Enabling Environments
4. Learning and Development

Each theme has a commitment statement and further aspects and guidance are included. A poster detailing these can be seen at Hopscotch.

The EYFS underpins our approach and informs all we do. The commitment of the theme of learning and development is that 'children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of learning and development are equally important and inter-connected.'



There is a strong emphasis on play and exploration, active learning, creativity and critical thinking.

These aspects then inform the six areas of learning and development. These areas are:-

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development ~ developing a positive sense of themselves, respect for others, social skills and a positive disposition to learn.
2. Communication, Language and Literacy ~ communicating with one another and adults; and developing skills in talking, listening, writing and reading.
3. Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy ~ developing understanding and using ideas about number, calculating and measurement, shape and space.
4. Knowledge and Understanding of the World ~ developing knowledge, skills and understanding that help them make sense of the world.
5. Physical Development ~ being given opportunities to improve skills of co-ordination, control, manipulation and movement; and developing an awareness of being healthy.
6. Creative Development ~ extending children's curiosity, exploration and play by being given opportunities to share their ideas and feelings through art, music, movement, dance, role-play, etc.

We have a parent copy of the EYFS at Hopscotch and if you would like to borrow it, please speak to Lorraine.

## Complaints

We aim to work closely with parents for the benefit of children in our care. If you have any concerns or queries please feel free to discuss them with Lorraine, any member of staff or one of the board members (names are displayed on the parents' notice board.)

If an issue cannot be satisfactorily resolved, we do have a complaints procedure or you can make a formal complaint to OFSTED, (Office for Standards in Education):

Early Years OFSTED  
The Frontage  
Queens Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 2AE