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Information for Parents - Your child starting at playgroup

Martyrs Church Hall

19 Westcotes Drive

Leicester LE3 0QT

Telephone: 07909 948 943

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.

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 play and 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



We have four members of staff, Lorraine Pinton (manager), Ruth Upton (deputy), Sarah Bulman and Lindsay Johnstone.



Sarah



Ruth



Lorraine



Lindsay

In addition we have some regular volunteers and we support students on placement from various colleges.

Opening Times and Fees

Hopscotch is open from 9am to 12 noon every week day morning during school term times.

Fees are £7.50 per session. Fees are to be paid on the first session your child attends each week. We accept payment weekly, fortnightly, monthly or termly in advance.

We accept cash, cheques, made payable to: Hopscotch Playgroup Ltd. or direct bank transfer, we can let you have our bank details on request. **Please note** that we are a non-profit making organisation and therefore rely on fees being paid on time.

We are registered to provide early education under the Nursery Education Grant and children are eligible for a funded place from the term following their 3rd Birthday.

Absence

If your child is unable to attend Hopscotch for any reason, whether it be due to holidays or illness, fees still need to be paid in full.

If the absence has been due to illness, please inform a member of staff.

Clothing

Please do not send children to Hopscotch in 'best' clothes, we do provide aprons for 'messy' activities, but they do not always protect children's clothes 100%. We would also recommend that long hair is tied back.



It is helpful too if children can manage their own clothing, especially when toilet training! So trousers and leggings may be easier for younger children than dungarees or tights.

However accidents do happen, this is no problem but your child may feel more confident and comfortable in his/her own clothing. Please send a change of clothes in a named bag; this can be left on your child's peg. If your child is in nappies, please also send nappy changing gear in the bag.

Thank you

Snack

Children are provided with a drink and a healthy snack during the session. We enjoy eating together and favourites include toast, cheese and crackers and a wide variety of fruit. Fresh water is also available to the children throughout the morning.



It is important that you inform us of any allergies on the information sheets.

Security

Please ensure you sign your child in every morning, we have a file for this purpose by the door each day. If somebody different will be collecting your child from Hopscotch **PLEASE** let us know on the signing-in sheet. Your child will not be let out of our care if we are not aware of this arrangement, until you have confirmed the information is correct.

Illness

Please do not send your child to Hopscotch if they are ill. If your child has been sick or has had a bout of diarrhoea, they must be kept off playgroup for at least 48 hours from the last bout of illness.

If a child becomes ill whilst at Hopscotch, every effort will be made to contact you so that arrangements can be made for them to be collected. If a child becomes seriously ill or has a serious accident an ambulance will be called.

Medication

If your child needs medication whilst at Hopscotch please speak to Lorraine, as you will need to fill in a medication form.

First Aid

Any accident that requires first aid is recorded in the accident book. Parents/carers will be informed and you will be asked to sign the accident record as an indication that you are aware of what has happened.

A typical morning at Hopscotch might look something like this.....

- 9am Arrival, signing-in and free play activities.
- 9.30am 'Good morning' - an opportunity to share news, listen to each other and sing a song.
- 9.45am Free choice of activities: - messy and creative play, role-play area, construction and physical play opportunities.
- 10.30am Snack time
- 10.45am Free choice of activities: - book area, counting and problem-solving, jigsaw puzzles and sand or water play.

Or maybe.....parachute games, movement and dance session, music time, outdoor play, PE activities.....

- 11.45am Story and singing time.
- 12noon Time to go home.

And finally.....We want your child to settle quickly and have a happy time with us. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please speak to Lorraine or any of the staff. We'd love to hear what you think!