



Prospectus 2023/24





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About our Preschool

Little Steps Preschool is a small, friendly, independent Preschool located in the Blaby Methodist Church in the heart of the community. It is a large building with lots of inside space including a wonderful hall.

We have 2 secure outside areas, one of which is paved and the other a grassed area and follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.); therefore we are able to accept government funding for 3 and 4 year olds.

We are also able to offer 2 year old funding for those who are eligible.



Our Aims

- To ensure children have an opportunity to learn and develop through natural environments, curiosity and personal interests.
- To provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment.
- To provide equal opportunities for all children so they will graduate from Preschool confident and ready to take the next step.



Learning Through Play

Our main emphasis is “Learning through Play” although we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum. The word “curriculum” describes everything the children experience in Preschool. As a team, we plan the curriculum carefully to ensure all the different areas of learning are covered by the play activities we provide. These different areas of learning are divided into 7 ‘Early Learning Goals’:



- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Physical development
- Expressive arts and design

Our planning is based on the individual needs of the children and interlinked with the EYFS, which enables us to plan according to the child’s progress and development.

At each session the children have access to:

- Structured and spontaneous play.
- Practical and first-hand experiences.
- Small group work with focused teaching.
- Adults who will listen and encourage children’s use of language.

By watching and listening, playing and talking with the children, we are able to check each child’s progress and plan future work. Our observations, both written and photographic, are recorded regularly in each child’s ‘Learning Journey’ along with pieces of work which we are happy to share with you at any time.

We hold a parent’s evening where parents are invited into the setting to discuss their child’s progress via the Learning Journey and speak to their child’s key person. When the time comes for your child to leave Preschool the staff complete a transition sheet and invite the reception teacher into the setting to meet the children, promoting a smooth transition into school.

Our Daily Routine



1 Staff welcome children and parents/carers. The children then self register, placing their named foot print onto the board. We sit down and have group registration and the opportunity to share any news with their friends.

Child Initiated Play - A range of activities are offered each day and the children are encouraged to make their own choices, from the enhanced continuous provisions. Children have the opportunity to develop personal, social and emotional skills as well as language and mathematical skills, in order to experience science and the arts, to build up concepts and gain knowledge. Playing together co-operatively is always encouraged at Preschool throughout all activities. A healthy snack is provided mid morning, consisting of a either fruit, vegetables, carbohydrates - e.g. toast and breadsticks or protein - e.g. yogurts or cheese and a drink of either water or milk. Water is on offer throughout the day, please see our food and drink policy online.

Outside play -The children have access to the outside areas both morning and afternoon, weather permitting. Children are encouraged to put on their coat and collect their belongings independently.

2 Lunch times run between 12.00pm and 1.00pm and all children within the setting at this time eat together with the staff. Lunch needs to be provided by parents in the form of a healthy packed lunch in a named lunch bag which is placed on our lunch trolley. We ask that the children's packed lunches do not include fizzy drinks or sweets and that parent's follow our nut free policy. We encourage the use of frozen ice-packs within lunch boxes.



3 **Story/Song Time** – children return to the carpet area for a story to help develop listening and language skills before they go home.



Preschool Fees



The fees for 2023/24 are £6 per hour, payable monthly in advance.

We are in receipt of Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

For more information go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk Where funding is not received normal fees apply.

We charge a £20.00 registration to contribute towards the cost of snacks.

Please note that we have a very quick turnaround time between our morning and afternoon sessions. Preschool staff understand that there may occasionally be an emergency when parents or carers cannot get to Preschool for the correct collection time. In these circumstances we ask for the parent or carer to telephone the Preschool as soon as possible. If children are regularly collected late from Preschool this may cause problems with staffing and adult-child ratios; therefore a late collection fee will be charged of £1 for every 5 minutes late.

Our Sessions

Little Steps is open weekdays for 38 weeks of the year in line with local school term dates.

Meet the Team

ALL our
staff are paediatric
First Aid trained.



Jo Whitty

Director/Manager

- NVQ level 3, Paediatrics First Aid
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Senco, Food Hygiene
- Health and Safety



Vicki Stone

Director/Manager

- NVQ level 3, Paediatrics First Aid
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Senco, Food Hygiene
- Health and Safety



Our Preschool staff are a caring and a close-knit team who between them have many years' experience of working with young children. They all have cleared an enhanced Disclosed and Barring Service Check.

While at the Preschool each child is assigned a **Key Person**, who will take a special interest in the child, helping them to settle in and make friends, assessing their progress, discussing this with parents, ensuring that the activities on offer are tailored to the child's particular needs through weekly adult led planning.





Contact Us



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You can download our Registration documents and find further information on our website.

