

Barkham

Pre School

Prospectus
2011/12

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Introduction

Welcome to Barkham Pre-School, where we aim to provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which your child can develop, explore and have FUN!

Barkham Pre-School was established in 1971 and provides facilities for children from 2 years 6 months to 5 years. Sessions are 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours long including lunchtime (children may bring a packed lunch) and are funded when children are eligible.

We are a registered charity situated in Barkham Village Hall, a peaceful setting on the outskirts of Wokingham next to open fields and Barkham Church. The Village Hall gives us the flexibility of both a small and large hall, with a secure outside play area.

We are registered with Wokingham District Council Child Care Services Department and are inspected by OFSTED. The Pre-School was inspected by OFSTED in 2011 and was judged to provide a Good standard of care.

We offer a happy and caring environment for the children. Our aim is to provide learning experiences through a wide variety of structured activities and play, and to work in partnership with parents to help each child make a happy transition from home to school.



We have an excellent team of caring and committed staff, who promote a happy and supportive atmosphere. Each staff member has been police vetted and has signed both a statement of suitability and a non-discrimination declaration as laid down by OFSTED. As a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA) it is our aim to have fully trained staff. The staff attend foundation courses run by the PLA, Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) and other agencies. All the staff are qualified First Aiders.

We are registered for a maximum of 24 places per session. The staffing ratio of adults to children is a minimum of one adult to six children.

Further information can be found in our policy document or on our website www.barkhampreschool.net.

Sessions and Fees

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 12.45 pm

We are registered for children aged 2 years 6 months to 5 years. The fee per session is £12.00 (or free from the term after your child is 3, subject to WBC notification). Children can attend up to 4 sessions per week, usually starting with fewer and increasing when the vouchers come into effect.



Staff

Staff Members

- Supervisor: Jackie Lawrence (NVQ3)
- Deputy Supervisor: Julia Edwards (DPP)
- Pre-School Assistants: Vanessa Guy, Karen Brill, Linda James (IPP and CPP) and Rachel Sollars

In addition, we also have one parent helper at all sessions (supervised at all times).

We offer your child:

- Fun and friendship with other children and adults.
- The support of a personal key worker, who will quickly get to know your child and tailor the activities to suit their interests.
- Bright, spacious premises in an idyllic location, including two halls, fenced outdoor area, kitchen, and plenty of car parking.
- A carefully planned curriculum with themed activities, which works towards all the early learning goals of the foundation stage for children aged 3-5 years.



Additional Information

Opportunities

There are many opportunities for you to be involved with the pre-school, from being an occasional helper to being Chair of the Committee! Please contact Jackie Lawrence for more details.

Lunchtime

Children may bring a packed lunch to eat with the other children during a supervised lunchtime. There is no extra charge for this. If you don't want your child to stay you can collect them at 12.00.



A Typical Day

Typically the sessions run as follows:

9.00 am Children arrive and enter the small hall, which is set up with a variety of activities, including construction, jigsaws and games.

9.30 am Children enter the main hall and enjoy free play.

During this time the children may have a healthy snack and a drink of milk or water. Children sit around a table with a member of staff or parent volunteer while eating their snack.

Four year olds are called through to the small hall in small groups to complete more structured activities.

Children may also go outside for some fresh air and exercise.

11.25 am Tidy up, story time, circle time or music teacher.

- 11.45 am Music and Movement, games, acting and group singing.
- 12.15 pm Children wash their hands and sit in the small hall to eat their packed lunch. A staff member sits at each table and discusses the topic of the week and the weather board and teaches phonics and counting. (Home time for children who are not staying for lunch).
- 12.45 pm Hand out coats, toys, letters etc.
- 12.45 pm Home time!



Discipline and Special Needs

Discipline

We expect children and adults to behave responsibly and show consideration and kindness. We use positive methods of guidance, such as praise and encouragement and try to anticipate and remove potential difficulties.

Special Needs

We welcome children with Special Educational Needs into our pre-school and any special provision required is discussed with parents. We aim to identify any emerging areas of concern as early as possible.

Directions

Address

Barkham Pre-School, Barkham Village Hall, Church Lane, Barkham, Wokingham, RG40 4PJ, tel. 0118 976 0750 (session times only). The pre-school is on the outskirts of Wokingham and is convenient for Finchampstead and Arborfield.





Comments from Parents

Below is a selection of comments we have received from parents of children who have attended Barkham Pre-School:

- "We really appreciate the hard work, commitment and experience on your part that makes Barkham Pre-School so well-run and such a happy place for our son to have been part of."
- "I cannot praise you highly enough for your dedication, care and passion in the running of the pre-school."
- "I just wanted to say a huge Thank you for making our daughter's time at pre-school so wonderful."
- "Our daughter has really enjoyed her time at Barkham, during which she has come a long way and that's thanks to you. I would always recommend the pre-school, a credit to you."
- "We found Barkham Pre-school to be such a brilliant starting point for our son. The rural location of the pre-school and the extra events such as Sports Day were an added bonus. Thank you all."