



Welcome!

Thank you for expressing your interest in The Little Pennies Pre School and a very warm welcome to you. Enclosed in this welcome pack you will find some further information about our pre-school and a registration/medical history form, should you wish your child to join us.

Also, if there is anything else at all you require or would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to contact the pre-school by telephone.

You will find Little Pennies Pre-School is a caring, safe yet stimulating environment, whose staff and parent committee are dedicated and supportive of you, your child and each other.

Please complete and return the attached forms retaining the remainder of the welcome pack for your information.

Our waiting list is arranged in order of Date of Birth. We will endeavor to notify you of your child's placement one term before they are due to start.

We very much look forward to hearing from you again soon.

The Little Pennies Pre-School

The Little Pennies Pre-School was established more than 30 years ago by local mothers. Today we are run as a private company with a Board of Trustees made up mostly of parents of children attending the setting.

Although this is the case, we have full charity status and run on a professional basis in order to meet the current OFSTED requirements from whom we have had many successful reports. These can be viewed at www.ofsted.gov.uk. We are also visited regularly by an Early Years Adviser from The Early Years and Childcare Services.

We are situated at the Sixpenny Handley 1st School where we have full use of the facilities including a safe outdoor play area with climbing apparatus, sand pit, play house and a range of ride-on toys.

As a charity registered pre-school we rely heavily on fund raising, in particular we host monthly Bingo nights at the Village Hall. We ask for support from parents in order to help with such events. We ask parents to contribute Bingo prizes.

You may prefer to give a one off donation of £20.00. If so please complete the slip at the back.

If you would like to help the pre-schools fund raising campaign then please include your donation when returning the registration forms.

Our Philosophy

We believe that every individual should be respected and that they, in turn, learn to respect their environment and those around them. Each child is given the encouragement to listen to and talk to others, take turns during play, co-operate to achieve a positive outcome and to say 'please' and 'thank you'.

With this we have created a happy and caring environment. Children are often seen helping each other, for example with aprons, coats and holding the door for each other, without the need for adult guidance.

Every child is unique and we respect their individuality, helping them to see themselves as an important part of the group. This is achieved through close co-operation with parents and guardians and our belief that all children should be given equal access and opportunities to experience high quality early years education. In doing this we can ensure the best possible start to their learning experience.

We also encourage each child to gain independence in their basic care such as using the toilet with confidence, washing their hands when necessary, and putting on and taking off their own coats and aprons. At snack time we will be providing a choice of healthy food which the children will help to prepare. They will also be offered either milk or water. The children are able to pour their own drink. When it is their turn to be the 'special helper' for the day they can help to prepare the snack, along with other small fun tasks such as finding out what the weather is doing that day and to be the first in the line to go outside etc.

These important aspects of their development help them become confident in their own abilities and therefore become confident learners.

Our staff

All of our staff are fully qualified for their roles and attend regular courses, as necessary, in order to stay up to date with all the latest developments in Pre-School education and government requirements.

All will be happy to discuss specific needs, concerns or queries you may have about your child.

Our Policies

Admissions, Behaviour, Confidentiality, Curriculum, Equality, Intimate Care, Record Keeping, Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs and Staffing etc. can all be found in more detail in our Operational Plan at the Pre-School kept by the signing in book in the foyer. Alternatively visit our website.

We have a Complaints policy which is available to read in the Operational Plan or on the Website, should you wish to make a complaint.

Sessions and Information

We are pleased to be able to offer pre-school places for children from 2 years of age.

We are currently offering Friday morning sessions for children aged 2 plus. Spaces are limited and therefore as your child approaches their 3rd birthday it may be necessary for you to change to a session on a different day.

Where numbers and staff / child ratios allow it, it may be possible for children aged from 2 years 9 months to attend Pre-School in other sessions. This would be at the discretion of the Pre-School leadership team.

Our waiting list will be arranged in order of date of birth.

We offer 9 sessions over 5 days, for children aged 3-5 years, which are:

Mondays	8.45 am- 2.45 pm
Tuesdays	8.45 am- 2.45 pm
Wednesday	8.45 am- 2.45 pm
Thursday	8.45 am- 2.45 pm
Friday	8.45 am- 11.45 am

Children need to bring:

Wellington boots, coat and hat as necessary

A spare set of named clothing (in case of accidents or spillage) if potty training please provide more.

A bag with plenty of nappies, wipes which will be stored in the setting

We would prefer your child to access the milk and water provided in line with our healthy eating plan.

We provide a named water bottle/beaker for each child.

When needed please send your child in with sun screen already applied.

When attending all day, your child will need a packed lunch with an ice pack to keep lunches fresh (we would respectfully ask that lunch boxes do not contain any nuts)

Please ensure that foods such as grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut up to prevent a possible choking hazard.

For under 3 year old children, each 3 hour session is £12.00 or £4.00 per hour.

Funding is available from the term following your child's 3rd Birthday. From then, all children are entitled to up to fifteen hours per week which can be used at The Little Pennies Pre-School or with other settings.

In addition to this a further 15 hours funding is available to children of working parents who are eligible.

Please visit www.dorsetforyou.com/30hours or speak to a member of staff for more information.

Once your child has turned 3 years old, they may increase their hours to include others days of the week.

However if this is before their funding has commenced, the cost of each 3 hour sessions would be £10.80 or £3.60 per hour.

It is our policy that fees are paid half-termly and are non-refundable. (Weekly payments can be arranged at the discretion of the Pre-School)

We require 6 weeks notice before reducing the number of sessions or removing your child from Pre-School.

Please try to collect your child promptly at the end of the session. If you are delayed, please telephone the pre-school and make staff aware. If any child remains uncollected for more than 15 minutes and all contact methods have been tried then the Pre-School Manager is obliged to contact the police in the first instance.

Information regarding you or your child is confidential and kept for their safety only. We do not share your information with anyone else and our records of you and your child are available to you at any time.

We accept children from the age of 2 and until they are 5.

We offer each child 1 session free of charge, this is so you and your child are able to visit the Pre-School and spend the morning with us. Please phone Pre-School to arrange a day.

For any inquiries or information, and to return all forms please use the contact details below:

The Little Pennies Pre-School

Useful contacts

Pre-School	01725 552997
Pre-School Mobile	07423 531064
Ruth Meaden (Pre-School Manager)	01258 830535
Matt Reeks (Chairperson)	07825 054376
Karen Adams (Treasurer)	01725 552391
Little Pennies Online	www.thelittlepennies.co.uk

The Pre-School Curriculum

The greatest emphasis is now on "Learning through Play" which is seen to be the most important learning tool available for the under 5's at the foundation stage.

The Early Years Foundation stage has 4 themes:

A Unique Child recognizes that every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident, and self-assured. The commitments are focused around development; inclusion; safety; and health and well-being.

Positive Relationships describes how children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person. The commitments are focused around respect; partnership with parents; supporting learning; and the role of the key person.

Enabling Environments explains that the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning. The commitments are focused around observation; assessment and planning; support for every child; the learning environment; and the wider context - transitions, continuity, and multi-agency working.

Learning and Development recognizes that children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates, and that all areas of learning and development are equally important and inter-connected.

There are seven areas covered in Learning and Development, these comprise of three prime areas:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Communication and Language

Physical Development

And four specific areas :

Mathematics

Knowledge of the World

Literacy

Expressive arts and design

Assessments

By continually observing and assessing your child's learning and development we are able to tailor the Pre-School activities to their needs and respond to their individual requirements.

This flexibility is important in allowing each child to learn at an appropriate level, to ensure and encourage progress in all. More information regarding these can be found in the Curriculum Guidance Documents, a copy of which can be seen, upon request, at the Pre-School.

All observations, assessments and records are available to you and we are happy to discuss any area of concern that may arise during your child's time with us.

Transition to school

As your child reaches school age, we make the most of our close links with Sixpenny Handley First School, to work with them in ensuring a smooth transition for the children going on to school. The school offer the children a few sessions which are held within the school to provide them with an opportunity to experience a primary school setting, familiarise themselves with the staff and to become confident with the way school works.

We maintain close links with the school, with regular meetings to ensure that we prepare the children so that they will integrate easily into the school setting.



Parental Agreement Policy

Partnership between the childcare provider and staff working with parents and carers to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group.

Information given to parents:

The Little Pennies Pre-School is open Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 2.45pm and Fridays 8.45am - 11.45am, to children between the ages of two and five and has written policies and procedures available for inspection by the parents.

1. The group will pass information to parents via a notice board, letters, personal contact, etc. on a regular basis and prompt action will be taken if any concerns are raised.
2. Information about activities is provided weekly, more information is available on request.
3. Fees are payable at the beginning of half term and if payment is not received within two weeks, the committee will ask for complete payment and the child may be excluded from the group until payment is received. In cases of hardship parents are advised to discuss the situation in confidence with the chair of the board of trustees.
4. Parents are encouraged to participate on the board of trustees or as a volunteer (if appropriate).
5. All parents/guardians of children using the group are requested to be supportive to the supervisor and the management group.
6. Children should be collected promptly at the end of a session.
7. Children are not allowed to leave the setting, unless accompanied by their parents/guardian or nominated other adult.
8. If a parent/guardian is unable to collect his/her child/children, they must inform the supervisor of the nominated other responsible adult. No child will be allowed to leave the premises with person or persons unknown.
9. Parents are requested to behave in a polite and appropriate manner when dropping off or collecting their children. Failure to do so could lead to their children being excluded from the group.
10. Persistent disruptive behaviour by a child, which constantly affects the needs of other children in the group, would result in the incident(s) being discussed with parents/carer, reviewed and an action plan developed. In extreme circumstances the child may be excluded from the group.
11. Any questions, concern or complaint should be made to the Manager in the first instance. Any problems which cannot be satisfactorily resolved between parents and staff may be referred to the management committee, in line with the organisations complaints procedure.

12. All staff are aware of the need to maintain confidentiality about matters concerning families and children.
13. Records will be kept containing details about the child, including relevant health, religion and diet information, parents and /or emergency contact details, child protection records if applicable and any appropriate signed consent forms. It is the Parent's responsibility to update the relevant information as and when necessary i.e. contact details, medication needs (and to particularly inform the Pre-school if the child has been given new medication at any point before coming into Pre-school.) Parents have access to all written records about their child/children.
14. In the case of an emergency The Little Pennies Pre-School reserves the right to remove a child to hospital without obtaining parental consent.
15. Information regarding a child may be shared with other parties on occasion eg. Health Visitors, Early Years Professionals, other settings that a child may attend etc. Parental permission for this would first be sought except in safeguarding cases where the pre-school may report relevant information to authorities without consent if we consider a child may have been abused or neglected.
16. We will pass any records drawn up by us in respect of a child to any Pre-school /School that a child moves on to, providing that the child's parents have given their consent.
17. Parents/carers have a responsibility to read our policies and procedures either online or in the operational policy folder within the setting.
18. Six weeks notice shall be given if a parent/carer wishes to reduce the number of sessions or withdraw their child from the setting. If notice is not given, parents will still be liable for the fees incurred.
19. The setting has extensive insurance cover, full details can be available on request.
20. Whilst every reasonable effort is made to protect children's property, the pre-school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage incurred. It is the parent's responsibility to clearly label all items of clothing and we suggest that toys and other items are left at home.
21. We reserve the right to administer basic first aid treatment when required and will administer prescribed medicines with written parental consent. If your child is suffering from a communicable illness, they should not be brought into the pre-school until the infection has cleared. We ask that parents telephone the setting at the beginning of a session to notify staff of a child's absence due to illness.
22. Fees will not be refunded or waived for absence through sickness or holidays.
23. Photographs are taken in the setting which are used in the children's Learning Journeys, following parental permission. Please be aware that a child's photo or name would not be used in any promotional material without parental permission being sought.

Social Networking – Parents may only upload images taken of their own children to social networking sites. Parents must also ensure that they do not mention the setting, members of staff, other children who attend the setting or their families or committee members on social networking sites.

*Please see our E-safety policy for further information.

Please sign the section on the registration form to acknowledge this information.

Glossary of Terms

Ofsted - Office for Standards in Education, inspections made every 3-4 years.

Early Years Advisor's - government appointed officers who make regular visits to pre-school settings, giving advice to the staff and reporting back on their visits. They are part of the Educational Inspectorate.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) - learning stage from birth to the end of reception. The curriculum guidelines for these stages are published by the government and provide the basis for our curriculum planning.

Early Learning Goals (ELG's) - these are goals that are worked towards with the aim of reaching them at the end of the foundation stage.

Days of Attendance

Please provide the following information to help in the future planning of the Pre-Schools provision. This is just a guide and alterations can be made when your child starts at The Little Pennies Pre-School.

Name of Child :
Start Date :

2 year olds are currently being offered a Friday morning session. Children from 2 years 9 months may be offered sessions as detailed below :

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	8.45 am - 11.45pm	11.45pm - 2.45pm
Tuesday	8.45 am - 11.45pm	11.45pm - 2.45pm
Wednesday	8.45 am - 11.45pm	11.45pm - 2.45pm
Thursday	8.45 am - 11.45pm	11.45pm - 2.45pm
Friday	8.45 am - 11.45am	No Sessions

Funding

Funding is available for children from the term after he/she is 3yrs. This currently covers 5 sessions (a session is one morning or afternoon) and funding may be split between different Pre-School providers.

Please complete the following so that we may apply for the correct funding.

Please note that a copy of the child's birth certificate will be required in order to apply for funding.

Will your child also be attending another Pre-School ?	YES / NO
Name of Pre-School :	
Number of sessions attending :	
How many funded sessions do you wish to claim through The Little Pennies Pre-School ?	

For any inquiries or information, and to return all forms please use the contact details below:

The Little Pennies Pre-School
 Common Road
 Sixpenny Handley
 Salisbury
 Wilts
 SP5 5NJ
 01725 552997
 07423 531064

Registration Form

CHILD'S DETAILS

Surname :	D.O.B :
Forename :	Start Date :
Birth name:(if different from above)	Religion :
Address :	Home Tel. No : Mobile No :
Ethnicity :	Language used at home :
What is your child known as/preferred name :	

PARENTS DETAILS

Mother's name :	Father's name :
Address : (if different from above)	Address : (if different from above)
Tel. No : e-mail :	Tel. No : e-mail :

Parental Responsibility – defined in Children Act 1989 as;

“All the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent has in relation to the child and his property.”

Who has parental responsibility ?

Mother..... not lost through divorce
 Married Father..... not lost through divorce

An unmarried Father **DOES NOT** have parental responsibility unless:

1. his name is registered or re-registered on the child's Birth Certificate after 1st December 2003.
2. he is in possession of a Parental Responsibility Agreement or Order obtained through Court
3. he is in possession of a Residence Order obtained through the Court
4. he is a legal guardian.

Please see <http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com> for further advice.

OTHER EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Relative :	Tel. No :
Friend/Neighbour :	Tel. No :
Doctors Name :	Tel. No :
Address :	
Health Visitor :	Tel. No :
Address :	

OTHER DETAILS	
Can your child drink milk :	Yes / No
Does your child follow any specific diet. (e.g. Vegan, Vegetarian, Coeliac, Kosher, etc.)	Yes / No Please specify :
It is assumed that parent(s) will collect their child from Pre-School. If anyone other than the parent(s) is to collect on a regular basis please give details.	
Name :	Address :
Name :	Address :
Are there any other professionals involved with your family. Eg, Health Visitor, Portage, Children's Centre, Social Workers.	

PLEASE DELETE ACCORDINGLY	
My child may be taken on small outings within Sixpenny Handley locality when attending The Little Pennies Pre-School.	YES / NO
My child may be photographed for use in their Learning Journeys and for displays around the setting (if we wish to use photographs for publicity, we will seek parental permission)	YES / NO
My child may be given medication as per my written instructions.	YES / NO
I consent for my child to receive urgent medical care where necessary.	YES / NO
I consent for urgent medical attention to be sought for my child.	YES / NO
NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____ SIGNATURE _____	
DATE _____	

<u>Fundraising</u>
I would like to support the pre-school fundraising campaign and enclose my voluntary contribution (suggested £20) YES / NO
Parental Agreement Policy.
I have read the parental partnership agreement and acknowledge the information.
Signed
Name
Date



Medical Information

Name of Child:	D.O.B:
Does your child suffer from any allergy: If yes, please give brief details:	Yes/No
Is your child on any medication: If yes, please give details:	Yes/No
Does your child have any other health problems: If yes, please give brief details:	Yes/No
Please give details of any infectious diseases from which your child has suffered. (e.g. Chicken Pox):	
Please give details of immunisations:	

I agree to abide by the rules of the Pre-School

Signed

Date



Dear Parents/Carers

Introducing Tapestry

Little Pennies uses an online Learning Journal system called Tapestry. Tapestry has become a popular tool in recording children's development in many settings and is particularly beneficial for partnership with parents since the parents have instant access to their child's Learning Journey and can make comments more easily, along with WOW moments, photos etc. It is a secure system where each parent will be provided with their own login details and password to ensure total confidentiality.

The information that you will receive via Tapestry comprises of observations, evaluation and planning, along with photographic evidence. We also have the option of uploading videos of each child. We continually maintain high standards of recording children's observations to ensure that they make progress and are ready for school. Each Key Person has an ipad for recording these pieces of information which they will take home to complete and upload. Please be assured that each ipad is passcode protected and each Key Person has a separate login and password to access their Tapestry accounts and information will be stored as securely as possible to ensure confidentiality.

Please find attached an introduction on how to use Tapestry which you may find useful and an attached slip for you to complete and return to the pre-school. Once this completed form has been returned to the pre-school, your details will be entered on the Tapestry system and an email will be sent to you with your personal login details. If you require any further information, please speak to your child's Key Person.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Little Pennies Pre-school

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Child's name

Please provide the email address/es for your Tapestry account:

.....

Name: Signature:

Date



The Little Pennies Pre-School Want to become a Trustee?

The Little Pennies Pre-School is run by a voluntary Board of Trustees made up primarily of parents of children who attend the Pre-School. We are a limited company.

This group changes most years and requires a minimum of 7 people to qualify as a working Board of Trustees.

The Pre-School cannot run without this voluntary Board.

The committee consists of three key positions:

- Chairperson - who takes the lead in many aspects with the support and running of the Board
- Secretary - who takes a lead in the administrative aspects of the pre-school
- Treasurer - who manages the financial aspects

In addition there are the Board members who support the work of the group.

What the committee does

- The committee meets regularly, to discuss any issues that may be relevant
- Works with the Team of staff at the Pre-School to meet the needs of the children
- Manages the recruitment of the Pre-School staff
- We now have a purpose built building on the school grounds with close links to the school.
- Fund raises to maximize opportunities for our children

Join us now!

- Support your child's opportunity to access a Pre-School that is local to you
- Have a chance to have your say in how the Pre-School should be run
- Learn new skills
- Get to know other parents in the area
- Get involved with fund raising

Name _____

I would/would not be interested in joining the Little Pennies Pre-School Board of Trustees

I would like to find out more about the committee and what joining would mean

I would like to join the fund raising team

Contact details _____

(Please return slip to The Little Pennies Pre-School)