

Brightwalton Preschool Nursery



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Prospectus

January 2025

Welcome to Brightwalton Preschool Nursery, a nurturing and stimulating early years setting located in the picturesque village of Brightwalton. For over 30 years, we have provided exceptional early education and care, fostering a love of learning in a safe and engaging environment.

Our Mission

Our aim is to provide high-quality early years education and care, working in close partnership with parents to support children's development. We are dedicated to:

- Creating a safe, stimulating, and inclusive environment.
- Encouraging children to develop independence, confidence, and social skills.
- Nurturing curiosity, creativity, and a love for learning through play and structured activities.
- Promoting equality and valuing diversity.

Daily Activities and Learning Approach

Each day, we provide a well-structured routine that includes a variety of engaging activities to enhance children's development. Our programme includes:

- **Sensory Circuits** – A fun and interactive way to develop motor skills, coordination, and focus.
- **Weekly PE Sessions** – Encouraging physical activity to build strength, balance, and confidence.
- **Daily Phonics Sessions** – Engaging children in early literacy through fun, interactive methods.
- **Interactive Maths Activities** – Developing a strong foundation in numeracy through hands-on learning.
- **Outdoor Learning** – Making use of our fantastic outdoor space, which includes a large playing field, playpark, and woodland area.
- **Termly topic based learning** -

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Our curriculum follows the EYFS framework, ensuring that each child is supported in their learning journey. The key principles guiding our approach are:

- **A Unique Child** – Recognising and celebrating each child's individuality.
- **Positive Relationships** – Building strong relationships with children and families.
- **Enabling Environments** – Creating a setting where children feel secure and inspired to learn.

Learning and Development – Supporting children to reach key milestones through play-based learning.

Termly Topic-Based Learning

Our curriculum is designed around **termly topic-based themes**, which provide exciting and engaging learning experiences for children. These topics help to broaden their understanding of the world, encourage curiosity, and link learning across different areas of development in a meaningful way.

Online Learning Journal - Tapestry

We use an online system called **Tapestry**, which allows parents to view observations, photos, and short videos of their child in the setting. This secure platform provides insights into your child's learning journey and development.

<https://tapestryjournal.com>

Why Choose Brightwalton Preschool Nursery?

- Highly experienced and qualified staff dedicated to early years education.
- A warm and welcoming atmosphere where children feel valued.
- A well-balanced mix of child-led play and adult-led activities.
- Strong partnerships with parents to support each child's individual needs.
- A beautiful rural setting with excellent outdoor facilities to enhance learning experiences.

Characteristics of effective learning

We understand that all children engage with other people and their environment through the characteristics of effective learning that are described in the Development Matters guidance to the Early Years Foundation Stage as:

- playing and exploring - engagement
- active learning - motivation
- creating and thinking critically - thinking

Assessing Learning and Development

We also run **regular parent consultations**, providing an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with key staff members. These sessions help strengthen the partnership between home and nursery, ensuring that each child receives the best possible support.

We assess how children are learning and developing by observing them frequently. We use information from these observations, along with photographs and videos, to document each child's progress. We believe that parents know their children best, so we encourage them to contribute by sharing insights into their child's interests and development at home.

We create periodic assessment summaries based on our ongoing development records. These form part of each child's achievement record and are undertaken at regular intervals, as well as during key transition times, such as when a child moves into a different group or prepares for school.

The progress check at age two

The Early Years Foundation Stage requires that we supply parents and carers with a short written summary of their child's development in the three prime learning and development areas of the EYFS: personal, social and emotional development; physical development; and communication and language; when a child is aged between 24 - 36 months. The key person is responsible for completing the check using information from ongoing observational assessments carried out as part

of our everyday practice, taking account of the views and contributions of parents and other professionals.

Working together for your children

At Brightwalton Preschool Nursery we maintain the ratio of adults to children in the setting that is set through the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements. This helps us to:

- give time and attention to each child;
- talk with the children about their interests and activities;
- help children to experience and benefit from the activities we provide; and
- allow the children to explore and be adventurous in safety.

The staff who work at our setting are all well qualified and experienced and have worked at the setting for a number of years. In fact all our own children have attended the Nursery over the years, so we all strongly believe in its ethos.

Opening Hours

Our opening hours are 9am-3pm each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please refer to the key dates section of our website for term dates.

How parents take part in the setting

Our setting recognises parents as the first and most important educators of their children. All the staff see themselves as partners with parents in providing care and education for their child. There are many ways in which parents take part in making the setting a welcoming and stimulating place for children, such as:

- exchanging knowledge about their children's needs, activities, interests and progress with the staff;
- contributing to the progress check at age two
- involvement and support learning at home;
- sharing their own special interests with the children;
- taking part in events and informal discussions about the activities and curriculum provided by the setting;
- joining in community activities in which the setting takes part; and
- building friendships with other parents in the setting.

We welcome parents to drop into the setting to see it at work or to speak with the staff, and periodically we run stay and play events at the Nursery which gives new parents an insight into a working day at the Nursery.

Key persons and your child

Our setting uses a key person approach. This means that each member of staff has a group of children for whom they are particularly responsible. The children are placed into age appropriate groups, these groups are the Bears, Elephants and Tigers. Your child's key person will be the person

who works with you to make sure that what we provide is right for your child's particular needs and interests. The key person for the Bear group is Mrs Gill Judge, the Elephant's Mrs Su Porter Scott and the Tigers Mrs Sarah Wheatley-Hince. Other key staff are Mrs Laura Smith, Mrs Miranda Cooper and Mrs Ellen Hayward.

When your child first starts at the setting, the key person will help your child to settle and throughout your child's time at the setting, their key worker will help your child to benefit from the setting's activities.

Learning opportunities for adults

As well as gaining qualifications in early years care and education, our staff take part in further training to help them to keep up-to-date with thinking about early years care and education.

The setting also keeps itself up-to-date with best practice in early years care and education, as a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

From time to time the setting holds learning events for parents. These usually look at how adults can help children to learn and develop in their early years. Courses on similar topics are held locally by the Pre-school Learning Alliance; watch out for information about these.

The timetable and routines

Our setting believes that care and education are equally important in the experience, which we offer children. The routines and activities that make up the day in the setting are provided in ways that:

- help each child to feel that she/he is a valued member of the setting;
- ensure the safety of each child;
- help children to gain from the social experience of being part of a group; and
- provide children with opportunities to learn and help them to value learning.

The session

We organise our sessions so that the children can choose from, and work at, a range of activities and, in doing so, build up their ability to select and work through a task to its completion. The children are also helped and encouraged to take part in adult-led small group activities that introduce them to new experiences and help them to gain new skills, as well as helping them to learn to work with others.

Outdoor activities contribute to children's health, their physical development and their knowledge of the world around them. The children have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to take part in outdoor child-chosen and adult-led activities, as well as those provided indoors.

We have excellent outdoor facilities at the Nursery. We have the use of the hardwood play park adjacent to the Nursery, extensive playing fields at the rear of the building which we use on a daily basis and where we hold our annual sports day event. We also have a woodland area which is an idyllic location and is a very short walk from the Nursery school. It is a superb location for outdoor learning, story time and singing time.

Snacks and meals

The Nursery makes snacks and meals a social time at which children and adults eat together. We plan the menus for snacks so that they provide the children with healthy and nutritious food. A small daily charge is made for snacks. Do tell us about your child's dietary needs and we will make sure that these are met. Children who stay for lunch will need to bring a packed lunch in a named lunch box with a drink. We would ask you to refrain from putting chocolate bars, sweets, fizzy drinks, squash or nuts in your child's lunch box. We also suggest that the children bring traditional style yoghurts in pots, which develop their use of cutlery, rather than the frube types. Please cut grapes, tomatoes and cocktail sausages in half/quarters to avoid choking.

Policies

Copies of the setting's policies and procedures are enclosed with this prospectus or are available for you to see at the Nursery.

The Nursery's policies help us to make sure that the service provided by the setting is a high quality one and that being a member of the Nursery is an enjoyable and beneficial experience for each child **and her/his parents.**

Safeguarding children

Our setting has a duty under the law to help safeguard children against suspected or actual 'significant harm'.

Our employment practices ensure children against the likelihood of abuse in our settings and we have a procedure for managing complaints or allegations against a member of staff.

Our way of working with children and their parents ensures we are aware of any problems that may emerge and can offer support, including referral to appropriate agencies when necessary, to help families in difficulty.

Designated Safeguarding Officer is:

Su Porter Scott

Deputy Safeguarding Officer is:

Mrs Gill Judge

As part of the setting's policy to make sure that its provision meets the needs of each individual child, we take account of any special needs a child may have. The setting works to the requirements of the 1993 Education Act and The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

The setting is owned and managed by

Mrs Sarah Wheatley-Hince

Fees

Any hours not funded are charged at **£8.00 per hour** and will be invoiced in advance. Fees must still be paid if children are absent without notice for a short period of time. We charge £2.00 per day for a mid morning nutritional snack .

For your child to keep her/his place at the Nursery, fees must be paid. We are in receipt of nursery education funding for two, three and four year olds; where funding is not received, then fees apply.

Funding and Entitlements

We support parents by offering access to government-funded childcare schemes, including:

- **15 Hours Entitlement Funding** – Available for all 3 and 4-year-olds, covering up to 15 hours of free early education per week during term time.
- **30 Hours Working Parent Funding** – Eligible working parents of 3 and 4-year-olds can apply for an additional 15 hours, providing a total of 30 hours of funded childcare per week.
- **2-Year-Old Funding** – Some families may be entitled to 15 hours of funded childcare for 2-year-olds, depending on specific eligibility criteria.

Please note that we cannot claim grant funding for your child without a copy of their birth certificate. To ensure we can claim your grant sessions as soon as your child becomes eligible, please provide a copy of your child's birth certificate when you complete the registration form and parent funding form.

Leaving Brightwalton Preschool Nursery. Should you decide to withdraw your child from the Nursery, notice of ½ a term is required otherwise fees for the same period of time will be charged.

Early Years Pupil Premium

Childcare providers are able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium. The aim of the funding is to further support children's development, learning and care.

The setting can use the extra funding in any way we choose to improve the quality of our provision for your child. This could include, for example, investing in additional training for our staff on early speech and language to help and encourage your child with their communication skills or the purchase of specialist toys to enhance their sensory perception.

Please ask Sarah Wheatley-Hince for further details on eligibility and the application process.

Starting at our setting

The first days

We want your child to feel happy and safe with us. To make sure that this is the case, the staff will work with you to decide on how to help your child to settle into the Nursery.

- During the half-term before a child is enrolled, we provide opportunities for the child and their parents to visit the pre-school. These will be arranged when you return your registration form to the pre-school.

- We allocate a key person to each child and their family; the key person welcomes and looks after the child and their parents at the child's first session and during the settling-in process.
- When a child starts to attend, we explain the process of settling-in with their parents and jointly decide on the best way to help the child to settle into the pre-school.
- Younger children will take longer to settle in, as will children who have not previously spent time away from home. Children who have had a period of absence may also need their parent to be on hand to re-settle them.
- New children may need help choosing an activity when they first arrive at their session, so we advise parent to settle them with an activity before they leave.
- When parents leave, we ask them to say goodbye to their child and explain that they will be coming back, and when.

Clothing

We provide protective clothing for the children when they play with messy activities. We encourage children to gain the skills that help them to be independent and look after themselves. These include taking themselves to the toilet and taking off, and putting on, outdoor clothes. Clothing that is easy for them to manage will help them to do this.

Children will require a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat at Nursery at all times. Clothing should be named to avoid any confusion, young children do not always recognise their own coats or boots and this can cause upset.

During the winter months a warm coat, hat, and gloves are highly recommended as the children regularly go outside to play.

In the summer please provide a sun hat that preferably provides sun protection to the back of the neck. Please note that we will apply sun cream to your child unless you have specifically said not to.

We do have spare clothes in the Nursery should a child have a little accident, but from experience children often prefer to wear their own clothes, so we would recommend that they keep a bag at Nursery with additional clothes.

Children in the Tiger group will also require a named PE kit, comprising of shorts, t shirt, plimsolls or trainers for our more formal PE sessions. Children in the Bear and Elephant groups will just need plimsoll or trainers for PE. **Please ensure all clothing is named.**

What to do when you arrive

Please arrive in time for your child's session time to start and wait in the lobby until a member of staff opens the doors for the session to begin. You may need to assist your child hang up any outerwear on their named peg. The cloakroom is labeled with your child's group, which is either Tigers, Elephants or Bears. The cloakroom can get very congested at the beginning and end of the session so please be patient.

Try to help your child find an activity, or hand them over to a member of staff who will ensure your child is happily settled.

If any one else is collecting your child, please give details to the staff before you leave and remember to tell the person collecting your child that they will need to make themselves known to a member of staff.

Collecting your child

On collection, please take any work, phonic sound folders and notices from the table before leaving. If your child had any sort of accident during the day, there will be a form for you to talk over with a member of staff, sign and date.

Non-collection of children policy

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a session, the pre-school puts into practice agreed procedures. These ensure the child is cared for safely by an experienced and qualified practitioner who is known to the child.

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult, we will ensure that the child receives a high standard of care in order to cause as little distress as possible. We inform parents/carers of our procedures so that, if they are unavoidably delayed, they will be reassured that their children will be properly cared for.

Illness

Please do not bring your child to preschool if they are unwell, as infections quickly spread to other children and staff. Please note that children who have been suffering from sickness and diarrhoea cannot return to pre-school until they have been free of the symptoms for at least 48 hours.

Please find a list of common illness and the applicable exclusion guidelines in **Appendix 2** of this prospectus.

Holiday Bears

If you are going away on holiday or somewhere special for the weekend, then why not take one of our 'holiday bears'. Ruby, Bertie or Felix would love to spend the holidays with you. They have their own passports and suitcases, packed with all the items necessary for a holiday. Just let us know when you are going and which bear you would like to take.

Safety

May we ask you to please respect the safety of the residents by driving slowly through the village at all times. Please park considerately as it can get quite congested during peak times; take extra care when dropping off or collecting your children as the traffic in the area is considerable due to the close location of the Primary School. Close supervision of your children at these times is paramount.

Appendix 2

Illness and applicable exclusion guidelines

The below information below is provided by the Health Protection Agency and we abide by these standards with regard to the attendance of children at Brightwalton Preschool Nursery.

Illness	Recommended period to be kept away from pre-school	Comments
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours following the last episode of either symptom	Exclusion from swimming should be for 2 weeks following the last episode of diarrhoea.
E.coli 0157 VTEC	Exclusion is important for some children. Always consult your doctor or local health protection unit. (HPU.)	Exclusion applies to young children and those who may find hygiene practices difficult to adhere to.
Typhoid & Paratyphoid (enteric fever)	Exclusion is important for some children. Always consult your doctor or HPU.	Exclusion applies to young children and those who may find hygiene practices difficult to adhere to.
Shigella (Dysentery)	Exclusion may be necessary. Always consult your doctor or HPU.	Exclusion applies to young children and those who may find hygiene practices difficult to adhere to.
“Flu” (Influenza)	Until recovered.	Exclusion necessary as pre-school admits vulnerable children.
Tuberculosis	Consult your doctor or HPU.	Not usually spread from children. Requires prolonged, close contact for spread.
Whooping Cough (pertussis)	Five days from commencing antibiotic treatment or 21 days from the onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment is taken.	Preventable by vaccination. After treatment, non-infectious coughing may continue for many weeks. HPU will organise any tracing necessary.
Chicken Pox	5 days from onset of rash.	Attention should be paid to vulnerable children and pregnant women.
German Measles (Rubella)	5 days from onset of rash.	Preventable by vaccination. Attention should be paid to vulnerable children and pregnant women.
Hand, Foot & Mouth	None	Contact HPU if large a number of children are infected. Some exclusion may be necessary.

Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted or healed.	Antibiotic treatment by mouth may speed healing and reduce infectious period.
Measles	5 days from onset of rash.	Preventable by vaccination. Attention should be paid to vulnerable children and pregnant women.
Ring worm	Until treatment commences	Treatment is important and is available from the pharmacist. For ringworm of scalp, treatment by GP is required.
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment	Two treatments a week apart. Contacts should have one treatment. For further information contact HPU.
Scarlet Fever	5 days after commencing antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment is recommended for the affected child.

Slapped cheek / Fifth disease Parvovirus B19	None	Attention should be paid to vulnerable children and pregnant women.
Shingles	Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered.	Can cause chickenpox in those who are not immune. It is spread by very close contact and touch. Attention should be paid to vulnerable children and pregnant women.
Conjunctivitis	None	If outbreak / cluster occur consult HPU.
Diphtheria	Exclusion is important. Consult GP.	Preventable by vaccination. HPU will organise any contact tracing necessary.
Glandular Fever	None	About 50% of children get the disease before they are 5. Many adults acquire the disease without being aware of it.
Head Lice	None	Treatment is recommended only in the cases where live lice have definitely been seen. Close contacts should be checked and treated if live lice are found.
Hepatitis A	Exclusion may be necessary. Always consult GP and HPU.	Good personal and environmental hygiene will minimise any possible danger of spreading.
Hepatitis B & C	None	Hepatitis B & C are not infectious through casual contact. Good personal and

		environmental hygiene will minimise any possible danger of spreading.
HIV / AIDS	None	HIV is not infectious through casual contact. There have been no recorded cases of spread within a school or nursery.
Meningococcal Meningitis / Septicaemia	Until recovered	Meningitis C is preventable through vaccination. There is no reason to exclude siblings and other close contact cases. The HPU will give advice on any action needed and identify contacts requiring antibiotics.
Meningitis due to other bacteria	Until recovered	Hib men and pneumococcal men are preventable by vaccination. There is no reason to exclude siblings and other close contact cases. The HPU will give advice on any action needed and identify contacts requiring antibiotics.
Meningitis Viral	None	Milder illness. There is no reason to exclude siblings and other close contact cases. Contact tracing is not required.
MRSA	None	Good hygiene, in particular hand washing and environmental cleaning, are important in minimising the risk of spreading.
Mumps	Five days from the onset of swollen glands	Preventable by vaccination
Threadworms	None	Treatment is recommended for the child and household contacts.
Tonsillitis	None	There are many causes but most cases are due to viruses and do not need antibiotics.

Get in Touch

We welcome visits from prospective parents and would love to show you around our wonderful nursery. If you would like more information or wish to arrange a visit, please contact us:

Phone: 07878565015

Email: brightwaltonpreschool@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.brightwaltonpreschool.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to our Preschool Nursery.