

**Pre-school main contact**  
Mon – Wed 9 – 3 & Friday 9 – 12  
**01760 447444**



**Dear Parents/carers**

We hope you have all had a lovely summer break. Here are a few bits of important information for the term and year ahead.

### **This term**

Throughout our first half term we will be enjoying our 'all about me' theme. We will be thinking about what makes us special, what we can do, learning about our families, our feelings and understanding that people are different. Please use the post it notes on the central tables to share anything special about your child.

### **Photos from home**

We love to hear the exciting things the children have been doing at home, whether its days out, celebrations, new pets or holidays. We would love to encourage you to send photos of your child's experiences that they would enjoy sharing with their friends. As well as it being a great opportunity for your child, this also helps widen the experiences for the others within preschool. You are very welcome to email photos to Lou [supervisor@firststepsashill.co.uk](mailto:supervisor@firststepsashill.co.uk) where we can show the children via the television on the wall. Alternatively send in photos. We would like to start a display of the children's experiences on the wall of our home corner. If you are happy for them to be displayed in the room please email us with consent for this.

### **Staffing**

For your information staff will be in and available on the following sessions:  
Lou – Supervisor: Monday – Wednesday 9 – 3, Friday 9 – 12 (admin time Mon & Tues AM).  
Lucy – Deputy: Monday 9 – 3, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday – 9 – 12.  
Rachel – Preschool practitioner: Monday & Tuesday 9 – 12, Wednesday 9 – 3, Friday 9 – 12.  
Penny – Preschool practitioner: Monday & Tuesday 9 – 3.  
Nikki – regular volunteer: Monday & Wednesday 9 – 12.  
Becky – Compliance and Admin manger: Monday & Wednesday pm.  
This may change as we welcome more children throughout the year.

### **Snack and lunchtimes**

As the year starts again we would like to remind you that we promote healthy food choices.

Snack is limited to fruit/veg, breadsticks/rice cakes etc. No sweets or special treats for this time please.

For lunch we encourage healthy lunch ideas (please see <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/> for some ideas) please limit special treat foods to a maximum of 2 items.

### **Changes to information**

Please let us know of any changes to your child's circumstances, i.e allergies, family changes, or anything else that might impact on their time with us.

**Please also ensure all contact details and emergency contacts are up to date.**

### **Toys from home**

We understand that for some children, bringing toys from home can offer security and familiarity. However where possible we would like to limit any toys that come into the preschool, and may ask children to give toys to parents at the door, or leave on the breakfast bar in the entrance room. We know favourite toys are important, but we don't want to risk them being lost or broken whilst in preschool and cannot accept any responsibility for them.

### **Kit list**

A reminder of our kit list:

- A named and filled water bottle with water only - this is better for their teeth and general health. In addition we offer the children milk at snack times – please let us know if you have any questions.
- A healthy snack of fruit/veg/breadsticks etc in a named pot/bag
- A healthy lunch (if relevant)
- Two complete changes of named clothing (including socks) please send more than this and spare shoes if your child is potty training.
- A pair of named wellies
- A set of named wet weather gear/coat/trousers (on rainy days) we will be encouraging the children to be outside as much as possible.
- A named sunhat.
- 8 hour suncream (if relevant to the time of year) applied before your child arrives to last the whole session.

While currently very warm, we are preparing for the weather to change in the next few weeks/months, so please ensure your child still has suncream/sunhats for those sunnier days, and warm layers for colder.

If you would like to, you are welcome to leave some belongings such as welly boots at preschool between days. However please note that other groups do use the building particularly on a Thursday and Sunday morning and we therefore while we will aim to move any items into the cupboard, we cannot be responsible for any belongings left.

Please also note that we do encourage messy play and have found the children to be particularly fond of mud over previous winters, therefore be mindful that their clothes, coats, etc. may get painty, muddy or generally messy whilst with us.

**Please remember to name all of your children's belongings. It's not unusual for children to have similar or the same items and it can get a little tricky for the children (and us!) to match the children with their things.**

**We will have biros and sharpies available on the breakfast bar for you to use if needed.**