



Welcome to Magpies Preschool

At Magpies Preschool we provide a child focused experience, where children are encouraged to explore and discover.

We care for our children with warmth and compassion, supporting individual needs.

An open and inclusive setting, we introduce your child to the start of their education positively.

At Magpies Preschool;

- All of our staff are fully qualified, friendly and approachable.
- We hold regular parent/carers meetings, forums, and drop in sessions.
- We have frequent days out to local parks and shops, Forest School, and picnics for children family and friends.
- Our strong special educational needs and disability team supports our inclusion of children of all needs and ability.
- We use an online tool 'Tapestry' to allow us to monitor each child's individual learning and to regularly share photo's and progress.
- With a nurturing educational environment we offer a range of daily activities to engage all children, enabling and encouraging children to reach their full potential.
- We support children to become happy and confident, who are keen to progress to the next stage of their education.

Trips and experiences last year: Regular trips to Forest School, Blenheim Palace, Local parks, local shops, posting letters and cards to family and friends, visits from 'Animal encounters', special Christmas visitor, and parents with a whole range and talents and experience.

This welcome pack has been revised to reflect the guidance to reduce the transmission of Covid 19.

- Parents and other adults are not permitted into Preschool.
- There are staggered drop off and collection times. You must stick to these as closely as possible.
- You are required to social distance at all times.
- If you, your child, or any member of the household display any symptoms that might be Coronavirus or Covid 19 you must not attend Preschool. You will need to follow the current requirements and get tested.
- **You must let us know if your child tests positive for Covid 19.**
- You cannot bring spare clothes or any special toy/comforter into Preschool.
- If you want feedback on your child or need to share something you can do this by phone (by arrangement) text message or email.
- Forums are not possible at the moment but we hope to have something in place as soon as possible.
- Your child will continue to have a good and positive experience at Preschool, but the range and type of activities will be significantly reduced to minimise the risk of transmission.
- You must respect the vulnerability of our staff at all times. They are doing their best in unprecedented difficult circumstances.
- The guidance and regulations are constantly being revised, often at short notice, and our operational procedures will change to reflect these, meaning that this guidance may not continue to be accurate.
- Unfortunately, we have to inform you that in circumstances beyond our control we may be forced to close. We will obviously avoid this if at all possible and will keep you informed.
- You should be aware of the guidance available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

Meet the team



Victoria Court, Vicki
Preschool Manager

Tapestry Lead
Safeguarding Lead
English as an additional language
Early Years pupil premium
Maths
Literacy
Parent Partnership
Paediatric First Aid

RED



Crystal Webb
Deputy Manager

Special Education needs and
Disability co-ordinator
Paediatric First Aid
Behaviour Manager
Designated Safeguarding Lead

BLUE



Joanne Buckle, Jo
Room Leader

Personal Social and Emotional Development
Deputy Behaviour Manager
Expressive Art and Design
Paediatric First Aid

YELLOW



Ella Davis-Port
Physical Development
English as an additional language
Deputy Fire Marshall
Paediatric First Aid

RED



Katie Jackson
Fire Marshall
Communication and Language
Paediatric First Aid

YELLOW



Sarah McNulty
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
One-to-one support
Paediatric First Aid

BLUE

Chloe Baldwin
After School Club Manager
Safeguarding Lead
Paediatric First Aid



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I N D E X

Special comforter

Your child is **not** able to bring a comforter or special toy into Preschool due to the covid control regulations.

Routine

During the current regulations we have staggered drop off and collection times. It is very important that you keep to these times to allow for social distancing we need to adhere to.

We thank you for your understanding.

Mobile 'phones.

For child protection reasons staff, parents and carers and everybody else are not allowed to use personal mobile telephones in Preschool or anywhere in sight of children.

Suitable clothes

Please send your child in clothes suitable for the conditions, don't forget a coat in the winter.

Spare clothes

Please **do not** send in spare clothes in as we are not able to accept them. We will provide any change of clothes needed.

Forum

We normally hold regular Forums throughout the year for Parents, Carers and all users of Preschool. It gives you the chance to meet the staff when they have more time to talk to you, you can meet other parents who you might only get a glimpse of while you are dropping off or picking up.

Unfortunately we are not able to hold these at the moment but are considering other ways to hold these.

Water bottles

You must send in water bottle containing fresh water for every session, not just when it's hot. Fresh water only, no squash or fruit juice.

Colour groups

Preschool is run on a family grouping system where each 'family' is a colour. Each colour group has two key carers who, like in a real family, try to make sure that at least one of them are there to look after the family.

You can help your child identify with their Preschool family by having an item of clothing in the right colour to wear. Magpies coloured polo shirts are available to buy, if you want to.

Snacks

We provide a healthy snack of fruit and vegetables as needed. We provide fresh water through all sessions.

Lunch

For the afternoon session you need to send in a healthy Lunchbox.

Lunch is an important part of your child's social education and you should always include some afternoon sessions for your child.

This is the time when your child will develop life long habits and so it is really important that we encourage healthy eating now.

For this reason we do not allow fizzy or high sugar drinks, or chocolate bars of any sort. If you must send in crisps please remember that for a child of this size this is their entire allowance of salt used up for the whole day!

Remember: No nuts.

You will find tips on a balanced and healthy lunch for children (and adults) on our website; <https://www.magpies.info/healthy-lunches/>

No nuts ever

Coming into contact with nuts or nut products is literally life threatening for those with serious nut allergies, and so nuts are completely banned at all Magpies settings including Preschool.

Make sure that you do not send anything into Preschool contains nuts, and as they are hidden ingredients of lots of things, please make sure that you check.

Name everything

It is vital that you name everything!

Coats, Lunch-box, water bottle, everything must be named.

If you lose things with a name on we will probably get them back to you. If they are not named they will end up in our lost property and you may never get them back.

If you don't want to lose things NAME THEM! It really is that simple.

You can get fancy name labels from <https://www.easy2name.com> where we get a commission if you name MAGPIES, but a simple marker pen will work just as well.

Jolly Phonics

We use 'Jolly Phonics' to begin to build words, teaching the sound of the letters of the alphabet starting with the most used.

Festivals

We celebrate many festivals throughout the year including Halloween, Firework night, Diwali, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Chinese New Year, World book day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Pancake Day, and Easter.

These celebrations are designed to include all children but if you don't want your child to take part in any, simply let us know.

Charity

We support just a few Charity Days each year and you might be surprised if we are, very occasionally, dressed in odd clothes or even our pyjamas!

We feel that it is important that sometimes children look beyond their own needs and realise that others may not be as fortunate as us.

We will be delighted if you would like to contribute but there is absolutely no obligation.

Chicken Pox

Chicken Pox and some other infectious diseases can be dangerous for expectant mothers and those with reduced resistance, and periods of isolation from our settings must be observed. Please see the guidance on Covid 19 at the beginning of this welcome pack. You **must** let us know.

Diarrhoea

If your child has sickness and diarrhoea they must be kept away from Preschool for 48 hours from the last incident. You **must** let us know why you are keeping your child off.

Days off

If you are keeping your child off Preschool for any reason you must let us know.

Tapestry

Tapestry is the online journal we use to track the progress of all children. It helps us to be aware of the next steps needed for your child's learning journey and to help your child to be challenged just enough to make good progress.

The really exciting part is that you, as a parent or carer, can get to see all the pictures and observations that we put onto Tapestry. It really is simple and much too good an opportunity to miss! Ask us how.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

Our Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator Crystal will ensure that those who need extra support receive it.

If you feel you need support please don't hesitate to ask.

Keep us informed.

You must make sure that we are kept informed of changes, if somebody joins the family, or if anybody leaves, if you are thinking of moving, or anything else, as these can be very disruptive to a child even if they are not able to find the words to tell us what they are worried about.

Be happy

We want you to be happy with Preschool and work hard to make sure that your child is happy. If, for any reason you are not happy we would like you to tell us to help us get better.

If, however, you are happy please feel free to tell everyone!

Who runs Preschool

Magpies Preschool is run by Magpies Kidlington Limited, which is a not-for-profit organisation that also runs Breakfast Clubs and After-School Clubs here at North Kidlington School, and at West Kidlington School and Edward Feild School, together with a Holiday Club, open during the school holidays. There is more information on our website www.magpies.info

Facebook

Our Facebook page is where you will be able to communicate with other users of Magpies and receive informal information. We encourage you to show support by joining our Group and 'Liking' us.

Website

You can access most things you need and up to date information on our website. In bad weather when you think we might be closed please check here before you set out. www.magpies.info

Contact Preschool

You can call us when we are open, 8.30am- 3.30pm weekdays term time only, **01865 842724** or email anytime preschool@magpies.info

Please call Vicki on **07747 474705** If you need to contact us out of hours (only) and leave a message if unanswered. she will return your call as soon as possible. Or you can send a text message at any time.

At all times when Preschool is open please call **01865 842724**

You should always let us know if your child will be absent when we are expecting them.

Concerns or complaints

Magpies welcome suggestions on how to improve our settings and will give prompt and serious attention to any concerns you may have.

We would expect that most concerns will be resolved quickly by talking to your keycarer or the Manager, Vicki, or any member of staff.

If, for any reason, you are unable to resolve your concerns this way then the Directors would be delighted to be given the opportunity to help if we can. Any member of staff will arrange a meeting or put you in touch.

In the unlikely event that we are unable to resolve your concerns you can talk to Ofsted. Users may approach Ofsted directly at any time. Ofsted are the registering and inspection body who ensure that the Safeguarding and Welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are adhered to.

Our OfSTED Registration number is EY425468

Call Ofsted on 0300 123 1231

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast and After School Clubs are run to the same standards as Preschool and use the same Policies and procedures, and is run here at Preschool. But there are differences, and they are run separately. You should be aware that they are play settings and it can get very lively compared to Preschool.

Chloé, pictured here, is the Manager and you can still contact her on **01865 842724** when Breakfast and After School Club are open, but we have a personal contact number for Chloé



07888 990907

Or email north-asc@magpies.info

Forms

Because it is important for us to have as much information about your child to enable us to provide the best possible care for child, we have some forms for you to fill in. It will take you a little time, but it is vital that we have them.

If you need help filling them in, don't hesitate to ask.

We also need your permission to carry out the exciting things we have planned for you child, and this means more forms.

What to expect, when

A guide to your child's learning and development in the early years foundation stage.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) sets out the learning and development stages for children as they grow from birth to five years.

We attach some extracts from the above guide. The full booklet can be found at:

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/what-to-expect-when-1.pdf>

Thank you

We are delighted that you have chosen to send your child to Magpies Preschool.

Because we want the experience you and your child have here is as positive as it possibly can be, we ask you to remember that if there is anything that you are unsure or unhappy about you must ask.

We will always be happy to answer any questions you have and if pickup or drop off doesn't give you enough time, simply arrange a time to come in.

Welcome to Magpies Preschool.