

## **A Day in the Life of PlayStation Nursery @ Barley close**

From 8.45 am you will be let in the security gate via a buzzer. The nursery opens at 9am so you will need to wait outside until that time. At 9am your child will be greeted by somebody at the door, and they will be supported in hanging up the coat and bag in the cloak area. A staff member will always be available for you to share information on how they have been and if there is anything we need to be aware of for the day. Once you feel your child is happy and you have been able to speak to a practitioner, we encourage you to leave, and your child enters the playroom.

Your child will be supported into the playroom with their peers and practitioners will help them to initiate some play with our lovely resources, or just simply have a cuddle if that is what your child needs. They can then explore and play in the room with engaging adults, supporting their interests. At 10am it is time for snack, this is a choice of dry cereal and/or fruit with a choice of milk or water. Snack is provided from 10am through till approximately 10.30am, children are invited to join for snack but not forced and they can come and have snack anytime between 10.00 and 10.30. Children wash their hands before joining, choose their own cereal and/or cut up their own fruit, they are encouraged and supported to pour their own drinks. Once they have finished snack, they can return to their play.

After snack the children benefit from free flow inside and out, through exploring different activities and free play, either inside or outside, as staff support the children's interest and development. This could be anything from; gloop play, flour and rice/messy play, sand play, water play, painting, drawing and a range of other activities. Activities are not limited to different types of messy play, sometimes children will enjoy an activity where they will have fun exploring our lovely sensory resources, exploring the book corner, role playing in the home corner, building with different materials such as blocks, Duplo or stickle bricks or maybe testing their physical development on the soft play or climbing equipment. Activities are set and designed around children's individual and group interests, some are thought out and some are planned in the moment. Free play provides opportunities for children to enjoy some independent play, supported by adults who will offer a language rich environment and plenty of opportunities to develop their play while helping them to sustain and extend their interests. There are a range of toys and resources within the room and garden to extend the children's interests and offer them the best opportunities to facilitate their learning. At around 11.45am the children are encouraged to help tidy up before getting ready for changeover and lunch.

### Outdoor play

*At Play Station we feel it is important to offer outside time no matter the weather, we have wet weather suits available, so the children are able to get fresh air and play outside every day. The children love the chance to put on their wellies and splash in some puddles and feel the rain on their skin. For days like this, we are always very thankful for a spare set of clothes in the children's bags in case anything gets a little wet from any activities or mealtimes through the day. During winter months, this may be for a shorter space of time, during which time the children will be given ample opportunities to investigate and play indoors. To promote and support the children's physical development we have a range of climbing and ride along toys. The children love the outside area and love to use this time to run around and ride the bikes. Whilst we recognise the importance in extending and developing children's interests, we also understand the importance of allowing children to have the freedom to explore and play without frequent adult interaction. In the garden the children have plenty of opportunities to play with their friends, get messy in the mud kitchen and much more. Sometimes, the children might go on a little adventure in the local area during this time, e.g. the local park or shops, there's lots to do in our area and we love getting out as much as we can so the children can make lovely memories and have lots to tell you when you get home.*

*There will always be experiences that are created specifically for your child that are documented in their learning journals.*

At approximately 11.40 we start encouraging the children to tidy up to get ready for some children going home, coming in or for lunch. The children are supported in tidying up through games and play. Once this has been done the children come inside and are encouraged to sit down for some group time, this may be some singing or stories. During this time the children that are having lunch are supervised while washing their hands, some of their friends are collected and some new friends may also come in at this time.

Lunch time is as close to 12pm as possible, but usually by about 12.10pm as we wait for the children that attend half sessions have gone home and the children attending afternoons to come in. The children encouraged come and collect their own lunch boxes and water bottles and take them to the table. They are encouraged to independently access their boxes and food, promoting independence. Staff sit with the children and support them with anything they may need.

#### Lunch boxes.

*Lunch boxes should have healthy options for children and have foods that are nutritionally safe and balanced.*

*Please refrain from putting foods in that contain nuts, high quantities of salt or sugar. Water bottled should have only water in them.*

After lunch the children put their rubbish in the bins and place their lunch boxes back on the trolley, they help to wipe the table down with soap and water and even help to sweep the floor. Children are then encouraged into free play either inside or outside. Free play is a great opportunity for us to observe and learn about their growing interests. Activities are set out through this time for the children to explore, and these are supported by practitioners. This may be painting, play dough, mark making, shape matching or threading, for example.

At 2.00pm the children are invited for snack (Biscuit and some milk or water), children can have their snack inside or outside and are not expected to move away from their play unless they want snack. Children who do want snack need to, again, wash their hands before eating snack.

At 2.40pm the children help tidy up in preparation for going home. At approximately 2.50pm the children sit on the carpet and have story or singing until the parents start to arrive. Children will have their bags and coats with the ready for you to collect. Please bear in mind that all parents tend to arrive at the same time so it may take a little longer to receive a hand over.