



March Newsletter 2021

Welcome Back!

Welcome back everybody. We are so happy to be in a position to be able to open fully again and welcome all of our children back in to the setting. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for understanding the precautions we have kept and put in place to keep all at the setting safe during this time.

Facebook Page



Please be aware that our new Facebook page is now up and running, if you have Facebook please give it a like and share it with your friends. As a reminder the children will not feature on this page but we will be sharing photos of our activities, continuous provision set ups and documenting changes to the setting as they are made. You can search for us using @LittleExplorers21

Sickness



Please note that we are unable to care for children who are unwell due to our duty of care in safeguarding all children and our infection control policy.

Additionally, please be reminded that children who have had sickness and/or diarrhoea must be kept away from the setting for 48 hours after the last episode.

For children who have been prescribed antibiotics we require that they are kept home for 48 hours before they return to the setting (if well enough).

If your child or someone in your household shows symptoms of coronavirus, please keep your child at home and get a test. If this comes back negative when your child is well enough they can return to the setting.

NHS

Parent Guidance

On the 5th March we emailed out an updated coronavirus letter, please take your time to read this as it sets out many different points. We will continue to review this often updating it where needed to include the most recent government guidelines. We will for the foreseeable future be continuing ask you to wear face mask and we will continue to wear gloves when collecting your children from the gate and spraying their belongings when bring them in to the setting. We ask that you please remember not to bring toys from home in with your children at this time we are only expecting essential comfort belongings. We thank you for your understanding in this matter

New plans leaflet



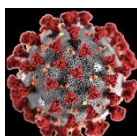
On the 24th February we sent out an email with pictures of our new plans leaflet. This explained our vision for Little Explorers moving forward and explained that we will be making small yet sustainable changes to the setting as and when we get the opportunity. If you would like a printed copy of this, please do ask and remember to share this vision with your friends and family as we may need support in getting some of the resources we require if they have any they would like to give.

Medication Forms

If your child has a medical need please let us know and we will send you our individual health care plans.

Open Door Policy

Please be reminded that although we are not currently having parents in the setting we still have an 'open door' policy. This means that if you would like to speak to your child's keyperson, a member of the senior leadership team or Harriet please do not hesitate to get in to contact with us. We are all contactable through email, phone calls and virtual meetings so please get in contact if you would like to speak to our staff.





Some thank you's for March

We will now be introducing this section to thank individuals and businesses who are generously donating and supporting the setting. We have had some lovely people and businesses that have supported us through March collecting/removing resources and donating some lovely items to the preschool.

Chris from Yarmouth tyres very kindly donated and delivered some tyres that we plan to use in our outside areas.

Charlie (Jaimee's fiancé) from Island Plant repairs very kindly removed some broken resources for us, made our mud kitchens with the help of his friend Jack (Lil's husband) and is providing pallets and making us some stands for our tuff trays.

Becky's Dad Mike for buy us some amazing flower and herb planting pouches for both the Birth to three room and the Foundation stage room.

Jaimee's Dad Mike for donating some paint for us to use for our new plans.

Alex one of our children's mums for donating some books and clothing to the preschool.

Thank you all so very much for the support.

Dates for your diary



World Book Day

We will be celebrating world book day alongside the school on the 12th March 2021. On this day the children are welcome to attend the setting dresses as their favourite book character or in dressing up.

Last day of term

Friday the 26th March will be our last day of term before we break up for the Easter holidays.

April return

We will return to normal preschool running on Monday 12th April.

Bank holiday

Please be aware there is a bank holiday coming up on the 8th May on this day Little Explorers will be closed.

What will we be exploring this term

This term in the Foundation Stage room our backdrop to learning will be 'People who help us'. During this time, we will be looking into many different jobs and occupations and explaining to the children how these individuals help us with the jobs they do and why they are important. We will do this whilst following the children individual interests, we will be setting up continuous provision activities as well as doing an adult led activity each day to support this. If you would like to share with us a description of a job either yourselves or a family member does then we will include this in our backdrop for the children, if you also have any picture of the job or props that you are happy for us to share with the children please do get in contact and let us know.

In the Birth to three room we will be following the children's individual interests and continuing to encourage the children to be individual and curious learners. We will be focusing around introducing the children to our new plans for open ended play using loose parts and natural resources and well as encouraging the children to join in with some gardening and planting in our outside area.



Suitable footwear

Please ensure when your child comes to preschool they are wearing suitable footwear. We try to encourage the children over time to become independent in self-care situations such as putting their shoes on so shoes with Velcro or slip on shoes would be the easiest for them. Thank you for your understanding in this.

Outdoor clothing

Please could we ask that you provide your child with a waterproof suit or waterproof clothing and wellies during their time at the setting. Our new plans involve a lot of outdoor play with water, mud and paint to name just a few resources. With the amount we do at the moment we regularly end up having to fully change the children but with the addition of mud and other resources it would be easier for the children and adults at the setting if they had the clothing outline above. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.



Staff All About Me

Name: Niki Beesley

Job Role: Shalfleet Little Explorers Senior Practitioner

Niki first joined Little Explorers in March 2014 so is now celebrating 7 years of working with the children here. Before coming to the setting Niki moved over from the mainland and has contributed her 20 years' worth of knowledge since joining our preschool. Niki has experience in working in regular day nurseries as well as Montessori settings and has had jobs such as practitioner, senior practitioner, room leader and manager in a variety of settings. Niki is a well-known and respected face at the setting as she usually works 50 weeks of the year. Niki has been through her career gaining qualifications such as Early childhood environment rating scale training, nursery nursing, play works and nursery management skills.

Recent courses completed: Child protection, Safeguarding, paediatric first aid, online safety, FGM, mental wellbeing, equality and diversity, administering medicines, fire safety, prevent, adverse childhood experiences, speech and language support and infection control.

Staff All About Me

Name: Harriet Shilton

Job Role: Shalfleet Little Explorers Administrator

Harriet joined Little Explorers in September 2016 initially as a volunteer helping with both administrative cover and childcare support. This soon progressed to a permanent position. Harriet holds NVQs in Customer Support, Business Administration and Early Years Education. Her administrative training began in Local Authority working for the IW Fire and Rescue Service, this progressed to other departments including Trading Standards. She later worked at Gurit (formerly SP Systems) for a number of years in Production Admin before taking a brief break to raise her young children before joining our team and completing her childcare qualification.

Recent courses completed: Child protection, Safeguarding, paediatric first aid, online safety, FGM, mental wellbeing, equality and diversity, administering medicines, fire safety, prevent, adverse childhood experiences, speech and language support and infection control.

