



Isleham Preschool

3a Malting Lane Isleham Ely Cambs CB7 5RZ

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Curriculum Policy

2018 version 1 of 2

Isleham Pre-School is part of Isleham Under Fives Association and overseen by an elected Committee of parents. It is situated in the grounds of the local school in the village of Isleham. Children who attend the setting come from mixed socio economic backgrounds. They are drawn from Isleham and the surrounding villages. Our setting complies with the current legislation and work in partnership with parent/s/carer/s/guardian/s, outside agencies, local primary schools and the Local Authorities. We are monitored by the Local Education Authorities Quality Framework scheme and Inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectors from Ofsted. Our last inspection was in April 2016 where we were awarded 'Outstanding' across the board.

Legislation – our curriculum policy has links with all of the legislation that surrounds the Early Years, however, the main document is The Statutory Framework 2017 for the Early Years and Foundation Stage and the policy will be reviewed with all subsequent up-dates relating to the Statutory Framework and or if there are significant changes in practise to suit the children within the setting.

The curriculum we offer provides a full range of experiences and activities, which are planned to promote children's wellbeing, relationships, uniqueness, talents and learning and development. Learning Through Play – The Practitioners are skilled at working with children and developing their learning through play. There is a regular training programme for all staff members in order to up date their skills and continue to deliver a high quality, rich and varied curricula to the children. All children learn in different ways, we seek to work with the parent/s/carer/s and or guardian/s in order to know the child/children,. Parents have the opportunity to add information to their child/children's Tapestry Learning Journey. Parents are also invited in each day at the beginning of the session. They are given the opportunity to stay and play and they have regular opportunities to get involved by helping with outings, supplying modelling materials and helping on our Committee.

The Early Years Foundations Stage – Within the aforementioned Statutory Framework, practitioners are able to offer activities that cover the 7 areas of learning:

- 1 Communication and Language
- 2 Physical Development
- 3 Personal Social and Emotional Development
- 4 Literacy
- 5 Mathematics
- 6 Understanding the World
- 7 Expressive Art and Design

Plans – Long, Medium and short-term plans are available to parents, on our noticeboard, through our parent mail and on our Website.

Long Term – These are topics that will be covered throughout the year.

Medium Term – These give an idea of what we might typically do in one week.

Short Term – These are where we have evaluated and changed or adapted our original weekly plans in order to go with the interest of the children, meet their needs by adjusting the curriculum and by not being rigid, learning with the children in a way that brings out the best in them as individuals or in a group.



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Monitoring and Self Evaluation – We keep records of activities that work and are enjoyed by children, we hold regular meetings in order to discuss ways of enriching the curriculum and making use of the resources. All staff members make contributions to this.

At Isleham Pre-School we value spontaneously learning opportunities during in/outside play. We always accept offers of expertise, artefacts, learning materials from parent/s/carer/s and guardian/s even if it does not tie in with the curriculum.

Messy Play – We enjoy giving the children the opportunity to experiment and mix paints, materials, clay, playdough, cooking, making and baking, mixing natural materials e.g. mud, sand, water, stones, bark etc. Therefore, please do not bring your child in new clothes, also, although many of the paints say that they are washable, that is not always the case. Isleham Pre-school will not accept the responsibility for stains on your child’s clothes. We do have some spare old clothes and we will offer them to your child so they are not excluded from this type of play. We do not want the children to be concerned or anxious about getting dirty.

In/outside play occurs through the season, please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear. If you are unsure, please ask a member of staff.

Allotment visits – We have an allotment down Station Road in Isleham. Parents are invited to join us on these visits to help and share in the children’s learning. Again, appropriate clothing is required e.g. Wellingtons, waterproofs, hats (wool or sun) depending on the weather. We do supply spare items when necessary. Our allotment visits cover a wide range of learning experiences encompassing a variety of philosophies e.g. High Scope, Montessori, Forest School etc. We do visit our allotment outside the scheduled visits, this widens the scope of learning for all children, covering topics, promoting independence and empowering children to select self chosen challenges.

Record Keeping – Isleham Pre-School recognise parent/s/carer/s/guardians as the main educators of their children. Accordingly, the children join us pre-loaded with lots of home learning. By working in partnership we will share in your child’s progress through 2-way observation sharing on ‘Tapestry’ (see Learning Journey Policy). Please note ‘Tapestry is not a messaging services, it is purely for record keeping, it gives parent/s/carer/s/guardian/s the opportunity to provide information about their child/children’s experiences e.g. riding their bike without stabilisers, eating a new type of food, visiting somewhere special etc. We show your child/children their learning journeys, we talk about them together.

‘All about me’ – this was in your welcome pack, however, each term you will be asked to complete a new ‘all about me’ with your child, because their journey is moving on.

Keyworker – this is mentioned in your welcome pack and there is a set of pictures and names in the main room on the right hand wall which makes this clear. Your keyworker will work with your family. All staff members observe the children in the setting regardless of whether they are key-children, this is so that we all know the children as individuals.

This policy was amended at a Committee Meeting held at Isleham Preschool on.....

Signed by the I.U.F.A. Committee
Chairperson/s.....

To be reviewed yearly or when necessary