

What your child can expect from our Pre-Academy

How we assess and help your children develop

During free flow the children are able to interact and play together. This allows them to form positive relationships with each other and to learn important social skills such as sharing, turn taking and listening to others.

It is during this time that the adults will make observations of the children. The observations we make might be focused on one skill or area of learning. For example, we might watch to see if they can hold cups and jugs to pour carefully, or if they take part in imaginative play with others. We might also focus on one area of the classroom, such as the sand tray, to see how children use it. From our observations of the children, we make plans for activities to help them develop their skills through adult led activities or enhancements to the areas they play in.

We also plan activities according to the children's interests. We might have a dinosaur theme, or superheroes, or insects, water, tea parties... Anything the children are showing excitement about. If you know your child has a particular interest, please share it with us.

The observations also help with our assessment of their development. We use the Early Years development points to track how the children are progressing within their age band. The age bands are measured in months. In Pre-Academy we look specifically at 16-26 months, 22-36 months and 30-50 months. The assessment we make feeds into the planning and also pin-points areas to observe.

We give termly feedback to parents during parents evening. We also have a termly 'Stay and Play' session when you can join your child in playing with the activities on offer. During both the 'Stay and Play' and the parents evening appointment you will get the opportunity to discuss your child's development with their teacher and key worker, as well as the chance to look through their photo journal which documents all the things they have been getting up to during their time here.

At the end of the year, you will take home their photo journal and a formal school report about the progress they made during their time at the Pre-Academy.

For more information about the EYFS, please follow this link:

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2014/08/EYFS_Parents_Guide-amended.pdf

To find out more about how you can help as a parent:

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/09/4Children_ParentsGuide_Sept_2015v4WEB1.pdf



They will have a snack every day, which may be fruit or toast and juice or milk.



They will be encouraged to take part in routines in the morning preparing for snack, washing hands and collecting plates and cups.



They will have time to play outside every day, using the equipment. The children are given the opportunity to go onto the grass area and explore the nature area

finding bugs, flowers and leaves.



Penny Teddy

We have a fundraiser teddy in the foyer for small change. The small amount the children put in over the year is used to help fund food for the Christmas party and prizes and treats for the family fun day at the end of the Summer Term.

Uniform

School uniform is optional in Pre-Academy. School jumpers are available from the main Academy office.

We often visit the Nature area so please provide your child with wellies as it is muddy and wet there.

To avoid confusion over clothes and who they belong to, we ask that all clothes, but especially coats, jumpers and bags are all clearly labelled with your child's name.

They will be supported in developing their skills going to the toilet, having a try on the potty. Please speak to a member of staff if you have any questions about potty training.



They will have lots and lots of activities to try out, and we look forward to seeing what they like most.



Work

Each child has a drawer for their work. Please check for new work, letters from school, or items of clothing at the end of each session



Figure 1 We can work together to build a train track



We can practice our cutting and sticking



We can pretend we are at home in our kitchen, making dinner



We wear a special hat to play in the sand



Figure 2 We like sharing books with our friends



Figure 3 We practice our fine motor skills with fun activities- we were catching spiders!



Figure 4 We like making music



Figure 5 We like have tea parties