

Northern Lights Pre-School & After School Club

“Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people”.



Setting Reference Number: 2809262

PARENT INFORMATION PACK





Background

The Northern Lights Pre-school first opened its doors to children aged 3-5 in November 2012. We also care for children aged 2-year-olds and below. The governing body consists of elected parents/carers and volunteers within the local community.

The pre-school is situated in the heart of the local community in Halifax, Park Ward. We are registered with Ofsted to care for 48 children aged 0-5 years of age and a copy of our certificate is displayed in the Pre-School. The Pre-school is equipped with a wide range of age appropriate and exciting toys and resources to promote children's learning within the 7 key areas of learning. The Pre-school is also subject to an Ofsted inspection at regular intervals. In 2024, at our latest Ofsted inspection we received a grading of '**Outstanding**' in the overall quality and standards of our preschool.

The pre-school fosters good links with the local community; and through our topics and themes we invite professionals such as the local police, fire fighters and the health improvement service to the pre-school to talk to children. We also endeavour to establish and maintain effective links with the Primary Schools within the local area and ensure that we work in partnership to ensure transition into these schools is smooth and effective.

The pre-school endeavours to develop highly effective links between other settings and professionals so that we can work in collaborative partnership to meet children's individual needs and help them to make good progress in their learning and development.

All children have an individual online 'learning journey' that includes observations, photographs and examples of their work to show parents and others what they are able to do and what they have achieved. These are readily available to parents/carers, who are able to contribute to these as and when they wish.

Aims and Objectives

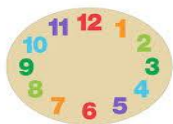
Our aims are:

- ✚ To ensure that all children gain the best possible start in life and to support and enhance the Education and Development of all children who attend pre-school in partnership with parents and others.
- ✚ To provide a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment where children can have fun, learn, grow together and fulfil their potential
- ✚ To work within a framework that consistently ensures inclusivity and equality of opportunity to all children and their families.

To achieve these, we offer your children:

- ✚ A specifically tailored curriculum that meets their needs and interests, whilst leading to positive learning outcomes.
- ✚ Provide a key person system so that where possible individual care and attention is provided and adult staff to child ratios are maintained at all times.
- ✚ Fun, enjoyment and friendship with other children and adults.
- ✚ Opportunities for parents/carers to be actively involved in supporting the education and development of their children and making key decisions about various aspects of pre-school. Parents are given the opportunity to become part of the Parents Engagement Group (PEG). This will provide opportunities for parents to share ideas and take part in workshops to support their children.

Session Times



The pre-school is open during term time only. Occasionally we have staff training days throughout the term, parents are made aware of these in writing in advance and our term dates are displayed on our parent's notice board. Where possible to ensure flexibility and to meet the needs of parents we offer flexible session times and days.

Day	Out of School	Early Start	Morning Session	Afternoon Session	Full Time Session	Extra Time	After School/ Out of School Club	Holiday Club
Monday	7:30 - 8:30	8:20 - 9:00	9:00 - 12:00	12:25 - 3:25	9:00 - 3:00	3:00 - 3:30	3:30 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00
Tuesday	7:30 - 8:30	8:20 - 9:00	9:00 - 12:00	12:25 - 3:25	9:00 - 3:00	3:00 - 3:30	3:30 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00
Wednesday	7:30 - 8:30	8:20 - 9:00	9:00 - 12:00	12:25 - 3:25	9:00 - 3:00	3:00 - 3:30	3:30 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00
Thursday	7:30 - 8:30	8:20 - 9:00	9:00 - 12:00	12:25 - 3:25	9:00 - 3:00	3:00 - 3:30	3:30 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00
Friday	7:30 - 8:30	8:20 - 9:00	9:00 - 12:00	12:25 - 3:25	9:00 - 3:00	3:00 - 3:30	3:30 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00

Fees & Funding

The Northern Lights Preschool Fees are reviewed annually and we reserve the right to increase our Fees. Parents will receive one month's notice prior to any Fee increase becoming effective.

Additional Charges for Snack

At the Northern lights Preschool, we regard snack time as an important part of the day as it provides an opportunity for children and adults to socialise and helps children to learn about healthy eating. Parents are given the choice to send their child with **a piece of fruit daily** or they can pay **£10 towards the snack contribution every term**.

Private Fees

The fees per session at present are (£9.00 per hour for under two's and £7.00 per hour for a 2-year-old child and £5.00 per hour for a 3- & 4-year-old child) and these can be paid half termly, monthly or weekly in advance. All cash/cheque payments must only be paid into the main office to the Manager in their absence's fees can be paid to the Deputy manager. Cash will be counted in the presence of parents and a receipt will be issued for the fees paid. For children who are not purchasing additional hours at pre-school, an invoice will be provided every term, stating the number of funded hours received for your child.

Refund Policy

Fees continue to be paid in the case of:

- **non-attendance** by your child regardless of illness, holidays, or other reasons
- **severe weather conditions, or any emergency situation**

Each child's attendance is conditional upon continued payment of any necessary fees, which include the Early Education Funding scheme.

Should you have any difficulties with regard to payment of fees, please speak to the Pre-school Manager or your child's key person. All matters will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Suspension or Termination of Services

The Northern Lights Preschool reserves the right to withdraw or to terminate our services to your child for non-payment of Fees or where the preschool considers it appropriate to do so.

Preschool Early Start Club

Our Early Start Club provides high quality out-of-school hour's childcare for our parents. It provides a range of stimulating and creative activities in a safe environment. The Early Start Club operates daily during term time from 8.20am until 9.00am for children attending the Northern Lights Preschool. Children will be supervised by our preschool staff with at least one first aider present.

Admissions

- All places are subject to availability.
- Parents to complete a registration form and report any food allergies. Parents are reminded that it is also their responsibility to update any information with the Preschool Office should circumstances change. (Contact numbers etc.)
- Parents requiring ad hoc places at the club are welcomed to use the club providing there are spaces and parents/carers have previously completed the registration form.
- All club staff are made aware of the details of a new child.
- Children's attendance is recorded in a register.

Payment of Fees

- The cost for each early club session is £2 per child.

Please note that booked places are non-refundable

Government Funded Places

Under the current government scheme, funding for all 3- & 4-year-olds is available in the term following their 3rd birthday and is available for a maximum of 15 hours per week, 38 weeks per year, subject to availability. Some children may also be eligible for the Extended entitlement, which means they would get a further 15 hours, parents **MUST** check their eligibility for the extended entitlement and provide the eligibility code.

The 2 -year old funding entitlement starts at the term after the child's second birthday. Parents must provide a confirmation letter for the funding entitlement or complete an assisted application form. Children are entitled to two-year funding if they meet free school meals criteria.

From April 2024, eligible working parents can now claim up to 15 hours funded childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year if they're eligible. By September 2025, most working families with children under the age of 5 may be entitled to 30 hours of childcare support.

For more details: <https://www.gov.uk/check-eligible-free-childcare-if-youre-working>

You may be able to get free childcare for your child aged 9 months to 4 years old if you live in England.

The amount of free childcare you can get depends on:

- your child's age and circumstances
- whether you're working (employed, self-employed, or a director)
- your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
- your immigration status

The number of hours of free childcare you can get depends on the age of your child. If your child is:

- 9 months to 2 years old, you can get 15 hours per week of free childcare
- 3 to 4 years old, you can get 30 hours per week of free childcare

You will not be eligible if your child does not usually live with you.

Children are currently entitled to receive free school meals if their parents are in receipt of any of the following benefits; -

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers' s Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190.00, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, **and are not in receipt of Working Tax Credits** (except during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week)

Parents/carers are given a Parent Declaration Form to complete shortly before their child becomes eligible, which must be returned to pre-school to claim for funding. No charge is made for any element of the early education entitlement, but parents may purchase additional hours of care and education to suit their individual needs.

For more information regarding funding contact **Calderdale Families' Information Service (FIS)** Northgate House -Halifax- HX1 1UN

Telephone -01422 253053

E-mail fis@calderdale.gov.uk

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare is a government scheme that pays 20% of childcare costs up to a maximum of £2,000 each year. Tax-Free Childcare is a UK-wide scheme covering England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The scheme is open to all parents of children under 12 (or under 17 if disabled). To apply, you must open a Tax-Free Childcare account online and see if you are eligible.

For more information please visit: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Out of School Club/Holiday Club

Fees

The fees per session at present are (£10.00/part-time and £20.00/full-time for children aged 3+) and these can be paid half termly, monthly or weekly in advance. All cash/cheque payments must only be paid into the main office to the Manager, in her absence fees can be paid to the Deputy manager. Cash will be counted in the presence of parents and a receipt will be issued for the fees paid. Fees can also be paid via bank transfer.

If you qualify for Universal Credit childcare amount, then you would get 85% of these costs refunded. Those on Tax Credits, could get up to 70% childcare costs refunded. If you do not qualify for these, then you could apply to 60% AICP charity volunteer discount on a case-by-case basis.

Please note:

Should you have any difficulties with regard to payment of fees, please speak to the Pre-school Manager. All matters will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Admissions



Admission to the Northern Lights Pre-school is open to every family in the community and to families from the surrounding areas when places are available. Parents/carers of children wishing to be admitted to the pre-school must complete a registration form, and a parental declaration form upon completing this form the child's name will either be placed on a waiting list or if appropriate, admitted immediately. Children and parents will be invited for a visit prior to starting at pre-school and parents must stay with the child throughout this visit.

Lunch Club



The Pre-school has a Healthy Eating policy and gained the '**Cute Fruit Award**', we request that all parents/carers ensure that all lunchboxes are clearly labelled and that they provide healthy and nutritious food for children in adequate quantities. The preschool will provide water and milk for children during lunchtime and also throughout the session. Fizzy drinks and sweets must not be included in lunch boxes. We also implement a tooth brushing programme and all children are encouraged to brush their teeth.

Collections

All parents/carers must ensure that children are collected after each session on time, [unless there are exceptional circumstances] as late collections will be charged at the amount set out in the arrivals and departure policy. If anyone other than the named person[s] are collecting children from Pre-school then the manager or staff **MUST** be informed and the correct password given to the person collecting the child[ren]. Can all parents/Carers ensure that a responsible adult is designated to collect children as anyone under 18 will not be authorised to collect children.

Sickness & Absence

It is important that we are kept informed if your child is not going to be attending Pre-school due to infection or illness. Please refer to our Responding to children who are ill/infectious policy for more details.

We also have a list of the incubation periods for various illnesses. We cannot undertake the care of sick children and the risk of further infection spreading. If your child becomes ill whilst at Pre-School we will contact you as soon as possible.

The Pre-school understands that on occasions children may be too ill to attend pre-school. On these occasions it is the parent's responsibility, to contact the Manager by telephone, before the session begins, so the absence can be registered as authorized. Parents are asked not to pass messages through other parents or members of staff, absences can be notified by telephone, text, email or personal visit.

Attendance

It is the Pre-schools group's belief that children learn best by consistent care. Attendance plays an important part in this. A child needs to attend regularly to gain a full understanding to what is being taught. All children are expected to be punctual for pre-school sessions and parents are discouraged to take holidays during term time.

We understand that good attendance and punctuality sets good boundaries for the future and will help children become ready for school. Attendance records are kept and all attendance is regularly monitored. All parents must sign their children in and out of pre-school, in order to ensure attendance records are accurate and maintained.

Unauthorised Absence

The preschool must be notified of absences and the reason for the absence on the first day of absence and then updated regularly throughout the absence. **The pre-school reserves the right to give the place to another child after 2 weeks, without notifying the child's parents.** If the child's attendance does not improve within two weeks, the preschool manager/deputy will contact the parent explaining that the place could be terminated within two weeks (i.e four weeks after non-attendance began). If the pre-schoolers are not attending the full number of hours for which they are being

funded (i.e reduced attendance) then this will also be monitored by the preschool manager /deputy. The parents are contacted as soon as possible and preferably no later than two weeks after a period of reduced attendance has started. The preschool will remind the parent of the importance of regular attendance and that the child's funded hours entitlement may be reduced and that their place may be at risk. The pre-school reserves the right to give the place to another child after 2 weeks, without notifying the child's parents. Additionally, Calderdale Local Authority will also be informed if your child is absent for more than 2 weeks. A letter to parents will be sent as record that this has taken place.

If a child's attendance is below 80% in any term, parents will be contacted and if no reasonable explanation is given, the pre-school reserve the right to withdraw the space.

Holidays

Funding will be paid for a child that goes on holiday for a period of up to four weeks in any one Local Authority designated term. If a child goes on holiday for a period of longer than four weeks, only four weeks will be funded and the parent will be liable for any additional weeks for the safety and welfare of children, as well as monitoring attendance.

Where children take extended holidays and do not return to pre-school on the expected return date, the pre-school is entitled to terminate the place and where applicable this place will be offered the place to the next eligible child on their waiting list, provided they are not already receiving funding elsewhere.

Health and safety general standards

The Northern Lights pre-school believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff and students.

- We aim to make children, parents and staff aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.

We have a designated member of staff responsible for Health and Safety.

- Our health and safety poster is displayed in the kitchen

Insurance cover

We have public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in the entrance hall.

First Aid

In our setting staff are able to take action to apply first aid treatment in the event of an accident involving a child. As per the legal requirement, there is at least one member of staff who is Paediatric First aid trained in the setting at all time. New staff must complete PFA within their induction period and must not work alone with children until they have completed this. A local training provider runs a refresher course with all our staff team annually. We also complete an online refresher first aid training course annually. Staff must complete a staff confidence check attached to the end of this policy to identify areas which require improvement.

- The first aid bags are easily accessible to adults and kept out of children's reach.
- At time of admission parents sign a consent form to give permission for emergency treatment to be given and consent for their child to be taken to the nearest Accident and Emergency department to be examined if needed. The parents will be contacted and informed with the intention that they meet us at hospital.

Staff

The committee employs the Pre-School staff, which includes a pre-school manager, deputy and pre-school practitioners. All staff hold relevant qualifications in care and education and are given the opportunity to undertake appropriate training to continuously update their skills and knowledge.

Key person system

All children are allocated a key person once they start pre-school and the responsible member of staff takes time to build a special relationship with the child and ensure that children settle in quickly. The key person is also responsible for establishing and maintaining links with parents/carers and other professionals about individual children's learning and development and tailoring the curriculum to meet the unique needs of each child.

Partnership with parents – Parents Engagement Group

The Northern lights pre-school recognises parents as the first and most important educators of young children. Our goal is to develop and maintain these positive relationships and heavily involve parents and carers in making decisions on key matters affecting the pre-school. Parents/carers are also well informed about their children's learning and development and given tailored advice about how they can support their children's learning across the 7 areas of learning, at home. All parents are invited to join the Parents Engagement Group (PEG) meetings, which take place once every half term. PEG meetings are designed to build awareness around key national and local issues. Parents can take part in various workshops including training on The Prevent Duty, Safeguarding children/Positive parenting, E-safety, healthy eating, home learning and many more.

Volunteering from parents of pre-schoolers

We appreciate the contributions of all parents/carers and recognise that children benefit from a highly positive relationship with parents. We value the help from the parents of the pre-schoolers who wish to help out at preschool. All parents are welcome to helping out at pre-school and asked to help on outings and trips, not only to maintain a high ratio of staff to children but to ensure the individual care and attention for each child.

Note: This is totally a voluntary request and not a requirement of accessing the Northern Lights Pre-school.

Complaints & Ofsted details

We believe that parents/carers & children are entitled to expect courtesy, professionalism and careful attention to their needs & wishes. We value any comments from parents and recognise that there may be an instance where parents have a concern. As a result, we have a complaints procedure in place as follows:

A complaints and suggestions box is located in the main entrance.

All written complaints relating to the requirements will be investigated and the complainant will be notified in writing within **28 days** from having received the initial complaint.

The complaints record containing a summary of complaints including the action taken as a result of the complaint is made available for parents and Ofsted on request. The complaints record contains details of complaints for the last three years.

At times parents may feel dissatisfied, unfairly treated or have concerns about the service and provision we provide. We believe that most complaints are made constructively and can be sorted out at an early stage. We also believe that it is in the best interests of Northern Lights Pre-School and parents, that complaints should be taken seriously and dealt with fairly and in a way which respects confidentiality.

Stage One

In the first instance parents/carers are encouraged to speak directly to the relevant member of staff or their child's key worker if deemed appropriate, who will discuss the matter with you and where possible will try to resolve the concern/issue informally.

If this does not have a satisfactory outcome, or if the problem recurs, then Stage Two of the procedure will formally come into operation.

Stage Two

If informal discussions of a complaint or problem have not produced a satisfactory resolution parents/carers should put the concerns or complaint in writing and request a meeting with the pre-school manager. The Pre-school will be happy to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time. Details will be entered in our confidential complaints record, including source of complaint, nature of complaint, how it was dealt with and the actions and outcome. This record will be shared with parents and Ofsted on request.

The matter will be fully investigated within 28 working days. If there is any delay the pre-school will advise the parent/carers of this and offer an explanation. The manager will be responsible for sending them a full and formal response to the complaint.

If the Manager has good reason to believe that the situation has child protection implications they will inform the designated member of staff for Child Protection and ensure that the local social services department is contacted, according to the procedure set out in the Child Protection Policy.

If any party involved in the complaint has good reason to believe that a criminal offence has been committed, then they will contact the police. The formal response to the complaint from the Pre-school will be sent to the parent/carer concerned and copied to all relevant members of staff if appropriate. The response will include recommendations for dealing with the complaint and for any amendments to the Nursery's policies or procedures emerging from the investigation.

Stage Three

If the parent/carers remains dissatisfied after Stage Two then a meeting may be arranged with the chair of the management committee. Information about the complaint may be passed to Ofsted when the complaint is about the Statutory Framework or we may contact Early Years Department for advice/guidance.

If parents/carers are not happy with the outcome and feel that they need to take the matter further then they are entitled to contact Ofsted whose details are below:

Ofsted Early Years
National Business Unit
Piccadilly Gate
Stone Street
Manchester
M1 2WD
Helpline: 0300 123 4666

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk/parents

Safeguarding

At Northern Lights we are committed to protecting children and ensure that their welfare is of paramount importance. We create an environment where all children are safe, secure and protected from any form of abuse and in which any concerns about their welfare and safety raised are prioritised and key agencies notified where applicable. All staff & volunteers undergo a DBS Check. They also complete child protection training as part of their induction.

A copy of the Pre-school safeguarding/child protection policy is accessible by all parents on registration of their child. Parents/carers will be asked to sign accident records and where the child has come into pre-school with an injury a record will be completed in conjunction with parents/carers. Any significant concerns will be recorded and reported to the relevant key agencies. All safeguarding concerns should be reported to The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), in her absence to The Deputy Safeguarding Lead. Thereafter if you continue to feel concerned and need advice you must contact The Multi Agency Screening Team (MAST) and seek advice. All the key contacts for Safeguarding issues in Calderdale are listed below:



Name of Agency:	Contact Number:
Mast (Multi Agency Screening Team)	01422 393336
Emergency Duty Team (out of Hours)	01422 393340
LADO	01422 288000
Police Safeguarding Unit	01422 394055 / 07769 886090
QISO Childcare Officer (Allegations)	01422 337041
OFSTED	0300 123 1231
Police Emergency	999 / 101
Early Intervention Team	01422 392694
The prevent coordinator	01422 392510 / 07799 656464

Early Years Foundation Stage [EYFS]

At the Northern Lights Pre-school we believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life and support to fulfil their potential and recognise that the excellent experiences we provide will play a major part in their future lives and prepare them for the next stage in their education.

We will ensure that children have access to a safer, secure and stimulating environment where children are nurtured and thrive to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

We will consistently implement the Early Years Foundation Stage [EYFS] Framework to ensure that all children achieve the *Every Child Matters* outcomes of:

-  Staying Safe - [The extent to which children feel Safe](#)
-  Being Healthy - [The extent to which children adopt healthy Lifestyles](#)

- ✚ Enjoying and achieving- The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning
- ✚ Making a positive contribution- The extent to which children make a positive contribution
- ✚ Achieve economic well-being - The extent to which children develop skills for their future

The Northern Lights aims to fulfil the standards set within the EYFS that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three areas, the *prime* areas, are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

Providers must also support children in four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

The Northern Lights promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's '*school readiness*' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundations for good future progress through school and life. We will endeavour to help children work towards and where applicable attain the following goals in each area of learning.

The prime areas

Communication and language

Listening and attention: children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.

Understanding: children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Speaking: children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

Physical development

Moving and handling: children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements. They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space. They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

Health and self-care: children know the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe. They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Personal, social and emotional development

Self-confidence and self-awareness: children are confident to try new activities, and say why they like some activities more than others. They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities. They say when they do or don't need help.

Managing feelings and behaviour: children talk about how they and others show feelings, talk about their own and others' behaviour, and its consequences, and know that some behaviour is unacceptable. They work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules. They adjust their behaviour to different situations, and take changes of routine in their stride.

Making relationships: children play co-operatively, taking turns with others. They take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity. They show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings, and form positive relationships with adults and other children.

The **specific** areas

Literacy

Reading: children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

Writing: children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

Mathematics

Numbers: children count reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

Shape, space and measures: children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

Understanding the world

People and communities: children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

The world: children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.





Technology: children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.

Expressive arts and design

Exploring and using media and materials: children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Being imaginative: children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role-play and stories.

The EYFS principles that guide our work are grouped into four distinct and complementary themes:

-  **A Unique Child** recognises that every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. The commitments are focused around development; inclusion; safety; and health and well-being.
-  **Positive Relationships** describes how children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person. The commitments are focused around respect; partnership with parents; supporting learning; and the role of the key person.
-  **Enabling Environments** explains that the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning. The commitments are focused around observation, assessment and planning; support for every child; the learning environment; and the wider context – transitions, continuity, and multi-agency working.
-  **Learning and Development** recognises that children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates, and that all areas of learning and development are equally important and Inter-connected.

These ensure that at the Northern Lights Pre-school we provide rich and personalised experiences for children in our setting and all staff deliver individualised learning, care and development that enhances children well-being and development.

Through the planning and delivery of all activities and staff interaction, every child is supported individually to ensure that they make good progress at their own pace, including stretching and challenging all children.

Supporting children with additional educational needs

At The Northern Lights Pre-school we provide an environment that delivers access, education and care in all aspects of the pre-school, in which all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities are supported to reach their full potential.

Our designated Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) supports the staff and the Pre-school in achieving best practice, in the area of SEND within the Pre-school.

Children who require additional support are given special consideration, ensuring that activities are adapted and where appropriate barriers to learning are removed or staff helps children overcome these where they already exist, thus promoting inclusion.

A full range of Pre-school's policies & procedures are available to all parents as part of the induction & settling-in procedure and if you wish to have a copy of any policy/procedure then please speak to the manger.

Additionally, if you require any clarification, support or help please speak to the pre-school manager or a member of staff.

The Northern Lights Preschool and Out of School Club

Postal Address: Arnold Street

Halifax, West Yorkshire

HX1 5EE

Preschool Entrance via: Lister Lane, HX1 5JL



01422 251925



Email: info@northernlightspreschool.co.uk