

Eaton Socon Pre-School

A young persons dream

September 2025

A huge welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our returning children and families. We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful summer.

Thank you for your patience at the start and end of the day. Safeguarding the children is our priority – so ensuring we know the adults dropping off and picking up is essential.

The first few weeks is always tricky for the new children, especially when they realise, they have to come back regularly. If your child is upset, please either come over to the kitchen and have a cuppa until you know your child is settled or we are more than happy for you to give us a call and check when you arrive at home or work. If your child remains very unsettled, we will of course give you a call and let you know.

Things to remember... Children will still play outdoors at pre-school even in cold and rainy weather, so please ensure they come to pre-school with appropriate clothing and wellies to keep them warm and dry.

And remember there will be lots of messy play, so if your child is not wearing our uniform, make sure they come to pre-school in clothes which you don't mind getting messy!

Please send your child to pre-school with a change of clothing in a named bag and wellies too. And please make sure <u>ALL</u> bags, clothes, wellies, shoes and any other belongings are labelled with your child's name.

Pre-School Lending Library... We have a great selection of children's books for you to choose from and take home to share with your child. Please take a look at our books under the canopy outside of the office when you drop off or collect your child. Please show your child how to respect our books and handle them carefully and return them within 7 days to ensure other children have the opportunity to read these too.

Snack Time... We offer your children a healthy variety of seasonal fresh fruit, vegetables and other healthy snacks during each pre-school session. So that we can continue to provide these healthy snacks we kindly ask for a £10 donation each half-term – given the rising cost of food, this will really help us out. Please pay by bank transfer or by cash in a sealed envelope.

Fees and Funding... Please ensure your child's session fees are paid promptly, either weekly or by the end of each half term at the latest (either by cash or bank transfer). As at the 1st September 2025 fees are £7/hour, that's £21 for a morning or afternoon session and £42 for an all-day session.

Please note, if your child is in receipt of funded sessions at pre-school it is now a County Council requirement that funding forms are signed every term.

Tapestry... Have you logged onto Tapestry yet? This is a secure on-line portal which allows us to communicate about your child and their learning at pre-school, with weekly updates on activities and suggestions for related activities you can do to support your child at home. If you have not received your email with the tapestry link or you are having trouble logging in, please drop into the office and we will be happy to help you out.

Hot lunches... If your child is staying all day and would like a hot lunch, please ensure you book a lunch when you drop your child at pre-school or telephone the pre-school office by 9:30am at the very latest. Please note, our hot lunch is excellent value at £2.50 each day.

And packed lunches... If your child is bringing a packed lunch to pre-school, remember not to include sweets or chocolates, to cut small fruit lengthways (such as tomatoes and grapes) and remember, NO nuts (check the ingredients on shop bought items too)

Fundraising... Now more than ever, with many of our children attending funded sessions at preschool, our fundraising is an essential element of our pre-school, helping to provide fantastic learning and play resources. We will be holding our annual Christmas Raffle this year and would very much appreciate it if you or your employer/business are able to donate a raffle gift.

Things to remember... Please speak directly to your child's key person if there are any changes which may affect your child, such as: allergies, medical issues, potty training, changes at home, contact details or child collection arrangements.

Dates for your diary...

- AGM: Wednesday 22nd October at 7:30pm
- Photographer (individual photos): Monday 13th October (9-11am) & Thursday 16th October (1:30-2:45pm)
- Half term break: Monday 27th October Friday 31st October
- Parent Consultation Evening: Thursday 13th November 5:30pm 8:30pm
- Last day of Autumn Term: Thursday 18th December (last normal pre-school sessions on this day)
- **Reindeer Day:** Friday 19th December No usual sessions on this day but a drop in for the children with their parent/carer to celebrate Christmas (to meet real reindeer and see Father Christmas).

Finally... We hope the time spent at Eaton Socon Pre-School is a positive one, please do not hesitate to drop into the office if you have any questions or concerns or use our suggestion box inside the entrance hall. I am here every day and happy to help.

Caroline Allanson Pre-School Manager





