

# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. Where is the pre-school?

We are in the Garrison Community Centre on the corner of Alma Gardens and Newfoundland Road in Deepcut - look out for the banners and signs with our logo!  
Access is from Newfoundland Road, and parking is available in the Community Centre car park (access from Alma Gardens).

## 2. Does the pre-school only take children from military families?

No. Because of our location, the majority of the children currently attending the pre-school are from Service families.  
However, we are delighted to also welcome children from our surrounding communities of Deepcut, Camberley and Frimley Green.

## 3. How much does it cost?

The cost is £5.00 per hour.

## 4. What are the opening hours?

We are currently open Monday - Friday from 09:30 am - 2:30 pm  
From September 2017 we will be open Monday - Friday from 08:30 am - 2:30 pm

## 5. Does my child have to come all day?

No, you can register your child for as many sessions per week as you wish, depending upon availability for each session.

We offer the following sessions:

08:30 - 09:30 : Breakfast Club (from September 2017)

09:30 - 12:30 : Morning session

12:30 - 14:30 : Lunch and afternoon session

## 6. Does my child have to come every day?

No, you can register your child for as many days per week as you wish, depending upon availability.

## 7. What are the term dates?

We are open during Surrey term times only.  
See our website for exact term dates.

## 8. Do you provide a snack?

We provide a healthy mid-morning snack at an additional daily cost of 50p.

## 9. Do you provide lunch?

We do not provide lunch.

Those children who stay until 2:30 pm bring their own packed lunch.

## 10. Do you provide breakfast?

For those children attending breakfast club from September 2017 we provide a healthy breakfast at a small additional cost.

## 11. Is there a uniform?

There is no uniform.

## 12. Does my child have to be potty trained?

No. We have nappy changing facilities.

## 13. How many children attend the pre-school?

We are able to take up to 30 children.

#### 14. How many staff do you have?

We have 6 members of staff : a Manager, a Deputy Manager, 4 Childcare Practitioners, and a part-time Admin Assistant.

Our staff are fully qualified, and undergo continuous professional training.

#### 15. Can I come and have a look around?

Of course! Please phone ahead and arrange a visit with the Pre-school Manager.

#### 16. How do I apply for a place?

Call us and ask for an Application Form; when you have filled this in, hand it in at the pre-school admin office.

When we are able to offer you a place, our staff will complete a Registration Form with you.

#### 17. Is there a registration fee?

Your registration is subject to a non-refundable £20 Admin Fee to secure your child's place.

#### 18. What Government funding is available?

From September 2017 Surrey County Council will be offering funding for 30 hours of pre-school education per week for 3 and 4 year olds.

This will enable your child to attend 5 full sessions (08:30 am – 2:30 pm) a week.

You must, however, fulfil the following criteria to qualify for this funding:

- both parents must be working (or the sole parent in a lone parent family)
- each parent must earn at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the National Minimum Wage or the National Living Wage
- each parent must not earn more than £100,000 per year

If you do not qualify for the above scheme, Surrey County Council still offers funding for 15 hours of pre-school education per week for all 3 and 4 year olds.

This will enable your child to attend :

- 5 morning sessions (09:30 am – 12:30 pm) a week

or

- 3 full sessions (09:30 am – 2:30 pm) a week

Surrey County Council also offers FEET (Free Early Education for Two year olds) funding for 2 year olds.

Contact them direct to find out if your child is eligible.

#### 19. My child doesn't speak English. Would he/she still be able to attend?

Our Childcare Practitioners are trained to help children to adapt to an English-speaking learning environment and your child will settle in very quickly and become part of a thriving group.

Until June 2017 we have a Nepalese Childcare Practitioner, who is on hand to assist the children and parents from Gurkha families.

Additionally, a serving Nepalese Warrant Officer also sits on our management committee and serves as the liaison representative for our Nepalese community.

#### 20. My child has special needs. Can you cater for him/her?

All the children attending Blackdown Pre-school are allocated a Key Person; this allows every child to receive attention from a Childcare Practitioner who can focus on the individual child and his/her family.

Additionally, we have a SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) on our staff, who is qualified to work with children with special needs on an individual one-to-one basis.