

**COUNTESS
GYTHA**
FOUNDATION
STAGE



Preschool Prospectus

Mrs Lisa Goodland
Head Teacher

Miss Wendy Flagg BA Hons ECS
Foundation Unit Manager

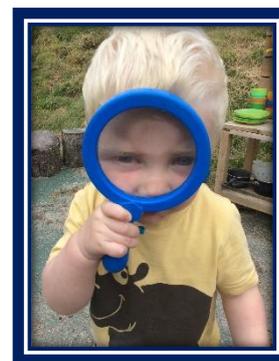
Countess Gytha Foundation Unit

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Welcome to Countess Gytha Pre-School

At Countess Gytha Foundation Unit we strive to create a warm and stimulating environment where learning is fun. Our primary focus is learning through play and exploration and we provide a range of activities that promote and extend children's curiosity and awareness of the world around them.



Our preschool was established in 1982 and now operates from purpose built facilities as part of the village primary school Foundation Unit.

Aims

- ❖ To provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment
- ❖ To enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age
- ❖ To ensure equal opportunities for all children and their families
- ❖ To enable children to form positive and trusting relationships with their peers and adults
- ❖ To work with parents and carers and value their contributions

Session times

We are open Monday to Friday from 9am – 3.15/3.30pm, term time only.

Our day is made up of the following sessions:

Morning	Lunch	Afternoon
9.00am – 12.00noon	12.00 noon – 1.00pm	1.00pm – 3.15/30pm

Subject to availability you can choose which sessions your child attends.

Fees

Our fees are invoiced on a termly basis and are charged at £4.30 3-4 years old, £4.50 – 2 year olds, per hour.

Three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours funding per week from the funding period following the child's birthday. This funding is called the Universal Entitlement.

Funding period dates are as follows:

Autumn	Spring	Summer
1 September – 31 December	1 January – 31 March	1 April – 31 August

As from September 2017 some working parents may be entitled to a further 15 hours funding per week for their three and four year old children. This is called the Extended Entitlement. For further information and to check eligibility visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Some 2 year old children may be entitled to 2 year funding giving them up to 15 hours per week. Further information can be found on the Somerset County Council website.

Uniform

Our Polo shirts are available from the Schoolwear Shop in Yeovil or to order on line at <https://schoolwearandmore.co.uk> and they cost £6.50.



Snack time

The preschool are part of the School Fruit and Veg Scheme, this entitles the children to a FREE piece of fruit each day that they attend. They also have a cracker to eat along with the fruit and have milk or water to drink.

Lunch time

Children will need to bring in a packed lunch with them if they are attending our lunch session. A second option is available in the form of hot school meals provided by the onsite school kitchen at a cost of £2.40 per day.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation stage (EYFS) is a framework for learning, development and care for children from birth to five and consists of seven areas of development.

The Prime Areas:

- ❖ Personal, social and emotional development
- ❖ Communication and language
- ❖ Physical development

The Specific Areas:

- ❖ Literacy
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Understanding the world
- ❖ Expressive arts and design

For each area the practice guidance sets out the Early Learning Goals. These goals state what is expected the children should know and be able to do by the end of the reception year of their education.

The practice guidance also sets out in the 'Development Matters' the likely stages of progress a child makes along their learning journey towards the Early Learning Goals. Our setting has regard to these 'Development Matters' when we assess children and plan for their learning.

Assessment

We assess how young children are learning and developing by observing them frequently. We use information that we gain from the observations to document their progress and where this may be leading them.

We use a secure online learning journal called Tapestry to record all observations made through photos and videos. This enables us to easily share the information with parents and it also allows parents to share information, any learning from home and any special news/events with us at preschool.

We make periodic assessment summaries of children’s learning journeys based on our ongoing developmental records. These are undertaken at regular intervals and at times of transition and are shared with parents at parent’s evenings.

Policies

Copies of the preschool policies are available on the Countess Gytha School website under the Foundation Unit tab. Our policies help us to make sure that the service provided is a high quality one and that being a member of the setting is an enjoyable and beneficial experience for each child and their family.

Safeguarding

Our designated Safeguarding leads here in Pre-school/Countess Gytha are:
The Headteacher, Miss Flagg, Mrs Elsworth, Mrs Spike, Miss Grant, Mrs Thompson.
Or Somerset Direct: 0300 1232224

