



Preschool Prospectus

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Countess Gytha Preschool

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Countess Gytha Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young persons. We will ensure that the highest priority is given to following guidance and regulations to safeguard children and young people. The school expects all staff and visitors to fulfil this expectation.

Welcome to Countess Gytha Preschool

At Countess Gytha Preschool 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.

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 – 12.00pm	12.00pm – 1.00pm	1.00pm – 3.15/3.30pm

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

We are pleased to be able to offer a breakfast session from 8.00am – 9.00am, £4.90 for the hour session and after school sessions from 3.30pm – 5.30pm, £3.20 per half hour session from 3.30pm – 5.00pm and £3.70 for 5.00pm – 5.30pm. These are bookable on a weekly/ monthly adhoc basis.

Fees

Our fees are invoiced on a termly basis and are charged at £5.95 3-4 years old, £6.15 – 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

30 hours childcare for eligible working families in England

For children aged 9 months to 4 years.

From September 2025, 15 hours for eligible working families will expand to 30 hours, meaning eligible working parents can now apply for 30 hours of childcare from the term after their child turns 9 months until they reach school age.

For more information, to check eligibility or to apply please use the link below:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/15-and-30-hours-childcare-support/working-families>

15 hours childcare for families in England receiving some additional forms of support

Your 2-year-old can get funded early learning if you live in England and get any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit, and your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, not including benefit payments
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Your benefits will not be affected if you take up the 15 hours early learning offer.

2-year-olds can also get funded childcare if they:

- are looked after by a local authority
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- get Disability Living Allowance
- have left care under an adoption order, special guardianship order or a child arrangements order

No income thresholds apply.

For more information, to check eligibility or to apply please use the link below:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/15-and-30-hours-childcare-support/additional-support>

Uniform

We now have a compulsory uniform which consists of:

Green logoed polo shirt available from The School Wear Shop at a cost of £7.79

Green logoed sweatshirt available from The School Wear Shop at a cost of £10.99

Black or navy joggers or leggings, or the short equivalents for summer
Velcro shoes/trainers



Our polo shirts and sweatshirts are available from the Schoolwear Shop in Yeovil or to order on line at <https://schoolwearandmore.co.uk> .

Snack time

We ask each child to bring in a piece of fruit with them each morning session that they attend for snack. They are offered water or milk 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 school kitchen at a cost of £2.65 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 the likely stages of progress a child makes along their learning journey towards the Early Learning Goals. Our setting has regard to these 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.

Policies

Copies of the preschool policies are available on the Countess Gytha School website under the Preschool 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 Preschool/Countess Gytha Primary School are:
The Head teacher, Miss Flagg, Mrs Gillman, Mrs Trusson, Miss Bridge or Somerset Direct:
0300 1232224

