

## SPINNEY PRE-SCHOOL



### PARENT/CARERS HELPERS

A few guidelines may help you to help us.

1. Put up clean paper for children painting with their name at the top (Jane not JANE). Ask the children their names – all communication is good for them at this age. Paintings are put on the paint stand to dry.
2. Sit at any table with a few children. Try the puzzles or constructional toys (Lego, etc) yourself and talk with the children about what you, or they, are doing.
3. If we have water play, someone needs to watch this all the time, changing over aprons, drying hands, etc. We have four aprons, therefore only four children play in the water at once. If more try to play, no one has any fun.
4. We like someone to be in the reading area sitting in the story chair and reading a book the children choose. This can only happen if we have adults helping.
5. Please do not feel you have to spend a long time at only one activity – you will feel hoarse after reading three or four stories! Someone else can take a turn.
6. It is very helpful if you can sit with the children as the supervisor is often speaking to visitors or keeping an eye on the general level of play.
7. Do watch the children and notice that your own is no worse (or better!) than anyone else's.
8. We try to encourage independence here at Pre-School. If children need assistance when going to the toilet, please consult the supervisor. Our Child Protection Policy only allows members of staff to escort children to the toilets.
9. Do ask about anything you want to know; we have no secrets, and we are very willing to share ideas and listen to suggestions.
10. Read the continuous provision notice and be aware of the different activities that can be enhanced by an adult.
11. If at any time you feel the need for a short break, please speak to the Supervisor.

If your child has behaved badly while you are at playgroup, please do not worry about this as most children are like this at first. It is very difficult for a three-year-old to have to share their parent/carer with all the other children, and he/she sometimes shows it by seeking more attention in the wrong way.

**Solution:** Prepare him/her for your day in playgroup by talking about your turn: get him/her to show you where to hang your coat and where to find things, etc; and give them all the attention he/she seems to want.

We hope this shared experience of playgroup will be a good one for your whole family. With us, perhaps you can learn more about young children and how to enjoy them at this delightful age.

Thank you for helping.