

Welcome back to all our Playgroup families and a particular welcome to the new children joining this term!

We hope you are getting to grips with the new arrangements but here is a quick reminder of some really important points – we desperately want to avoid the need for Playgroup to close because of Covid cases and so we must ask you all to do your bit in keeping everyone as safe as possible.

- Arrive at your designated time
- Ideally wait until the path is clear to come down, using the car park space at the top of the path to wait in
- Wear a mask coming down our path this is necessary as there is not the required distance and it will protect you and others if you cross on the path
- One parent/carer only to drop/collect your child.

We're attaching the County Council guidance on what will happen if we have children/families or staff who show symptoms. Please read this as it tells you how to book and test and what to do. We can't stress enough how important it is for everyone to follow these guidelines for the benefit of everyone. Thank you.

Playgroup AGM – revised arrangements

Having already postponed our AGM from March to October, it still does not feel like the responsible approach to hold an in-person AGM this year. Instead, we will be sending our annual reports out to those who express an interest in being 'virtual' attendees, with a chance to ask questions and raise comments by email. For those of you who may be interested in joining the committee there will be an opportunity to put your name forward. If you'd like to find out a bit more about being on the committee we can put you in touch with one of the committee members. It is a great opportunity to use your skills for the benefit of Playgroup and a chance to learn new ones – there is no prior experience required! The committee meets (or Zooms!) monthly and is a friendly group committed to overseeing how Playgroup runs. If you would like to be a 'virtual' email attendee at our AGM and/or are interested in joining the committee please let us know.



Diary Dates

Wednesday 14th October 8pm Playgroup AGM – see across for revised arrangements

INSET Day Friday 16th October – Playgroup CLOSED Monday 19th to Friday 30th October Half Term - TWO weeks Pre-School Playgroup will be closed

Friday 18th December - last Day of Autumn term First day back for Spring Term – Monday 4th January Full year Diary Dates can be found on our website

Co-Op Community Fund – last chance to benefit Playgroup

These are the last few weeks to benefit Playgroup through the Community Fund. Please support us by:

- 1. Becoming a Co-op member, if you aren't already, just ask in store or apply online
- 2. then select your cause (hopefully Playgroup!) by signing into your online account at www.coop.co.uk/membership
- 3. ask all your friends and family to sign up too!

The more people that support us the more we will receive and, as we are a registered charity, every single penny raised is put straight back into the setting for the benefit of your children.



Contact Numbers

Please make sure you contact us on the appropriate number and email. This is really important as the Business Manager only works part time and so will not be able to pick up messages every day.

If you child is ill and will not be at Playgroup for his/her session please phone June our Supervisor and the staff at Playgroup on 07891 829513 or email

rotpreschoolplaygroup@googlemail.com

Please also let us know if your child will be absent for any other reason as we are required to account for all absences for safeguarding reasons.

For any queries relating to fees, invoices, funding, changes to sessions on a permanent basis or general administration please call our **Business Manager**, **Deborah**, on **07505 606447** or email at rotplaygroupadmin@googlemail.com

Ad hoc Sessions

Ad hoc sessions are available (subject to having space on the day) and can be booked by phoning Playgroup on 07891 829513. We currently have lunch club and afternoon sessions available and some mornings, plus breakfast club and after school club on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays – please ask. Our sessions and prices are:

Breakfast Club: 8–9 £6.95

Early start 8.30 – 9 £2.45

Morning: 9 – 12 £14.85

Lunch Club: 12-1 £4.95

Afternoon: 1 – 4 £14.85

Standard full day 9 – 4 £34.65

After School Club: 4 – 5 £7.95

Extended Full day: 8-5 £49.55

Website and Facebook

Visit our website at www.rotpreschoolplaygroup.co.uk
and follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/ROTPSPlaygroup
for news and developments

Thank you for reading and we wish your children and you an enjoyable Autumn Term

Funding forum – planning ahead Government funded places for ALL eligible 3 year olds for Spring Term 2021

Children born between 01/09/2017 and 31/12/2017 will become eligible for up to 15 hours per week of funded places at Playgroup from the Spring Term starting on 4th January 2021. This 15 hours of funding is a universal entitlement – all 3 year olds are eligible - and Playgroup applies for you.

30 Hours Free Childcare – act BEFORE 31 December 2020 if your child will turn 3 during this Autumn term

3 and 4 year olds may be eligible for 30 hours of free childcare if both (or one if only one in the household) parents/carers within the household work. Go to https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow for more information.

Application is made **by you** to HMRC and you will be provided with a code. You MUST obtain this code in the term BEFORE your child will be eligible for funding. So if your child will turn three before 31/12/2020 you must apply for your code **strictly before 31/12/2020** in order to claim funding next Spring term. Please bring the code to Deborah as soon as you receive it. You can split your 30 hours between more than one setting, including childminders and the school nursery.

Verifying your 30 hour code

Codes have an expiry date and HMRC will notify you to reminder you to re-check your code through your account with them from time to time. Please make sure you do this as you will lose the right to funding if your code lapses.

If you have any funding queries please contact Deborah and she will be happy to help you.

Notice period for children leaving

Children leaving - please remember to give notice

- If your child is leaving or dropping sessions during or at the end of this term we require 4 weeks' term time notice in writing. To give us adequate notice for the end of Autumn Term you would need to let us know by Friday 20th November please.
- Please use one of our Notice Forms to let us know if you are dropping sessions
- If your child is going to be starting at the school nursery and you would like additional sessions with take and collects to and from nursery please ask us as early as you can.

Name labels and Wellingtons

Naming clothes, bags and water bottles

Please don't forget to label coats, scarves, gloves, hats and boots, bags and bottles to avoid confusion, and check the lost property box regularly.

We have an arrangement with STIKINS, which benefits Playgroup – please look at the link on our website to buy these waterproof non-iron labels which can be used on all of these items

If your child comes to Playgroup in wellies please bring a change of footwear as June is highly allergic to latex – thank you.