**About Presteigne Little People’s Day Care & Playgroup**

We are an independent charity which is managed by a voluntary committee of local mums and relatives.

We offer affordable Full Day Care provision for 2-5 yr olds.

Our minimum staffing ratios are; 1 adult to 4 children aged 2-3yrs and 1 adult to 8 children aged 3-7yrs. We have a maximum group size of 18 children. The Playgroup uses the Birth to Three Matters curriculum for children 2-3yrs and the Welsh Foundation Phase curriculum for 3-5yrs.

Every child is treated as an individual and children of all abilities and with special needs are welcome in our setting.

Whilst English is spoken as the first language, children are introduced to the Welsh language through songs, numbers, colours, table manners and stories.

**Parents & Tots Group** meets on a Wednesday morning and welcomes children from birth. At this group parents and carers are responsible for their own children with staff attending in a supervisory capacity only. A local Health visitor is a regular visitor to these sessions providing advice and support for parents.

**Our staff** all hold NVQ level 3 in Children’s care, Learning and Development, and in paediatric first aid or a higher childcare qualification. The WPPA ensures that Playgroups are kept up to date with training in the childcare and education field, our staff regularly attend courses to update and extend and update their knowledge.

We are:

* Registered with and regularly inspected by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales. (CSSIW)
* Registered with and regularly inspected by ESTYN. (Welsh equivalent of OFSTED)
* Members of the Wales Pre-school Playgroup Association. (WPPA)
* Fully insured.
* A registered charity.
* Carry out Quality Assurance to monitor and measure the success of the setting via annual parental questionnaire to ensure our service meets the needs of our learners and their parents.

Our aims:

* Provide a fun, safe and friendly environment in which the children can play and develop their skills in all aspects.
* To provide stimulating activities and learning experiences for children.
* To follow a planned curriculum in the seven areas of the Foundation Phase.
* To offer individual care and attention with a high ratio of adults to children.
* To promote the Welsh language to the best of our abilities.
* To maintain a high standard of care and learning, through which we never lose sight of the welfare and needs of each individual child.

**Session times & fees**

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| Breakfast Club | 8.00-9.00am | £3 |
| Morning Playgroup | 9.00-11.30am | £7.50 |
| Lunch Club | 11.30-1.00pm | £5 |
| Afternoon Playgroup | 1.00-3.30pm | £7.50 |
| After School Club | 3.30-5.30pm | £6 |
| Wed Parent’s & Tots  (all ages welcome with their parent or carer) | 9.30 – 11.30 | 0-6mth free  6mth-1yr £1.50  1-2yrs £2.50  3yrs+ £3.50 |

**Fees are payable monthly in advance.**

Regular attendance has advantages for both children and playgroup. Children love to know what they are doing and when, regular attendance can provide a meaningful structure to your child’s week, and regular income ensures that playgroup can deliver the excellent provision your child deserves.

Your child may attend any combination of the sessions. Some children just come for a few playgroup sessions a week, others with working parents stay all day. Older children often start to prepare for school by staying for the lunch club after a morning session, and gradually build up to all day. Places are limited, please ask for current availability. We may have a waiting list for

some sessions.

As places are limited, if your child does not attend for a 3 week period without explanation your place may be offered to another child.

**3yr old funding** - We access government funding for children the term after their 3rd birthday. The entitlement in Powys is to 10 hours free funding for playgroup sessions. (Excludes clubs)

**Breakfast** – is included in the breakfast club fee.

Cereal, milk, toast and fruit juice.

**Snacks** – a healthy snack and drink is offered during each session.

Crackers, toast, fresh fruits, raw vegetables, dried fruits, milk & water.

Parents are asked to donate a piece of fruit to be shared at snack time.

**Lunch** – School meals are available, lunch money is payable weekly at the start of each week. Alternatively parents are to provide a healthy lunch box, which should have the child’s name clearly written on and contain an ice pack to keep lunch cool until eaten. Children are supervised at all times during lunch and are encouraged to use table manners and eat well. Any uneaten foods are left in the lunch boxes.

**Our Playgroup day**

On arrival all children are welcomed into the setting and register themselves, with a personal photograph on the registration board. Your child is then free to play, the setting is divided into different zones, that ensure variety in children’s play experiences. Each playgroup session has a loose structure that children quickly become accustomed to. We have a different topic each ½ term to give a focus to our activities.

In every session, after the initial period of free play, we have a story which is usually in the story corner, but could also be outside. A child may choose a favourite storybook, we often use puppets and other props to tell a story. We usually take this opportunity with all the children gathered together to discuss the story, different topics or anything that the children think is important.

Mid morning and mid afternoon, we stop for a snack, where the children tidy up and wash their hands. We all sit together and share our snack of toast, crackers fruit and vegetables, with water and milk to drink. We cater for all allergies and cultural needs.

After snack time, if we can, we go outside. The last 15 minutes of our sessions is usually time to have a song, either together or individually, or dance, listen to music and get ready to go home.

Children staying for Lunch club are able to have a period of free play before lunch, after which some may feel sleepy and spend time in the Quiet Corner with a cushion & blanket. Others may have boundless energies and will play outside.

When a child is registered with playgroup two adults are named who collect that child. No other person will be able to collect that child from playgroup, without prior arrangement with staff.

We have many different activities and experiences for children to explore some of which are listed below:

* **Quiet corner** With soft cushions, lots of books, puppets, song sack, story tapes and CDs. A child can access this area if they need some quiet time or a rest.
* **Construction and small world area** With blocks, duplo, Lego, stickle bricks, train track, cars and garage and a work bench. In the small world we have a dolls house, the farm, zoo and animals.
* **Maths area** with number lines, dice, sorting, jigsaws, shapes, dominoes and games.
* **Craft and mark making corner** Where your child can create, make choices with assorted colour, texture, paper, junk modelling and lots more.
* **Role play area** Children can use their imagination to create different environments and dress up as different characters, choosing prop boxes for different scenarios.
* **Squidgy stuff** We use a different malleable material each week, with rolling pins, various cutters, baking equipment and natural materials.
* **Music** The children can experiment and explore with music and sound, with a variety of instruments, microphones and CDs and song.
* **Computers** Children are able to access the computer and develop ICT skills, with appropriate computer games.
* **Undercover area** Here children have the opportunity to play with water, sand, messy and multi sensory materials, even if its raining. Easels are also set up here for painting.
* **Discovery table** Children investigate different objects with mirrors, magnifying glasses and magnets.
* **Outside area** We have a wonderful yard where a child can play with balls, bats, guttering, tubes, paint & brushes, tunnels, tents and trikes, washing line and mini trampoline. These activities give the child opportunity to take and manage risk, show curiosity in their natural environment, construct large scale, develop spatial awareness and extend their play.
* **Garden area** Playgroup has a garden at the top of the school field. Children use spades, buckets and wheelbarrows and learn all about their environment. They have opportunities to plant seeds, watch the plants grow, learning how to care for plants, harvest them and then using their produce to cook something delicious to eat.
* **Recycling** The children are involved in recycling various materials in the setting and help to make snack peelings into compost, which they can then use in the garden area.

**Illness & Absence**

We ask parents to allow 48hours to elapse before returning a child to playgroup following an episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

If your child has a diagnosed infection, please inform the Playgroup so that we can forewarn other parents of a possible outbreak.

If your child becomes unwell during a session, you will be contacted and asked to take them home. If your child has an accident or is involved in an accident, a staff member will complete a report sheet which you will be asked to sign at the end of the day.

Unfortunately it is not possible to refund fees for missed sessions due to illness or absence.

**Behaviour**

We aim to help children develop self-discipline and good self esteem. In order to do this we provide a positive model for the children, regarding friendliness, care and courtesy and offer strategies for handling conflict. The Playgroup has rules which are regularly re-enforced so that the children know the behaviour that is expected of them. Inappropriate behaviour will be dealt with one to one, and parents will be kept informed.

**Parental Involvement**

Parents are at the heart of our playgroup as we are lead and managed by a voluntary committee of parents and relatives.

The Playgroup believes that parents are prime carers and educators of their children and should be involved in all aspects of the Playgroup. We encourage parents’ help in the following:

* **Parent helpers** are vital when planning trips out of the setting where we need a hand for each child to hold along the way. Parents may also be asked to volunteer to help in other planned activities e.g. to help the children make the best use of our garden area within the growing season.
* **Become a committee member** Meetings are held once a month to manage and oversee the day to day running of playgroup and organise fundraisers to help keep our fees affordable.
* **Fundraising** Reliant on the support of the local community and all parents/carers. Fundraising events pay for items such as new toys, the garden project, Christmas parties and materials used for the craft area.



**A few children’s favourite things about playgroup…**

‘painting outside on the easels’

‘I like my snack’

‘playing with play dough’  
 ‘playgroup has different toys than I do at home’  
 ‘buttering my crackers at snack-time’

‘everybody is friendly and I laugh a lot’  
 ‘all my friends here’  
 ‘the shop which keeps changing’  
 ‘messy painting and fun things’  
 ‘making castles out of big bricks’



If you would like to visit playgroup to meet the staff and have a look, please feel free to get in touch to arrange a good time.

Our places are limited, advance booking is recommended; please contact us for information on availability.

**Setting Telephone: 01544 262130**

**Email: info@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk**



**Charity number-1019909**

**Registration number-WO20000265/4**

**Day care provision for**

**children from 2 years**

At the Primary School

Slough Road

Presteigne

Powys

LD8 2NH

**Setting Telephone: 01544 262130**

**Email: info@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk**

**Visit: www.presteigneplaygroup.co.uk**

Monday - Friday 8.00am-5.30pm term time

Parent, Toddler and Baby group Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am

Staff team:

Play Leader Sophie Watts

Deputy Play Leader Kim Greenham

Deputy Play Leader Zoe Dyer

Play Assistant Danielle Vaughan

Play is an integral part of a child’s development, we hope that your child will enjoy attending our Playgroup, learn and develop from this experience and will want to come back for more.