

Cheam Baptist Church Preschool

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Introducing



Cheam Baptist Church
Pre-school



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Pre-school

CHEAM BAPTIST CHURCH PRE-SCHOOL

The pre-school was established and is supported by Cheam Baptist Church and reaches out to all families in the local community.

We welcome and value all children and their parents. Our aim is to provide a safe and happy environment where all children and adults are treated with equal respect and where children are nurtured and can flourish, taking into account their individual needs and stages of development.

Our Pre-school has a Christian ethos which is supported by all our staff. We are also members of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and are registered with Ofsted under the provisions of the Childcare Act 2006. We have a strong emphasis on well trained staff.

Children may start Pre-school from around the age of 2½. Our main intake is in September but children may join us during the year, subject to availability of spaces. Children can start with a minimum of two sessions per week if wished and increase as they become more confident. We also have a Nursery group (equivalent to school Nursery) for children in the following academic year and can give you more information regarding this.

Free Entitlement Funding is available for eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds (Universal funding), and Extended funding (for up to our maximum of 27 hours if available) for children eligible for 30 hours' funding. See www.sutton.gov.uk/freechildcare for more details.

There will be occasions during the year where you and your child may be invited to take part in activities and services held by the church eg at Christmas and Easter. Participation is not compulsory and is left to the wishes of each child and his/her parents.

SESSION TIMES: Mornings: 9.00 a.m. to 12 noon (Mon-Fri)
Lunch Club: 12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Mon-Thurs)
Afternoons: 12.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. (Mon-Thurs)
Full day: 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Term times only

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Children of eligible age will be admitted to Pre-school in the following order of priority, providing applications have been received by the deadline below:

1. Looked after or previously looked after children.*
2. Those who have an exceptional and professionally supported medical or social need for a place at Cheam Baptist Church Pre-school.**
3. Children of members of Cheam Baptist Church.
4. Those who have a brother or sister at the Pre-school at the time of starting.
5. The remaining places in age order with priority given to the older children, whilst ensuring a balance of Pre-school and Nursery children is maintained.

*Confirmation by a social worker from the relevant Local Authority will be required.

** Parents must supply supporting evidence from a specialist health professional, social worker or other care professional, setting out the particular reasons why this Pre-school is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another pre-school.

THE NEXT STEP

If you are interested in a place we strongly recommend that you arrange a visit. This will give you the opportunity to ask further questions and see the children in action.

Waiting list forms can be completed online at www.cheambaptist.org. This does not commit you to a place but we will contact you when one becomes available. If you need a paper copy please contact us.

APPLICATIONS should be received by:

6 March for children starting pre-school in the following academic year (Autumn or Spring terms).

Late applications will be considered after the others. If you move or change your telephone number please remember to let us know.

For further information including the current fees please email pre-school@cheambaptist.net or phone 07938140813 or 020 8642 5070.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year, a number of extra events may take place: Nativity and concert, Sports day and picnic, Fathers' morning, individual photographs, curriculum workshops and outings. We will give you all the details you need as they arise.

We hope that our Pre-school gives families the chance to make friends, share experiences, and enable you to have a short break from the important and demanding job of bringing up your children.

BEHAVIOUR

We believe that a child's confidence and self-esteem will flourish in an environment of praise, loving care and by example. This will teach the child to self-regulate their behaviour and give them a will to do well, and is encouraged by caring supervision and a large variety of activities, suitable to the age and stage of development of the children.

We do not expect children to behave the same all the time. From time to time, all children display unacceptable behaviour. This is a normal part of a child's development and with careful guidance, behaviour can be modified, so that the child can realise his or her potential within the group.

In no circumstances will we use corporal punishment or any other sanctions that negatively affect the self-esteem of children in our care.

LEARNING JOURNEYS

We use Tapestry, an online platform, to share photos of some of your child's special moments and learning with you each week. We will invite you to Parents' Talks during the year when your child's Key Person will discuss their Next Steps with you. We always love to hear what the children are doing at home so that we can work with you in building on their interests.

PERSONAL CARE AND SUPPORT

Our staff are happy to change nappies as well as assist your child in toilet training; you will just need to sign an agreement and leave changing equipment at Pre-school.

Additionally, if your child has Special Educational Needs or a Disability please let us know so that we can give them the extra support needed.

WHAT DO THE CHILDREN DO IN PRE-SCHOOL?

We take great care in choosing the activities available for your children as we follow the National Curriculum Early Years Foundation Stage working towards the Early Learning Goals in the 3 prime areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

These lead into developing skills in 4 specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

They will be encouraged to explore and learn about the world beyond home, to find new interests and friends and to have fun. Children will have the opportunity to choose from many activities, and aprons are provided for the more messy activities.

Music:

Children develop a love of music through songs, actions and rhymes which all help to develop language, memory and early maths skills. They will learn to listen carefully to sounds to make simple rhythms and will be encouraged to express themselves through movement and dance, also using musical instruments.

Painting, Drawing and Craft:

Children are encouraged to paint freely and choose their own colours. To begin with they may simply wish to cover the paper with colour, then they may begin to paint circles, faces, people or houses. They should not be urged to reach this stage too quickly. Pencils, small pads and clipboards will encourage them to make shopping lists and menus in pretend play. Children can select their own materials and use their creative ability through craft and will learn how to use scissors and craft tools safely.

Role play:

We have a cosy home corner with child size furniture and dressing up clothes. The children pretend things like shopping, mealtimes and baby care. Domestic role play is very important for young children and helps their imagination to develop. We will also have other exciting role play areas linked to our themes, such as a Garden Centre, Opticians and Doctor's surgery. These help the children to make sense of the world around them.

Physical Activities:

The children will have access to physical play inside and out, giving them opportunity to develop strong joints that will help them with handwriting skills later on. We will be encouraging them to develop their gross motor skills with big movements including climbing and crawling. Riding bikes and playing on a trampoline and balancing equipment also develops co-ordination and balancing skills. Sustained physical exercise is so important for children's health and development.

Sand and Water:

Children find water fascinating. Play can be experimental - studying what the water does when it is poured, splashed or dripped. Water is soothing to the excited or tired child; it releases the timid or restricted child and is a safe outlet for feelings. Both sand and water help children to learn about volume and texture. Aprons are provided and children love helping to clear up when they make a mess!

Books:

Children will be encouraged to develop a love of reading through stories being read to them, story boxes, handling and looking at books from different genres e.g. non-fiction, fiction and poetry. This will help them develop language and pre-reading skills as well as their imagination. Children have book bags to take books to share with you at home and early reading /phonic books when they are ready.

Other Activities:

Your child will have a chance to experiment with dough, glue, paper, printing, finger painting, construction toys, threading, puzzles, board games and many other activities, encouraging them to use their own ideas and solve problems. There will also be Interest Shelves and Nature Tables to help to encourage the children to look at the world around us.

They will take part in lots of pre-writing activities and have opportunities to count and explore maths in practical ways. The older children (Nursery group) will be learning about phonics and starting to form letters as well as many other extended activities. All children will gain in skill and understanding through their play, especially when they have a chance to share their enjoyment with an adult.

