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Welcome to Little Grangers at Grange Lane
Infant Academy.

This booklet will tell you all about our 2 year old
provision.

If you would like someone to go through the booklet
with you please ask us.

Welcome to Little Grangers.

We are very excited to begin our journey with you. We hope you will be as thrilled with our new purpose built 2 year old nursery as much as we are.

We will strive to provide your child with a safe, stimulating and exciting environment that will ensure they have the best possible start to their early years education, which we hope will continue through to the end of the Key Stage one and the Infant phase.



Key Worker

Each child will be assigned a key worker to enable children to build positive attachments with staff. Children thrive from a base of loving and secure relationships which are normally provided by a **child's primary carer but can also** be provided by a key person.



A key-person will have responsibility for a small group of children helping the group feel safe and cared for. The key-person will also help with physical needs such as nappy changing, toileting and dressing.



The key-person will work closely with parents to help establish the best possible routine for each child and to **ensure all children's** needs are being met. Records of development and care are created and shared by the key-person, parents and the child.

Routines

Children will take part in a mixture of small group activities and free flow activities both indoors and outdoors Time is set aside for snack, nappy changing, toileting, naps and lunch. Routines can be a source of learning which is just as important as their exploration of the learning environment. Routines are set as a guidance as each child has different individual needs and may need changes to their naps or changing routines for example.

From time to time your child may feel the need for a short nap or time to relax, Your child will be able to take a nap or relax in our carpeted cosy area which can be accessed at any time.



My Little Grangers Record.

Each child will have their own Little Grangers record to share between home and staff each day. This will provide parents/carers with information such as if your child has had a nap that day, what they have had to eat and what activities they have enjoyed. Parents/carers will also be able to **comment in their child's records.**

Reviews and Progress Consultations

At some point after your child turns 2 the professionals working with your child must give you a written summary of how your child is progressing against the 3 prime areas of learning:

Communication and language

Physical development

Personal, social and emotional development

This is called the "Progress Check at Age 2". This will highlight area where your child is progressing well and anywhere they might need some extra care or support and how parents/carers can work with the key person to help.

Within the first 6 weeks of starting our provision, you will be invited in to a meeting to discuss how your child has settled in. Thereafter progress meetings are held twice yearly, but staff are always available to chat on an informal basis.



Learning at Little Grangers

At Little Grangers your child will learn through play. Adults will work with and observe your child, and see what they like to do and how to improve their learning.

At Little Grangers your child will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

We will make your child's first year in education a happy and fulfilling experience. This will be achieved through careful planning and a mix of adult led and child-initiated activities. It will be a fun, practical and creative time. They will experience many other aspects of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.



Their learning will develop through areas dealing with personal, social, emotional development, communication, language and literacy, physical development, mathematical development, understanding of the world and expressive arts and design.

Uniform



Although uniform is not compulsory at Little Grangers most parents choose for their children to wear the Grange Lane Academy sweatshirts, because of their hard wearing quality. Wearing uniform creates a sense of belonging to the school.

Suitable Clothing

Outdoor learning is a vital part of the curriculum at Little Grangers. Therefore children must always wear sensible clothing and footwear. Children must bring wellies and a waterproof coat to Little Grangers everyday as we play outside in all types of weather. Clothes that are easy for your child to undo/do up by themselves will help your child to become more independent. We also have puddlesuits for children to wear during outdoor and messy activities.



Safeguarding

As an academy and a community we all have a responsibility to keep all children safe from all types of harm. This includes keeping children safe at home and in the community.

If a child or another person makes a disclosure about a child not being safe or protected *this can not be kept confidential*, and our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies and procedures will be followed.

Policies can be viewed in full at school, or on the Academy website.



Your child's learning and development is a partnership between your child, the academy, yourselves, other significant adults and any other agencies involved with your child.

Special Educational Needs / Disability

As an academy we will work with yourselves and any agencies that are necessary to meet the needs of your child.

Examples may include Speech and Language Therapists, **Children's Centres, Health visitors or Community Nursery Nurses**. If you are worried about your child or have a question, please see the staff. Similarly if we have a concern about your child we will speak to you.

Pastoral Manager

We are very lucky to have our own Pastoral Manager, Kay Shaw, who is on hand to help, give advice and provide support to all the children and families of the academy. Our Pastoral Manager can support with any concerns that you have with regards to the health, welfare and development of your child; liaise with outside agencies such as health visitors and school nurses and can be an excellent point of contact for some friendly and unbiased conversation and advice. If you would like to join our parent teacher association group (PTA) please come and arrange to speak with Kay, who would love your ideas on supporting the academy and raising school funds.

The Academy's Confidentiality Policy will be followed at all times.

Attendance

Good attendance helps your child to learn and settle at Little Grangers. It helps to develop routine, structure and friendships groups. Being in school as often as possible ensures your child is accessing all there is to offer here at our GOOD (Ofsted 2015) academy. Poor attendance can **effect both children's social and emotional development and their achievement, if your child's attendance does become** poor, this may also put the place with Little Grangers at risk as we will have a waiting list of children wanting to take a place.

It is the parent /carers' responsibility to contact the academy to inform us of any absence relating to their child. Please telephone the office on 01302 868378 on the first morning of the absence.

Some illnesses have set times that your child must be away from Little Grangers. These can be found in our prospectus on our website, alternatively please ask us for more information.

The main example is sickness and diarrhoea—your child **MUST** be kept at home for 24 hours after the last time they were sick or had diarrhoea.

Milk

Children at Little Grangers are entitled to receive free milk everyday. You do need to register your child with coolmilk to ensure they receive their free drink. www.coolmilk.com Children who are not registered with cool milk will not receive a free drink of milk.



Snack

Children will be provided a small fruit snack. Please ensure that if your child is allergic to any fruit / food that this is completed in the admission booklet.

Frequently Asked Questions

My child also has other people to help them, for example a Speech and Language Therapist - can they help?

Please let your child's key-person know if they are being supported by other professionals such as a physiotherapist, **children's centre worker, occupational therapist, community nursery nurse, health visitor, doctors or anyone else.** We can all share information to help your child achieve and learn.

How do I fit in with my child's learning?

YOU are the most important person in helping your child. You know your child best and any information you give us is really important and will be used to help your child. Sometimes we also need to know if anything unusual is **happening in your child's life so that we can help them in school.** It is really important for us to have a good relationship with parents and carers.

My child is not doing the same as my friend's child

ALL CHILDREN ARE DIFFERENT - **and every child's needs** will be personalised. Children enjoy different things, they learn things differently and by staff observing them, and making notes, we know what learning your child needs. **However, if at any time you are concerned about your child's learning please chat to your child's key**-worker. If we are **concerned about your child's development, we will also speak** to you.

Supporting your Child

Please find below just a few ideas on how to support your **child's learning**.

- The most important thing you can do is encourage your child to talk, but also listen to your child, giving them time to respond.
- Share books together.
- Encourage and answer questions.
- Play together, take turns and share.
- Sing songs / Nursery rhymes.
- Encourage independence—including toileting and dressing.
- Set aside time for potty training.
- Praise your child.
- Talk about what you see in the community.
- Let your child draw, paint, cut and make marks to encourage writing.
- Look at and talk about shapes, colours, patterns and words you see eg road signs.
- Encourage your child to look at and say numbers they see in the community, eg house numbers.

Communication

We fill in a daily account of your child's experiences including nappy changing/toilet training. Staff assess your child's learning via observational assessment and complete learning journeys complete with photographs-this is recorded electronically and is available for you to access at any time. Staff only use school ipads to do this in accordance with our E Safety policy (see website). We ask that you fill in a permission slip (in the Little Grangers record) for photographs in school so that we can adhere to your wishes.

We ask that you complete WOW moments (available in the setting) and inform us of any achievements your child has had at home so we can celebrate them in the setting.

Staff will invite parents/carers into the setting throughout **the term to view their child's Learning Journey with their** keyworker.

We want to work in partnership with you and welcome any contributions you are able to provide.



Working with Parents

At Grange Lane Infant Academy we value the contributions **made by parent's to their child's learning.** We send out regular newsletters to keep you informed on what is happening in the academy. We also operate an open door policy so that you can discuss any concerns with a staff member at any time. In the entrance to Little Grangers will be a WOW box. Please use the WOWS to celebrate achievements children have made at home. Simply take home as many WOW slips as you like. Fill them in, bring them back and put them in the WOW box. A WOW can be anything the children do at home that is an achievement for them. Please share those special moments with us. Children thoroughly enjoy sharing their WOWs from home and it really does make them feel special.





Keeping you I nformed

You will receive a half termly newsletter informing you about the learning taking place and how you can support your **child at home**. **There is also a parent's notice board in the** provision and weekly notices will be displayed there. Please ensure that you read and respond to letters/consultations as it helps us to help you.