STARTING
AT
ST BOSWELLS ELC

2020 - 2021
Dear Parents/carers

Welcome to St Boswells ELC. We are looking forward to you starting your time with us and we hope that you will be very happy here. We hope you find this booklet helpful in introducing you to the setting. I hope it will answer most of your questions. However if you wish any further information please do not hesitate to contact the school.

The school’s telephone number: 01835823252

The school’s email address: stboswellps@scotborders.go.uk
Who will be at nursery?

There will be lots of other children for you to make friends with in the nursery. Some of them will be children you may know and there will be new friends for you to meet too.

Our ELC Team:

Mrs McGarva - Early Years Officer

Mrs Purves
Early Years Practitioner

Mrs Smith
Early Years Practitioner

Mrs McLeod (Support for Learning Teacher)
There are lots of other people to help you in nursery. Here are some of the people who will help you.

Mr Maunder  
Head Teacher

Mrs Foggin  
Depute Headteacher.

Miss Hardie  
Senior Teacher

Mrs Allott  
PE Teacher

Mrs Calvert  
P1 Teacher

And our support staff:

Mrs Ballantyne  
Mrs Valentine  
Mrs Owen  
Mrs Khan  
Mrs Smith

Mr Dickson is our school janitor.
The School Day

You will start school on **Tuesday 11th August 2020**.

Session times: We are going to have to stagger the start and collect times so that children are not arriving altogether. More information to follow nearer the time.

Full days: Mon – Tues 8.30am – 3.30pm or
          Wed – Thurs 8.30am – 3.30pm

You can also attend half days:-

Morning session only: 8.30am – 12noon (or stay for lunch and be collected at 1pm)
Afternoon session only: 12.30pm – 3.30pm (or come in for lunch before the session at 12noon)

When you arrive at school each morning, you should line up at the nursery entrance on the markers provided. You will be collected by staff at the nursery entrance and you must use hand sanitiser or wipes when entering.
**Collection at the end of the session:**

Parents - your child must only be collected from the setting by a responsible adult (over 16 years of age.) Please inform a member of staff or the school office if an adult other than the usual one is collecting you child.

Please can we also ask that you arrive promptly to collect your child. If you are running late at pick up time, please contact the school office at your earliest convenience so we can inform your child and reassure them.

**Session routine: Monday – Thursday**

Rolling snack will be offered between 9.45am – 10:45am

Lunch is at 12 noon

Rolling snack will be offered between 1.45pm – 2.45pm

You go home at 3:30pm

Snack - you will be offered water and milk and a tasty bite to eat. There will be a wide range of healthy snacks offered daily alongside a variety of fruit. Please make sure the ELC staff are informed about any food allergies you may have.

Parents are asked to pay 50p per day to cover the cost of the daily snack as well as ingredients for baking activities. This can be paid weekly, monthly or termly. Money should be handed to a member of staff in an envelope, with your child’s name and the amount of money in the envelope stated on the front. Thank you.
Settling in

The first few days may be rather daunting for you. At this time we are unable to invite parents in to the garden or the building. Staff will endeavour to comfort and help you at this time. We are here to help and make you feel safe. If you have something special at home (for example soft toy or blanket) that you would like to bring to nursery for the first few days please feel free to do so. We would also be happy for you to bring and share your favourite story. Please ask parents to label any items you bring in.

Activities

There will be lots of interesting things for you to do and learn. The setting is well equipped and set out in a stimulating and safe way, designed to give the children a wide variety of opportunities to learn about themselves, each other and the world around them.

This book will tell you about some of the things that will happen in our nursery.

Your nursery is a fun place to learn. There will be a range of exciting learning activities for you to take part in each day.
# Learning Experiences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Corner</th>
<th>This can be a shop, house, hospital, police station etc</th>
<th>Children learn to interact with each other and to play imaginatively</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sand and water</td>
<td>A range of tools and toys for pouring, digging and making</td>
<td>Children can experiment, explore and investigate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dough and Clay</td>
<td>Children can create, roll, cut and make</td>
<td>This develops fine motor skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puzzles and Games</td>
<td>A wide range of jigsaws, games and puzzles</td>
<td>Children can learn to share, take turns and to manipulate small objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting and drawing</td>
<td>A range of art materials with different media, textures and colours</td>
<td>This develops creativity, motor skills and self expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technologies</td>
<td>Exploring technology – beebots, cameras, torches</td>
<td>Children can use computers and smartboard to develop skills and interest in technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funky Finger area</td>
<td>A range of activities that encourage finger movement – hama beads, loom bands, hammers and nails</td>
<td>This develops fine motor skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>We have a range of construction toys, lego and trains</td>
<td>Children can work together or individually to be creative whilst developing their motor skills as well as developing their engineering and problem solving skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Equipment</td>
<td>We have a range of indoor and outdoor play equipment</td>
<td>Children can develop their physical dexterity and spatial awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Corner</td>
<td>An ever changing display in a comfortable welcoming library area</td>
<td>Children can begin to connect the words and pictures with the idea of reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor Learning</td>
<td>Wide range of activities</td>
<td>Children can develop communication skills, literacy/numeracy skills, gross and fine motor skills, STEM skills, imaginative play. Develop skills to access and manage their own risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This can be digging, den making, wheeled toys, mud kitchen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Cloakroom

In the cloakroom you will have your own peg with your name on, for you to hang up your jacket. Underneath this there is a small shelf for you to store any of your other belongings.
What will I wear to nursery?

We do not have a uniform for you to wear to nursery. However, we do ask that you do not wear clothes that are special to you or are expensive. Nursery is fun but can be very messy and although you have access to aprons etc it is inevitable that some clothes will get stained. You should also wear practical and comfortable play clothes which you can manage independently when going to the toilet eg stretchy jogging bottoms or leggings. Please avoid braces, belts and too many buttons. Thank you.

We would also like you to wear practical, comfortable shoes or trainers to nursery which again you can manage independently. Preferably no lace up shoes.

You have access to the garden area every day and we are often outside for learning activities throughout the week, so we ask that parents provide a pair of wellington boots to keep at nursery as the garden becomes extremely wet and muddy over the winter months. Please remember to bring a jacket every day and your hat, scarf and gloves on cold days and sun hats on sunny days.
What do I need to bring to school each day?

We ask that you bring a small bag to nursery containing a full change of clothes. Any dirty soiled clothes will be double bagged and put back in to your bag to go home.

You should also bring a water bottle to nursery with you each day. You are allowed to drink water throughout the day when you are thirsty. Please only bring in water in your water bottle, no juice is allowed.

Suncream is not provided in the setting. Please ensure you apply suncream before coming to nursery in the morning.

Don’t forget…..

Please ask someone to put your name on everything you bring to nursery, because we don’t want you to lose anything. Staff will help you to look after your belongings when you first start school and will teach you to be responsible for your own belongings. If you lose something, things with names on can be returned to you very quickly.
**Lunchtime**

You can either bring in a packed lunch from home or you can order a free school lunch from the school canteen. Please note we are not able to provide refrigeration for packed lunches so you may wish to supply a cold pack with your child’s packed lunch.

You can make your lunch choices at home with an adult using a system on the computer or a mobile phone, called ParentPay. Your parents or carers will be given an account login and it helps if you order your lunch a week in advance. Some people prefer to order lunches termly.

Here is Graham who works in our canteen.
What if I can't go to nursery?

If you are not well, you might need to stay at home. The grown up who looks after you will need to phone the School Office by 9:30am to let us know that you are not coming.

When you come back to school, we will be very pleased to see you.

Mrs Shirra Gibb (Primary School Administrator)

Visitors to school

The Health Visitor and the Childsmile (dental worker) all visit the ELC throughout the year.

At times, we invite other people into school to teach us about their work or to show us interesting things.

Sometimes we have parents and carers to help with activities. We would love it if your parent or carer would like to help in our ELC too. There are lots of different ways that they can volunteer in the ELC. They should speak to a member of staff if they would like to volunteer.
Do I have to be able to do special things before I come to school?

You could try practising these things at home which will help you at school:

- Looking after your toys and games.
- Tidying up once you are finished with them.
- Putting on your own jacket and shoes.
- Using the toilet properly (not all children come to nursery potty trained so please do not let this worry you). Remembering to wash your hands with soap and water, then dry them well afterwards.
- Using a hankie to blow your nose and putting the hankie in the bin
- Having fun at home playing games and taking turns
- Practise using a knife, fork and spoon correctly at the dinner table and clearing my plate and cutlery away afterwards.
Will I get to play with my friends?

Yes! There will be lots of times when you can play with your friends.

Did you know that when you are playing, you are discovering new things about colours, shapes, numbers, reading, writing and much, much more.

In your classroom, there are lots of exciting activities including sand and water trays, discovery areas, building blocks, painting areas and learning areas that change throughout each term.

We also have lots of exciting learning games for you to play on the computer and on the Smart Board on the classroom wall.
Parents and Carers

Our ELC team hope that you will feel welcome and that you will enjoy a valuable experience. Our job in the ELC is to build on the learning and existing knowledge that your child already has by being at home with you. For this to be successful, we need to work together with you and your child.

If you have any concerns regarding your child. Please speak to one of the ELC team or contact the School Office to arrange an appointment to speak to a member of our Senior Leadership Team; Mr Maunder (Head Teacher) or Mrs Foggin (Depute Head Teacher). We are all here to support you and your child on their learning journey at St Boswells ELC.

We hope that this booklet has been helpful for you and your child. We look forward to you joining us at St Boswells ELC.