

# The Arnold Centre







### Welcome to the Arnold Centre

The Arnold Centre is a spacious and welcoming Nursery School and Children's Centre maintained by the Local Authority and caters for children aged between 2 - 5 years old. The nursery school has 156 funded part time places for 3 - 4 year olds, with some full time places and is an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provider. The Centre also provides before and after sessional care, and places for full day extended day care for the 3 to 4 year olds. This includes holiday provision for children all year round. We employ our own cook who provides tasty and nutritious meals throughout the day in a homely atmosphere, catering for all dietary needs.

Within the school is a lively and exciting sessional Pre School class for 2-3 year olds with its own covered outdoor space that is well equipped and staffed by experienced and enthusiastic practitioners; it is open on 5 days each week and offers free funded places. We also provide 'Outstanding' full daycare provision

for 2-3 year olds, situated in a warm and comfortable house with its own outdoor garden specially designed for our youngest children and staffed by caring, well qualified professionals. The Centre is a modern, well equipped building with a traditional feel, it has a mature and attractive outdoor play area where children can learn and play safely under the guidance of knowledgeable and experienced teachers.





#### **Centre Aims**

We will provide the highest quality education, care and support for families, in a warm and welcoming environment, where each individual child, parent/carer and centre worker will be consulted, respected and valued.

We will nurture and support them to achieve their maximum potential to make safe and healthy lifestyle choices, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution to their community and as they grow, improve their economic well-being.

We will have an awareness and understanding of an individual's needs and abilities; acknowledging and celebrating their diversity, successes and achievements to encourage all centre users within the local community to become lifelong learners.

#### **Our Curriculum**

Through our practice we aim to:

 Provide a balanced curriculum, based on the EYFS, across the seven areas of learning, using play as the vehicle for learning.

- Promote equality of opportunity, antidiscriminatory practice and celebrate diversity.
- Provide early intervention for those children who require additional support or a more challenging curriculum.
- Work in partnership with parents and carers in the nursery, pre-school and day care and also within the wider context of the Children's Centre.
- Plan exciting and challenging learning experiences, based on the individual child, informed by observation and assessment and providing the next steps for learning.
- Provide opportunities for children to engage in activities that are adult-initiated or child-initiated, supported by knowledgeable, enthusiastic, well trained and qualified adults.
- Have a key person approach to develop close relationships with individual children.
- Provide a happy, secure and safe learning environment indoors and out that is rich in language and promotes effective learning.



### The Arnold Nursery School 3-4 years

'The Nursery School was judged outstanding in all areas in September 2014.'

The Nursery school is situated within the main building, there are three nursery rooms each run by a teacher, a Senior, Lead and Early Years practitioners. Our bilingual assistant works in all three rooms and we employ a speech therapist for one day a week. There are no differences between the classrooms and children remain in one room for their time in nursery. All children access the outdoors together returning to their own rooms for end of session. We offer places for children with additional needs who live in our reach area. The children are included in all aspects of the curriculum and are placed within the three nursery rooms to play and work alongside their peers, bringing a special kind of joy and richness to our Centre. We operate a fully inclusive policy within our Daycare, Pre School and Educational Nursery School.

As a Centre we aspire to achieve the highest standards of care and education to meet the unique needs of our children and families to enable them to maximise their potential. We





are committed to creating a learning culture for all within the centre.

We have a strong team culture with a buoyant, well qualified and committed workforce sharing common values, principles and goals clearly focused for the benefit of children and families. Amongst our achievements we gained the Quality in Action Award in 2013; and 'Outstanding' Ofsted inspections in November 2011 (Day care) and May 2012 (Nursery School and Pre School) We are designated a Healthy Foundations Early Years setting and have achieved the Basic skills Quality Mark. Our Children's Centre was the first in Rotherham to be judged to have good services for our children and families in 2010.

Starting nursery is an important step in any child's life. We fully understand this and our aim is to provide a secure, stimulating and caring learning environment for all our children where they can make friends and learn together through exciting and challenging play experiences. We provide a wide range of carefully planned, quality learning experiences

taught by well trained and interested adults. We aim to ensure that all our children will continue to develop a knowledge and understanding of the world around them, learn new skills, gain confidence, independence and self-esteem.

We believe the Arnold Centre provides children

We believe the Arnold Centre provides children with an excellent start to their education and parents are highly satisfied with the outstanding quality of education and care, fully appreciating the relationship they have with the, 'welcoming and friendly staff who always have time to talk'.



In the Arnold Centre Day Care we pride ourselves on providing a friendly atmosphere and are committed to keeping your child safe, secure and happy during their time with us. We provide a variety of play activities and resources in pleasant surroundings, both indoors and outdoors and ensure your child is supported and guided by experienced staff who recognise and understand the needs of the young child.

At the Centre we know that you have already given your child many experiences and have taught them many things and we aim to build on this. We provide a friendly non-judgemental and caring environment where parents/carers will feel able to share their child's experiences, discuss concerns and receive appropriate support and advice. Staff at Day Care will provide peace of mind for all parents/carers.

All staff actively support your child in their learning, enabling them to reach their full potential and our aim is to make you and your child's time in Day Care and Pre School as enjoyable an experience as possible. We look forward to a long and happy relationship with you and your child. The Centre operates an open door policy and the Day Care manager or key

worker is always available to see you if you have any queries.

#### **Partnership with Parents**

Partnerships with parents/carers are at the heart of our success as a centre and are very strong and many services are provided as a result of their input and their confidence in sharing their needs with us. We promote a 'can-do', inclusive philosophy and our ethos is one of sharing and celebrating the achievements of all our children, staff and families in a warm and welcoming environment, conducive to learning. We provide services and courses designed to encourage and support parents/carers, raising their levels of understanding and awareness of the importance of involvement in their child's education at home and how much it impacts on learning. The Centre offers a range of integrated services in response to identified need. Education and care are seen as a part of the whole Centre and our work in supporting children and families through the extended services all focuses on improving attainment and life chances of our children. Together as partners we can provide everything a child needs to grow, develop and learn.





## 'A special place to be'

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