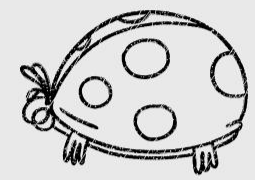


Regent House Preschool



"We are so glad we chose Regent."

"As parents, we could not have wished for a better start to (our child's) school life."



★ Preschool Prospectus ★



office@regenthouse.org.uk



Circular Road
Newtownards
Northern Ireland
BT23 4QA



www.regenthouse.org.uk/
preparatory



028 9181 3234



https://www.facebook.com/
RHSPREP

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in Regent House Preschool. We hope this prospectus provides you with the information you are looking for, as well as an insight into life at our Preschool. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email or telephone.

At Regent House Preschool, we are conscious of the trust you place in us when you enrol your child in our setting. The children are at the heart of our Preschool and we take great responsibility for giving them a positive and happy start to school life.

We aim to provide, in partnership with you, a safe, stimulating and inclusive environment which enhances the development and education of your child as he/she learns through play.

We hope this booklet gives you a glimpse into our caring, nurturing, family atmosphere. It outlines our aims and what we can offer your child as he/she takes the first step into school life. As a Preschool Team, we look forward to welcoming you to our Regent House Preschool family in the future.

Miss C Auld, Mrs T Thompson, Mrs V Bell & Mrs J Dempster



"We can't thank (the staff) enough.
They really are going the extra mile."

Miss Caitlin Auld: Preschool Manager / Preschool Teacher / Deputy Designated Officer for Child Protection

Mrs Tori Thompson: Preschool Deputy Manager / Preschool Teacher / Deputy Designated Officer for Child Protection

Mrs Victoria Bell: Preschool Assistant

Mrs Jayne Dempster: Preschool Assistant

Mr Michael Carville: Registered Person in Charge / Designated Officer for Child Protection

Miss Louise Halliday: Head of Preparatory & Preschool

Important Emails

Preschool Manager:
cauld304@c2ken.net

Head of Preparatory & Preschool:
lhalliday974@c2ken.net

Office: ldickson825@c2ken.net /
office@regenthouse.org.uk



Meet the Preschool Team



We are looking forward to welcoming you in the future!



About our Preschool

Regent House Preschool is located within Regent House School, situated on the Circular Road, Newtownards. We opened our doors in 2019 and children come from a wide geographical area to attend our Preschool. We provide 32 places and our school day runs from 9:00am to 1:00pm (Monday to Friday during term time).

Our Preschool environment incorporates two bright and welcoming Preschool classrooms (Class One - Ladybirds & Class Two - Butterflies) and a spacious and enclosed outdoor play area with bikes, a playhouse and an array of wooden play equipment such as a climbing frame and puppet theatre. We have also recently resourced an indoor sensory room which provides children with a calming atmosphere to relax in.

Regent House Preschool is run by a dedicated team of staff, including two qualified teachers. We reflect on our practice and avail of professional development opportunities to continually improve the quality of our learning environment.

As a Preschool Team we are passionate about providing a high quality Preschool experience in an environment that is safe, stimulating and challenging. This is promoted by a climate of mutual trust, respect and confidence between staff, children and their families, governors and the wider community with everyone collaborating together for the best interests of each individual child.

Regent House Preschool operates a ratio of 1:8 (1 staff member to 8 children). Under certain circumstances, where an additional or special need is recognised, this ratio will be subject to change to meet the needs of individual children as much as possible.

We consider each child an individual and value the qualities they bring to our Preschool. In our happy, safe, nurturing, family atmosphere we will support and encourage each child to reach their full potential and answer all the 'wondering' questions which pop up!

At Regent House Preschool, your child will begin to explore the school environment whilst building and establishing positive relationships with staff and other children.

This supports the seamless transition from Preschool to P1.

"The patience, kindness and care shown to (our child) was outstanding."

"...a high level and diverse education."



Our Recent Inspection

Our recent Inspection Report (October 2022) stated:

Staff interactions with the children were observed as warm, encouraging, child centred, promoting the development of children's self-confidence, self-esteem and self-control and tolerance.

The programme of play, resources and activities offered, encourages children to develop positive attitudes towards others, understand each other and respect diversity

Across both rooms, staff members were warm and engaging with the children in their care. They were able to answer questions confidently on safeguarding and child protection, safer caring practice and behaviour management.

The children appeared happy and busy in the rooms and benefitted from the wide range of resources provided in the outdoor play area.

From the evidence provided on the day of Inspection through documentation, discussion and observation, the Manager demonstrated that the inclusion, welfare and development of children who have additional needs are actively promoted...



"Fun, safe, play filled environment. Supportive staff who care. Great blend of play and learning."

Information

Regent House Preschool is registered with the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust and is inspected annually to ensure correct implementation of the guidelines contained within the Minimum Standards Guidance.

During the inspection time, Parents/Carers will be notified and you may be selected, at random, to complete a questionnaire for the inspectors. This is to ensure the Preschool meets the minimum standards of care, as is a requirement for all Preschools. For further information, Parents/Carers should consult The Minimum Standards for Day Care and Childminding. Regent House Preschool is also regulated and inspected by The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI).

Regent House Preschool is run by a Board of Governors. Throughout the year, the Board of Governors is responsible for reviewing both policy and practice, for the employment of staff, fundraising and dealing with issues that arise.

We have a Registered Social Worker, Ms M. Maxwell, from our local HSS trust.



“...Handing (my child) over to a team that would care for (my child) like their own, made it that little bit easier and I will always be so so grateful for that.”

Applications

Applications are open all year for a place in our Preschool. We strongly recommend that if you would like your child/ren to be considered for our Preschool, that you fill out an application as soon as possible. Please leave your application form into the school office located in the reception of the Senior School or send it directly to our Preschool & Preparatory Secretary - Mrs. L Dickson (ldickson825@c2ken.net). If you would like a copy of our application form, please get in touch via email or telephone.

At Regent House Preschool, we operate an open-door policy and welcome any prospective Parents/Carers to come and visit us. If you would like to gain a further insight into what we can offer your child at our Preschool, please get in touch to organise a private tour of our setting. We also have an annual Open Day that takes place in December.

Charges & Fees

At Regent House Preschool we offer fee paying places for our two Preschool classes. We are registered with SEHSC Trust to enrol a maximum of 16 pupils per class. Places will be allocated in accordance with our admission criteria. Part-time places are available but, if oversubscribed, priority will be given to applications for a full-time place.

Parents/Carers are still required to pay fees if their child is absent. In cases of prolonged absence, Parents/Carers should consult the school governors in relation to fee payment. Exceptional circumstances will be considered at the discretion of the school governors.

Please contact the school office for more information regarding charges and fees.





Communication



We use an app called Seesaw to communicate with Parents/Carers.

On Seesaw, we will share with you what your child has been getting up to in Preschool through photographs and videos of creative and sensory activities, play, seasonal events etc.

There is also a feature that allows you to message us.

We also have a Facebook page and website that is shared with the Preparatory Department.

Here we will share artwork displays and photographs.

You will have the opportunity to give permission / refuse for your child's image to be shared.

Every month you will receive a newsletter detailing important dates and information, what your child will be learning in Preschool, ways you can support your child's learning at home etc. You will also receive a copy of the monthly songs & rhymes and vocabulary page which we will be using in Preschool. Important information will be shared with you via email e.g. newsletters, permission slips for visitors.

We will also have a Curriculum Evening around September to provide Parents/Carers with more information about the Preschool Curriculum and life at our Preschool.



★ Our Learning Environment ★

In Regent House Preschool, we provide the children with opportunities to choose between a wide range of activities and develop skills through repetition. We carefully create a learning environment that is responsive to the children's learning needs and interests. Learning is informal and is intended through play. This encourages the children to learn 'how to learn' and develop a positive attitude to support them with the transition to a more formal learning environment.



“PLAY IS THE WORK OF THE CHILD.”

It is the way a child discovers new things about the world.

AT REGENT HOUSE PRESCHOOL WE AIM TO PROMOTE THE CHILDREN'S LEARNING BY :

- Fostering self-esteem and self-confidence to help children feel valued as individuals, develop independence and reach for the stars;
- Encouraging children to learn more about their feelings/emotions and talk about how they feel;
- Encouraging children to extend thinking and problem-solving skills;
- Encouraging children to form positive relationships, social skills and respect for others;
- Nurturing each child's motivation, natural curiosity, imagination and creativity;
- Encouraging each child's love for books, songs and rhymes; and
- Providing opportunities for children to develop co-ordination, balance and body awareness.

MOST OF ALL WE HOPE EACH CHILD HAS FUN WHILE LEARNING AND DEVELOPING THROUGH PLAY!



The Preschool Curriculum

We follow the [Preschool Curriculum](#) (please click the link to find out further information), as designated by Curricular Guidance for Preschool Education, it has six curricular areas.

THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- **Personal, Social & Emotional Development** (inc. perseverance, self-help skills, relationships, expressing feelings, confidence, independence etc).
- **Physical Development & Movement** (inc. gross-motor skills e.g. running, jumping, catching / fine-motor skills e.g. using scissors, tweezers, pencils).
- **Language Development** (inc. listening, language skills, self expression, following instructions, early writing etc).
- **Early Mathematical Experiences** (inc. counting, sorting, matching, basic shapes, patterns, prepositions, making patterns etc).
- **The Arts** (inc. creative activities, colours, musical instruments, using imagination etc).
- **The World Around Us** (inc. talking about experiences, questioning, exploring, investigating, making observations etc).

At Regent House Preschool, we carefully plan and deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, covering each of the six areas of learning to support the acquisition of appropriate skills and knowledge.

Our curriculum is fulfilled through planned play activities (indoors and outdoors), routines such as story, snack and songs & rhymes, visitors to school and monthly topics.

We build upon the learning experiences which the children have already experienced at home.



Observations and Progress

In accordance with the Preschool Curriculum, we carry out observations of the children across the six areas of learning.

The children are involved in our planning process and direct our learning plans through their individual needs, interests and levels of development.

Carrying out daily observations and working closely with Parents/Carers supports us with meeting the needs of all children as much as possible.

As Parents/Carers you have access to your child's observations on request at any time, however we do have two Parent/Teacher Consultations throughout the year and an end-of-year report.

The first Parent/Teacher Consultation will take place around October time. Your child's teacher will discuss with you how your child has settled into Preschool life.

Our second Parent/Teacher Consultation will take place around February where we go into detail on how your child is progressing in all six areas and discuss any possible targets.

In June we will then compile your child's transition report. This report will be forwarded to your child's P1 teacher and will provide them with all the vital information to help your child move seamlessly into P1.



Our School Day



Routine is an essential part of both the settling-in process and ensuring children feel secure in their environment. We feel it is important to have a routine as it supports children's learning in different contexts and encourages them to feel safe and develop independence, confidence, self-control and time management skills.

Preschool begins at 9:00am each morning when the children hang their personal belongings in the cloakroom.

The children are greeted at the Preschool & Preparatory doors by staff.

The children take part in Welcome Time each morning to get ready for the day, singing our Welcome Song and talking about the daily calendar and activities.

The children engage in free play throughout the morning in classrooms set up with exciting and engaging activities, from crafts and playdough to jigsaws and fine-motor activities, from small world and construction play to mark-making and role play. Using music, the children and staff work together to tidy up the resources after play.

The children join together for stories, Circle Time and songs & rhymes each day.

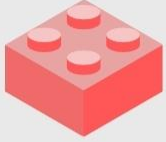
The children also have the opportunity for prolonged outdoor and physical play in a variety of outdoor areas to develop their motor skills and explore the world around them using their senses.

The children wash their hands and sit together to have their snack and lunch each day, making new friends and developing their communication skills.

At home time, the children gather together in the cloakroom to put on their coats and wait until Parents/Carers arrive.



Some Activities Available in Preschool



Engaging in water/sand play

Constructing with Duplo,
Mobilo, Stickle Bricks etc

Listening to stories and taking
part in Circle Time discussions

Going outside to ride tricycles,
run, jump, catch etc

Dressing up

Browsing books in the calm
area

Moulding and manipulating
playdough

Carrying out science
experiments

Creative activities e.g. painting,
collaging, drawing, colouring

Singing songs & rhymes

Playing and experimenting with
musical instruments

Playing imaginatively and acting
out roles in the home corner

Tabletop activities e.g. jigsaws,
counting, sorting, making patterns

Investigating natural and man-
made items

Engaging with sensory activities
e.g. gloop, foam, slime

RHS Preschool Uniform

UNIFORM:

- Red/White Polo Shirt
- Black Preschool Sweatshirt
- Black leggings/trousers (seasonal - skirt/shorts)

(We have new black/red jogging bottoms with the school logo)

- Shoes with velcro straps (no laces please)
- Coat
- Book bag

(Our uniform can be purchased from Signature Works located locally at - Units 11, 14, 8 Balloo Dr, Bangor BT19 7QY)



Regent House Preschool

Thank you for considering
Regent House Preschool!

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and school website to gain a further insight into life at Regent House Preschool & Preparatory and what we can offer your child if they continue their learning journey through the Preparatory.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our
Regent House Preschool family!

Contact Us



Preschool Manager - cauld304@c2ken.net
Head of Preparatory & Preschool - lhalliday974@c2ken.net



office@regenthouse.org.uk /
ldickson825@c2ken.net



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