



# Stratton Playgroup

## Prospectus



### Welcome to our Playgroup

Stratton Playgroup is a registered charitable organisation which is dedicated to quality sessional pre-school care and education for 2 to 5-year olds in our community. We are a warm, friendly and professional group that runs in partnership with parents to offer high standards of care and education to each individual child. We are also registered with Ofsted, Cornwall Council and the Early Years Alliance.

### Our Aims

To provide you and your child with:

- Quality care and education within a safe and stimulating environment which provides a secure foundation, within which learning & development can take place.
- Quality learning through play, fun and new experiences.
- A broad and balanced educational programme which encompasses each and every child's individual needs and abilities.
- Equal opportunities for all children and their families within our community.
- We achieve these aims through a working partnership between parents / carers & the playgroup.



### The Sessions

Stratton Playgroup runs in line with the Stratton Primary School term dates; these are on display on the notice board. We have a Late / Non-collection of children policy and procedure.

The sessions are planned to give a balanced structure of physical, quiet, free play and adult led activities, both indoor and out. Our carefully planned activities ensure that every child can progress with confidence through the 7 areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We plan for each child's individual developmental needs & interests; and keep the curriculum aimed at their level of ability. Some of the activities your child will experience throughout all our sessions are: arts & crafts, a variety of role play, sensory play, messy play, cooking, gardening, singing and physical games.

We follow a healthy mover programme to support children's physical literacy, development and well-being; and a letter and sounds programme to support children to learn about sounds.

### Early Start

We offer an Early Start every morning for all children. Parents are able to drop off from 8.15 to 8.30am (includes breakfast), this is bookable in advance.



### Lunch Club

We offer a lunch club every day, from 12 noon to 12.30pm, for all children. Parents are required to provide a nutritionally balanced packed lunch for their child, in a clearly named "wipe-clean" lunch box (see lunch club leaflet). At the lunch club all children sit down to eat together, with staff; followed by a quiet activity.

**Early Starts:** Monday to Friday 8.15-8.30am to 9am **Morning Sessions:** Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon  
**Lunch Clubs:** Monday to Friday 12 noon to 12.30pm **Afternoon Sessions:** Monday to Friday 12.30pm to 3.30pm

### Settling In

It is of the utmost importance that each child settles well into Playgroup and feels secure when their parent/carer leaves. This enables them to be happy and confident to interact with other children.



Each child is allocated a key person who, through shared information with parents/carers and a good knowledge of the key child, will give the support and care your child needs. Every child is different, so Playgroup welcomes parents/carers to settle each child at their own individual pace.

## Parents & Playgroup

As our playgroup is a registered charity and not run by the County Council, we must have a committee of elected parents to be able to continue our services. They are supported by and work closely with the manager and administrator. We cannot stress enough how vital the committee is to our playgroup and how rewarding it is to be a part of it. If you are interested in joining our committee, please ask a member of staff.



Our playgroup welcomes parents to be involved in all aspects of their child's learning experience, from assisting with fundraising events, to helping with the management and running of our playgroup.

We do invite parents/carers into our setting, once their child has settled, to share your skills or talents, whether they are your occupation, hobbies or interests; or if you would like to help on an occasional basis; please speak to a member of staff.

## Fees & Funding

The fees are payable weekly, monthly or termly in advance. Please note that fees must still be paid for absences, holidays or illness. Long term absences may be negotiated with the committee. Each child's attendance is conditional upon fee payment.

Fees can be paid by Cash, Cheque or by your Bank's Online Payment System.

There is a concessionary rate available for families with more than 1 fee paying (unfunded) child attending at one time, please ask a member of staff for details.

Some children may be entitled to 2 year old funding; applications need to be made via Cornwall Council's Citizen Portal, they will then approve up to 15 hours of funded childcare per week, if you or your child meet the criteria.

The term after your child turns 3 years old, they are entitled to Early Years Education Funding, which covers fees up to 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of every academic year. This must be taken over a minimum of 2 days and taken between a maximum of 2 childcare providers.

Once your child is entitled to this funding we ask that they attend a minimum of THREE 3 hour sessions per week. We ask that all 2 year olds attend a minimum of TWO 3 hour sessions per week. This is to ensure that the child settles, and benefits as much as possible from their time with us.

Some working parents are entitled to claim up to 30 hours funding per child, with the Extended Entitlement; certain criteria must be met, further details can be found at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

At the same time, some parents can also apply for a Tax-Free Childcare account: <https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>

We may be able to claim up to an additional £342 per year for Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) for some children that are claiming EYEF with us; this additional money could make a significant difference to your child's learning outcomes. Any parent who thinks their child may be eligible, can have the appropriate details checked by Cornwall Council's Early Years Finance Team.

**Note** – The government has confirmed that from **April 2024**, all eligible working parents of **two-year-olds** will be able to access funding for **15 hours per week** of education and care.

The government has confirmed that the new offers are for working families only and that the eligibility criteria will be the same as for the existing 30-hour for three- and four-year-olds.

This means that parents or carers will need to earn at least the equivalent of 16 hours at the minimum or living wage but no more than £100,000. This applies to each parent in dual-parent households, though there are exceptions where one parent is in receipt of Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Limited Capability for Work Benefit or contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance and their partner is working.

## Please contact us for further information:

**New Road, Stratton, Bude,  
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(next to Stratton Primary School)



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**www.strattonplaygroup.uk**

Find us on Facebook & Instagram  
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**Ofsted No. 102959**

**Registered Charity No. 1038250**