

Welbeck Academy Playgroup 2025



Why Welbeck Academy Playgroup?

Welbeck Academy offers opportunities for your child to become a:

- Unique Child
- Develop Positive Relationships
- Learn in an enabling environment, where learning and development progresses to its full potential.



The Playgroup Team



**Mrs Greener - Playgroup
Manager**



**Miss Kemmish - Teaching
Assistant**



The Playgroup Classroom



What to expect...



The Playgroup room is an inviting, cosy and safe space that will enable your child to explore independently. There will be a maximum of eight children and two adults for each session. This will promote a happy, secure and nurturing environment for your child to learn.



How will my child learn?



Learning through play...



Collaborative
Play

Independence

Investigate and Explore

In Playgroup your child will learn through their play and through the different situations that they will experience. All children will be encouraged to play and explore in the environment, take part in active learning and use critical thinking skills to solve problems.



How you can help me with my learning...



Communication & Language

- Use a sing-song voice, this helps me tune in to language.
- Respond to my babble.
- Talk about what you are doing *"I'm pouring out your milk into the cup."*
- Have back and forth 'conversations' – play 'peekaboo' and copy-cat games.
- Talk to me in our home language.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- [I need loving, responsive, playful interactions with you.](#)
- Find out what makes me feel calm - rocking, cuddling or singing.
- Offer me manageable choices between two things.



Physical Development

- Put me on my tummy or back, on a soft mat or blanket so I can kick my legs and roll.
- Let me sit on you, climb over you, and rock, bounce or sway with you.
- Give me lots of opportunities to be active outdoors in all weathers!

How you can help me with my learning...



Communication & Language

- Sing songs and rhymes during everyday activities like nappy changes.
- Tell me the names of things as I pick them up to explore. I need to hear a variety of words.
- Listen and wait for me to speak or communicate with a sound or a look first. Repeat and build on what I say by adding one or two words.
- When you talk to me, give me time – 10 seconds helps me understand and think of a reply.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Let me help get snack or lunch ready and learn to pour my own drink.
- Help me understand my feelings by using words to label my feelings like 'sad', 'upset,' 'angry'
- Model turn taking – “Can I have a turn?” “My turn next.”



Physical Development

- Give me lots of different things to grasp, hold, squeeze and explore, like finger paint, playdough, spoons, brushes, shells.
- Let me try to put my shoes on.
- Play ball games with me.

How you can help me with my learning...



Mathematics

- Give me stacking cups and blocks (or cardboard boxes!) Use words like 'in', 'on', 'more', 'lots'.
- Count with me as you put my clothes on, e.g. "One sock, two socks."
- [Sing finger rhymes with numbers e.g. Two Little Dicky Birds](#)
- Let me explore 'full' and 'empty' with containers in the bath.

Understanding the World

- Introduce me to new grown-ups so I can start to make relationships.
- Make me a [treasure basket](#) with objects like vegetables, wooden pegs, spoons, pans, corks, cones, balls.
- Let me explore the natural world. Stand in the rain with wellies and an umbrella, splash in puddles, look for worms and minibeasts.

Literacy

- Snuggle up and share board & cloth books with me. Point to and name things to help build my vocabulary.
- Share books that let me see people of different races, cultures and gender.
- Give me chunky pencils/crayons/chalks to explore.



Expressive Arts & Design

- Give me a big piece of paper on the floor to see what marks I can make with my hands, feet, a paintbrush. Let me make a mess!
- Sing to me. Let me hear different types of singing, sounds and music from other cultures and languages.

Launchpad for Literacy



Launchpad for Literacy is all about the children, the skills they have and the skills they need for all aspects of Literacy and will be at the heart of Early Years in Welbeck.



Seven Areas of Learning



Prime Areas -

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

Specific Areas -

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Knowledge and Understanding
- Expressive Art and Design



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- **Develop independence**
- **Make decisions and choices**
- **Make friends**
- **Cope with the separation from their parent/carer**
- **Take care of own needs**
- **Share and take turns**



Physical Development



Gross Motor Skills

Mark Making

- **Develop gross motor skills, confidence and balance**
- **Run safely and climb on equipment**
- **Develop fine motor skills, hand control and grip**



Communication and Language



- **Listening Attention and Understanding**
(joining in with stories, poems and rhymes
simple sentence, e.g. throw the ball)
- **Speaking**
(using words together, e.g. It's mine!)



Literacy



**Early Reading/
Comprehension
Skills**

Early Writing Skills

- Handling books, turning pages
- Looking at pictures
- Re-telling simple stories
- Having a favourite story

- Mark making
- Painting
- Shaving foam
- Threading



Mathematics



- **Matching and sorting**
- **Counting**
- **Shape**
- **Comparing**
- **Pattern**
- **Number**
- **Size**



Understanding the World



- **Small world Play**
(garage, farm or train track)
- **Families**
(showing an interest in pictures of own family, acting out everyday events that have been observed at home)



Expressive Art and Design



- **Drawing and painting**
- **Movement and music**
- **Imaginative role play**



Parents as Partners



- **We welcome you to join us for regular stay and play sessions, where you can spend time in Playgroup with your child**
- **We value and actively encourage parents to work alongside us as partners in their child's education**
- **We have an open door policy where parents feel comfortable to speak to staff, concerning any issues involving your child**



Daily Routine



- **Meet and Greet/ Self registration**
- **Child initiated teaching and learning**
- **Circle time**
- **Adult led activities**
- **Tidy up time**
- **Key person group time**
- **Snack time**
- **Outdoor teaching and learning/ physical development**
- **Story/singing time**
- **Home time**



Dress Code



Please dress your child in sensible clothing, we encourage independence at all times and easy fastenings will help your child achieve this. We DO NOT recommend that you send your child in their best outfits.

- **Joggers or leggings**
- **T-Shirt**
- **Sweatshirt or cardigan**
- **Trainers with velcro fastenings**
- **Coat or raincoat with a zip**

You can send your child in wearing a school sweatshirt or cardigan but it is not compulsory in Playgroup.



Practical Advice



Please provide your child with a bag each day containing:

- **Change of clothing/Underwear**
- **Nappies**
- **Wipes**
- **Sun hat/Sun cream (when weather is hot and sunny)**

We use glue, paint, water and other messy resources and your child will have constant access to the outdoor area, whatever the weather. We provide waterproof clothing and wellies for every child.



Before you child starts



Talk to your child about coming to Playgroup and how much fun they will have. Try to make them feel comfortable about coming, and reinforce the fact that you will always come back to collect them after they have played.



Attendance



Everyday counts towards your child's educational achievements.

If your child is ill please inform us by ringing the school office.



Happy Days Ahead



**We look forward to welcoming
you and your child in
September!**

