**Tiny Tots 0–3 years (Village Hall, Main Street)**

# Mondays & Fridays, 10.00am to 11.30am

These informal drop-in sessions, organised on a pay-as-you-go basis, are an ideal opportunity for parents/carers to introduce their children to the various activities organised by our Playgroup staff. Costs are £3.50 for children over 1 year, £2.00 for children under 1 year and £1.00 for each additional child over 1 year.

**Mainstream Playgroup 3 – 5 years (The Pavilion, Ferry Lane)**

The morning sessions run Monday to Friday, during term time, from 9.00am to 12.00pm. Our afternoon sessions start at 12.00pm and end at 3.00 pm. We ask that children attending the afternoon sessions and full day sessions bring a packed lunch.

We offer places for up to 24 children in each of our mainstream sessions. The children work within a play-based learning environment and we also liaise closely with Bishopthorpe Infant School to ensure a smooth transition between Playgroup and School. The costs are currently £12.60 per session (3 hr) or £25.20 for a full day. Fees are payable every half term (including non-attendance). **Once confirmed, one months notice will be required to cancel a place.** All children are entitled to 15 hours free childcare from the term ***after*** their 3rd birthday. We are also accepting the additional 15 hours of funding available to eligible families. Please ask for further details if required.

**Contact Us**

**Playgroup Manager**: Julie Morris 07722 046184

 **Admissions Secretary**: Carol Henk 07926 573100

www.bishopthorpe-playgroup.org.uk
Join our Facebook group [www.facebook.com/groups/Bishopthorpepreschoolplaygroup](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Bishopthorpepreschoolplaygroup)

(There is also a private group for parents of children currently attending which you will be invited to join once your child starts at playgroup)

or follow us on Twitter (@bishplaygroup) to keep up-to-date with what’s happening

**Bishopthorpe Preschool Playgroup**

**The Pavilion, Ferry Lane, Bishopthorpe, York, YO23 2SB**

**We have been established for over 50 years and are surrounded by greenery with our own outdoor area including playground and woodland play area. We are located 3 miles south west of York in the village of Bishopthorpe.**

**Our team of staff is caring, dedicated and approachable. We are a team that are highly qualified in all key areas of childcare and attend regular training. We work together to ensure that all children and their families are supported and happy within our setting.**

The Manager is Julie Morris.

The Committee Chair is Laura Holmes

If you require further information or would like to arrange a visit to our Playgroup, please contact the Admissions Secretary.

**Bishopthorpe Pre-school Playgroup is**

**registered with Ofsted and is a member of the**

**Pre-school Learning Alliance.**

**Charity Registration Number 1159473.**

**About Us**

Bishopthorpe Preschool Playgroup a registered charity. As a parent/carer of a child attending Playgroup you automatically become a member of the Bishopthorpe Pre-school Playgroup Association and may vote at the Annual General Meeting in September. This means that major decision-making is in the hands of the parents/carers who use the group.

The Committee consists of a minimum of seven parents/carers who are elected annually as trustees of Playgroup at the AGM. The Committee meets half-termly and is responsible for ensuring that Playgroup has sufficient funds and is properly managed. The Chairperson and Manager are responsible for interviewing and employing Playgroup staff.

**Our Aims**

* Provide an inclusive setting with an accredited Special Educational Needs member of staff
* Enhance the development and education of pre-school children in a parent-involved community-based group
* Provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment using both indoor and outdoor areas
* Initiate independent learning and aid the development of life skills
* Work within a framework which ensures equality of opportunity for all children and families
* Foster tolerance and respect for others in our diverse and multi-cultural society
* Through the ‘Every Child a Talker’ (ECAT) government initiative we aim to support and stimulate language and communication skills in a developmentally appropriate environment

**What We Offer**

* A visit to your home visit to meet you and your child before starting playgroup if you would like one
* Personal care and attention made possible by a high ratio of adults to children during each session
* The support of an individual key person and key person buddy for every child
* Opportunities for children to play, learn and grow together in a caring, child focused environment
* A close partnership with Bishopthorpe Infant School and local childminders to enable a smooth transition between settings
* Freedom to access a large playground and enclosed small woodland area, plus Forest school sessions near the setting with a level 3 Forest School Leader.
* Access to the EYFS framework, including targeted support for children by trained staff delivering the ‘Early Talks Boost’ language programme

**Parent/Carer Involvement**

Parent/carer involvement is vital to the continued success of Playgroup since it requires more than just the payment of fees to keep it running. Here are just some of the ways in which you can become involved:

* Being on the Parent/Carer Duty Rota, where you stay at Playgroup and help the staff during a session. You will not be counted in ratios.
* Joining the Committee/fundraising team. Contact the Chairperson for information
* Assisting with fundraising events, either by helping to organise the event, or just supporting on the day
* Attending a variety of social events during the year. These provide an opportunity for parents to meet up and have some fun!
* Maybe you are a builder, joiner, dentist, hairdresser or nurse. Bringing in a few tools of the trade for a 10-minute circle time is great for the children. Or can you cook, sew, sing, act or play an instrument? If so we would encourage you to visit

**Admissions**

Bishopthorpe Pre-school Playgroup operates an equal opportunities policy, welcoming **all** children and their carers. Our highly-trained staff includes a Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) who works closely with children with special needs and their parents/carers to enhance the child’s experiences while in Playgroup to the benefit of both them and other children. If you are interested in your child joining us, please contact our Admissions Secretary (please see contacts section) for a registration form. We advise that you register your child with us as soon as possible, as places are limited.

**EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)**

Bishopthorpe Pre-school Playgroup follows the EYFS framework. This is designed for all children from birth to the end of reception.

**The EYFS aims to promote learning in the Prime Areas of:**

* Personal, social and emotional development
* Physical development

* Communication and language

**And in the Specific Areas of:**

* Literacy
* Mathematics
* Understanding the world
* Expressive arts and design