

Fledglings Early Years Centre



September 2025

Newsletter

We would like say a big welcome to all our new children and their families, and say how successfully they have settled into Fledglings! They are all making new friends, and the staff are really enjoying getting to know their key children.

If you have any concerns about your child settling with us or indeed any concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

We are looking forward to another busy and exciting year, full of fun activities and new learning experiences.

Tapestry

It's great to see most of you have signed up on Tapestry - it is a great way for you to see what your child has been doing at Fledglings and you can upload your own photos of what your child has been doing with you.

Lunch boxes and snack

To help us keep costs low we would encourage you to donate fruit / vegetables that are shared at snack time. If your child has signed up to FREE MILK they will have this at snack time or a drink from their drinks bottle.

Please be aware that we do not allow children to have sweets, fizzy drinks, chocolate spread, peanut butter or cereal bars in their lunches as per school policy which encourages healthy eating. Many cereal bars and chocolate spreads contain nuts and we cannot determine which ones have been made using nuts and which have not. **To ensure that children with nut allergies are not put at risk unnecessarily, we ask you not to include them in your child's lunch box.** We are encouraging the children to eat fruit

and vegetables, so it would be great if you could include some in their lunch boxes. We do try to encourage the children to eat and drink as much as they can; do let us know if you have any concerns. You **do need** to send in a drink bottle, preferable with water, in it so they can help themselves to it throughout the day. At lunchtimes they will be given an open cup to drink water with their lunch.

Please remember to send a spoon for yoghurts and to cut up **grapes lengthways** as they are a choking hazard when left whole.

Please also put your child's name on their lunch boxes and drinks bottle.

Starting school in September 2026



Children due to start school in September

2026 can apply from the 29th September using the on-line application form. The deadline for all applications is **15th January 2026** and with the increasing demand for school places it is more important than ever that all parents make their application on time. Parents can apply by visiting <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/> or by contacting Somerset Direct on 03001232224 if paper application form is required.

Photographer



The photographer will be visiting nursery on **Monday 6th October from 9.00am** to take portraits of the children. If your child does not attend on Thursday they are welcome to come along on that day and any younger siblings will also be very welcome.

Attendance

If your child is not attending a session due to illness, holiday or you are running late **please give us a ring on 432569 or email Rebecca** to let us know.

Funding Early Years Entitlement (EYE) and Working family hours (above the 15 hours per week)

You will soon receive a paper statement for the term. This statement clearly explains how much you are claiming of EYE, and over the next few weeks you will need to complete a form from Somerset Council.

If you are claiming the additional hours you need to renew this every three months. **PLEASE NOTE** this is your responsibility as everyone's dates are different but you should receive an email informing you to go online and renew. Failure to do this will mean you lose your funding and therefore will be charged!

For any queries regarding fees and funding please speak to Rebecca.

Illness

We would really like to know if your child is ill so we can make other parents aware of what to look for should their child feel unwell.

If your child has **sickness and/or diarrhoea bug**, they need to have **48 hours clear from the last bout** before returning to nursery.

Existing injury form

If your child has a bump or bruise that happens at home, we would ask you to complete an existing injury form and hand it back to a member of staff.

Registration form

Please could you complete another registration form on Parentmail, this is sent out yearly just to check we have your child's details correct.

Staff qualifications

Lucy is attending 1st Aid beginning of Oct so she will be up to date again.

Book of the week

Every week swifts and swallows staff select a book that is read every day to the children, we will notify you of the book and add an attachment to a Youtube clip. Please could you watch the clip and talk about the book with your child, most children by the end of the week know some bits of the story. Listening to stories is so important and improves many things like listening, concentration and most of all language development. Also please could like the story so we know you have seen it.

Manager

Rebecca Batten is the Manager at Fledglings should you have any queries or concerns please find or ring Rebecca or Andrea, my Senior Early Years Practitioner or your keyworker.

Please note Rebecca's working hours are:

Monday 8.15am-3.30pm

Tuesday 7.00am-5.00pm

Thursday 7.00am-5.30pm

Friday 8.15am-3.30pm

I will do my best to respond quickly to emails but please note that the majority of my time is spent alongside the children, supporting their learning.