



Little Gems

where every child is treasured

Little Gems parent guide



Welcome to Little Gems

Choosing a preschool for your little one is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. That is why it is vital for us to provide you with as much information as possible before you make a final choice. We hope that the following information will be of both interest and value in helping you to make that all-important decision.



Your child's development during those early years is so important, and we don't take that for granted. Our team feels privileged to be able to lay strong foundations for future learning, enable children to be curious explorers, and drive their own learning forward through the experiences we provide.

Inspired by our Christian foundation, we welcome children and families from all faiths and none into our vibrant and inclusive community. Preschool teachers and parents are encouraged to work together in close partnership.

We are passionate about each child's individuality and design at Little Gems. Each child learns, communicates, plays, expresses feelings and is motivated by different things. At Little Gems, we take every step to get to know your child's God-given design and use communication that speaks directly to them. Our children also have an opportunity to learn all about different personality types and what makes them unique. We use Dani Johnson's proprietary GEMS personality system to help us recognise your child's personality type.

Our mission

Little Gems aims to **treasure, stimulate** and **encourage** each child.

Treasure: Our passion is to embrace and love every child and their family and treasure them for who they were created to be, inspired by our Christian foundation.

Stimulate: At Little Gems Preschool, we aim to equip your child to be the very best they can be. Our qualified teachers provide an outstanding education in a well-equipped and stimulating space, both inside and outside.

Encourage: our priority is to build children's self-esteem by encouraging them with positive word, smile and the faith that we put in them. We want the children to feel that "nothing is impossible" for them.



Our pre-schools

Magda set up our first preschool in January 2019 and operated from the church hall in Aldershot. The setting has gained popularity in the local community, and every single family that comes to us is from a word-of-mouth referral.

Magda bought her second setting in September 2024, which was known for 25 years as Pollyanna Preschool in Lindford. It has a great history and is loved by the locals. Some of the parents attended this setting and now are sending their little ones. In addition, the Linford setting offers a Forest school experience. Both settings were graded Good by Ofsted with some Outstanding aspects for Personal development.

Our staff

Aldershot team

Meet the team



Hello my name is Magda
Owner/ Manager

Hello my name is Eleanor
Deputy Manager

Hi, I am Janine 🙌
EYFS Quality Lead

Hi, my name is Marta
SENCO

Hello I'm Shani

Hello, my name is Kerry!

Hello, my name is Ela!

Hi, my name is Rachel!

Lindford team

Meet the team



Hello my name is Magda
Owner/Manager

Hi, my name is Sara
Manager/ Senco

Hi my name is Alisha

Hello my name is Jo
(Short for Joanne)

Hello, my name is Jo

Hello, my name is Izzy
Apprenticeship

Our pre-schools are staffed with extremely passionate and caring members carefully picked and vetted by Magda Little Gems Director. Some of the staff members have been with us from day one.

Our offer and daily routine

Due to the demands of modern family life, we aim to offer flexible preschool sessions that work for you and keep your pocket intact. Your 15— and 30-hour entitlement can be used in various ways.

For example, a 15-hour entitlement could be used in the following three ways:

There are five morning sessions from 9 am to 12 noon or five afternoon sessions from 12 noon to 3 pm. Another option is to choose two full days from 9 am to 3 pm and a half day. We offer a breakfast club from 8:30 am at the additional cost of £7.

We also offer 30-hour entitlement as well as 1 and 2-year-old funding.

A good routine contributes to a child's security, but we also leave plenty of space and offer a flexible approach. We respond to the interests of the children and incorporate a wide range of activities to stimulate and engage everyone. That way, every day has a similar structure, but it will look completely different. Children are our guides.

See a glimpse of our structure on the next page.

After arrival, children are encouraged to hang up their coats and bags on their pegs, place their lunch boxes in the box, and put their water bottles on the table. Shortly after, they find their gem picture and plant it in the self-registration pot. This helps children become independent, and that is a big part of our curriculum.

After registration, children are free to flow in an environment with activities and invitations to play inside and outside to provoke learning, discovery, curiosity, and more. The rooms are set out daily in response to children's interests, and all our activities are child-led and adult-led. The more prepared the environment is for the children, the more it will serve us and them well. Children will be calmer and more deeply engaged, which means better outcomes.

We aim to go out every day, but when this will happen during the session depends significantly on the weather. Consequently, in the morning session, we either go before or after the snack, and in the afternoon session, we aim to go out after lunch.

Circle time: Children are encouraged to come to the mat to say good morning to each other and start the day with a song or a book. They will also learn about the days of the week.

Snack time is around 10:00 am, and it includes fresh fruit, veggie sticks with hummus, rice cakes, and a glass of milk or water.

Lunch is at 12 pm, and we ask that families provide a healthy packed lunch. It can be anything from sandwiches to sausage rolls to soups. We do not heat up the food, so it will have to be ready to eat.

On Tuesdays, we have a boogie-beat music session run by an external provider. Our children love singing and moving to the beat.

Our day ends with a story on the mat. Children are to be collected by 3:00 pm. For families that need to collect their child earlier due to other school pick-up arrangements, we offer a slot for those at 2.30 pm, an earlier pick-up.



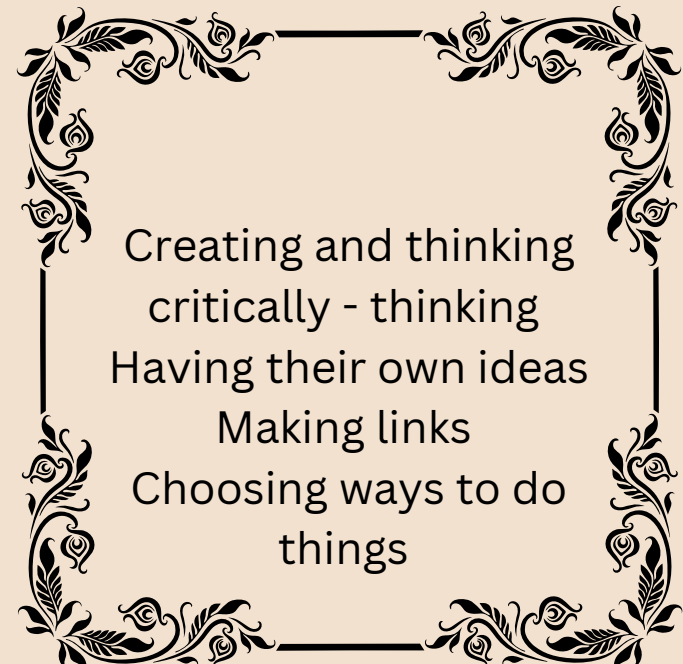
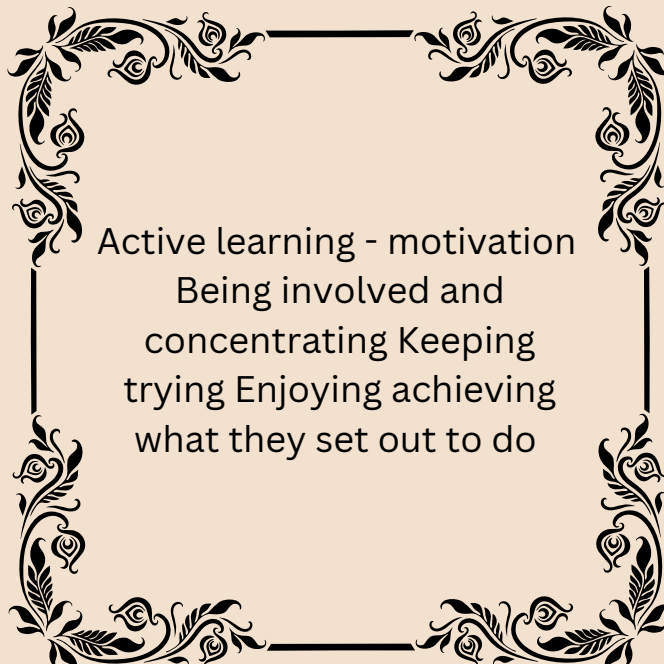
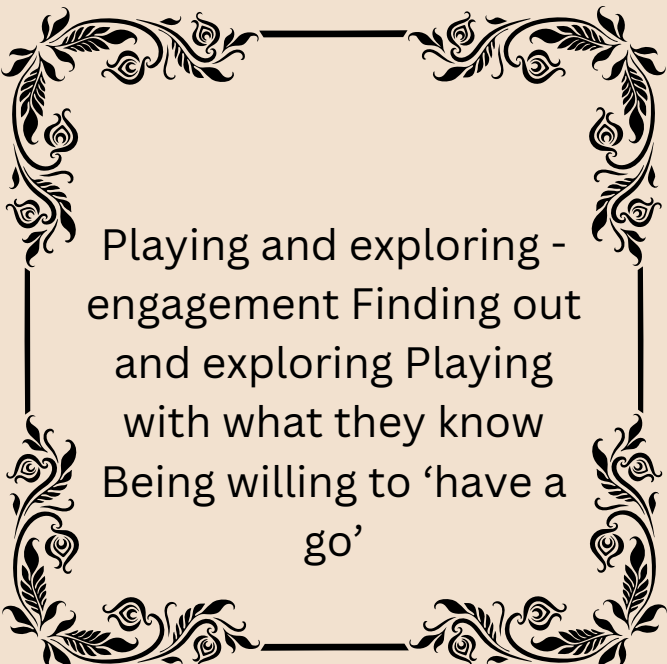
Our curriculum

We aim to instil a love for learning in every child in our settings by allowing contribution and freedom of choice regarding the activities offered.

We follow the Early Years Foundation framework (a legal document for every early years setting in the UK)

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a framework that supports your child's learning and development from birth to five years. It is based on three important Characteristics of Learning.

Characteristic of effective learning:



EYFS gives each set the freedom to choose its own curriculum, and we follow the Curiosity Approach method of learning, a beautiful mixture of four ingredients and theorists: Reggio Emilia, TeWhariki, Rudolf Steiner, and Marie Montessori. It includes loose parts, authentic items, beautiful calm play spaces, a focus on seasons, natural independence, adventurous play, light, and more. Children have a natural drive to be curious, and it is up to us as practitioners to drive our curiosity through rich experiences and opportunities.

How to enroll with us

If what you read in this brochure agrees with your family values and you can see your little one in our care, we encourage you to come to a visit to experience what it is like to be a child in our care.

you can book a viewing via email:
magdalittlegems@gmail.com or via our website
www.littlegemsnurseries.com
as well as via phone call:
Aldershot: 07721750249
Lindford:.07715121469

Hopefully, after the visit, we can both decide if we are a good fit.

We can't wait to meet you!



Here is what our parent say about us:

From day 1 with my first little one, I never worried leaving my children at preschool here. I knew the moment I met Magda and the team that they were in safe and caring hands. My little ones both absolutely loved their time there. Little Gems ethos is true to its word. Each child is precious and unique and the staff take the time to get to know each child, and family and their individual needs. As time has gone on with my second child now leaving to start her next chapter at infant school, I've seen so many examples of how passionate they are about what they do, they go above and beyond and are always looking to further improve by providing new and imaginative ways to learn through play and exploring the world around them all within a safe, spacious open setting. I honestly can not recommend them enough. I looked at several places before I was blessed enough to find them and I really feel I picked a winner and gave my girls the best start in their early learning journey.