



New Beginnings Community
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Registered Charity number: 1195791

About - New Beginnings Community **Under 5's Play Programme**

NBC Under 5's Play Programme was launched in September 2015 under the originally name 'Little Fish Baby and Toddler Group', following the foundation laid by a previous Church based Toddler Group

From the beginning we wanted Little Fish to be different to many Toddler Groups, with a big emphasis on friendliness towards the adults as well as the children. For those of us who have been involved from the beginning it has always been about creating a space for community to flourish, and so we have always been intentional about making sure that the parents/ grandparents/carers are looked out for as much as the children.

We recognise that for many parents/grandparents/carers the strains of looking after small children can be stressful and isolating.

In July 2023 we realised the need for more Baby & Toddler Groups in the area and therefore NBC Under 5's Play Programme was launched.

At NBC we do our very best to create an environment where all who come through the door feel welcomed, valued, and cared for. It is a safe space for the adults just as much as for the children.

So, if you are at NBC and you really want to talk to another adult because it has just been baby talk all week, you are feeling lonely, or just need a friendly chat, please grab one of our amazing team.

People sometimes ask why we do this, and that is an easy one for us to answer. We are a group of people who understand that everyone deserves to be loved, valued and cared for; we all need each other, and deep down we are all the same.

So welcome to the NBC family, please relax; this is your safe space amongst friends, you are welcome, we are here for you...

Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer

We are really pleased that you have joined NBC Under 5's

We at New Beginnings Community would like to welcome you. We will do all we can to help you feel a part of our happy New Beginnings Community. The groups are run by volunteers.

Our NBC Under 5's Sessions:

'Little Birds' Baby Group

We offer a warm safe environment for your babies up to 12 months to explore and enjoy, a place for adults to talk and make new friends, share advice, and make good memories with your baby.

Opening Times

Mondays 10am till 11am

(Term Time Only)

£2 per child

includes toast and refreshments for all

'Little Frogs' gymnastics

A group for children aged 12 months +. Includes soft play, ball pit, ride on toys, tents, tunnels, climbing equipment, balance toys and much more

Opening Times

Wednesdays 1pm till 2.30pm

(Term Time Only)

£3 per child

includes toast and refreshments for all

'Little Fish' Baby & Toddler cafe

A fun and welcoming group for parents and carers with babies & toddlers with lots of toys, singing & dancing, arts & crafts, messy play, baby area and lots more.

Brunch items available to purchase throughout session.

Suitable for Babies & Toddlers up to 5 years old

Opening Times

Thursdays 10am till 12noon

(Term Time Only)

£2 per child

includes toast and refreshments for all.

Although every care will be taken to ensure the safety of the children at New Beginnings Community, they do remain your responsibility at all times. Please be aware that there may be other users of the facilities in the building. Our register is located by the door please sign yourself and your children in as soon as you arrive.

We like to ensure that every group member feels relaxed, supported, safe and secure, and that they have fun while they are here. When you register each week you are agreeing to follow a few simple ground rules that ensure everyone has an enjoyable time

- Your child's safety and the way they relate to and play with other children, are your responsibility. Please intervene with your child if others are at risk of being hurt!
- If another parent expresses concern about something your child has done, listen graciously. Explore each other's point of view even if you don't agree or feel you have been misunderstood. Stay friends!
- Appreciate the team members who are here to organise and facilitate the group, but who are also part of the group family.
- Take care of and encourage your children to look after the room, the equipment and each other, and take care with buggies and belongings.
- Please make sure the entry door is closed behind you, as children may be able to run out.
- Smoking is not allowed at any time during the session.
- Treat others with respect.
- Parents and carers are asked to help clear away toys
- **CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES.**

We like to keep the entrance free for everyone's safety. Please leave your prams/buggies in the designated area, ensuring fire exits are left clear at all times. Sleeping babies must not be left in unattended buggies/carriers. All personal property remains your responsibility for the duration of your stay with us. All activities are for the enjoyment of you and your child. With this in mind we would ask you leave the toys/ activities, as you would like to find them.

It is everybody's responsibility to ensure that any broken/damaged/soiled toys/equipment are brought to the group's attention immediately. We do value your comments on the group and would also like to know if you have any concerns or suggestions about how we can do things differently.

If you have any questions about NBC Under 5's, please approach one of the volunteers.

Above all, we are about having fun – so enjoy being together!

If you need to speak to us outside of group times, you can contact us on:

Carrie Pearson – 07762 303374

Email: carrie@newbeginningscommunity.co.uk

Rule of the Group

In our toddler groups, we promote an environment, which is safe, friendly, calm and fair. To help us achieve this, we would ask that you follow these simple guidelines:

- Your child's safety and the way they relate to and play with other children, are **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**. Please intervene with your child if others are at risk of being hurt!
- If another parent expresses concern about something your child has done, listen graciously. Explore each other's point of view even if you don't agree or feel you have been misunderstood. Stay friends!
- Appreciate the team members who are here to organise and facilitate the group, but who are also part of the group family.
- Take care of and encourage your children to look after the room, the equipment and each other, and take care with buggies and belongings.
- Please make sure the entry door is closed behind you, as children may be able to run out.
- A non-smacking policy operates in all our groups.
- Unless there is immediate danger, please do not intervene with another parent's child.
- In a busy toddler group, parents may not always see the actions of their own child. If you see unacceptable or unsafe behaviour, please speak to a session leader, who will take appropriate action.
- Smoking is not allowed at any time during the session
- Hot drinks must be in a travel mug with lid
- Treat others with respect.
- Parents and carers are asked to help clear away toys before song time
- **CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES.**

Our Aim

We aim to:

Welcome everyone

Give a warm welcome to everyone, whatever their age, relationship to the child, culture, colour, gender or disability.

Be excellent

Show excellence in all that is done in our group, from making coffee to comforting a person in distress. At all times, try to maintain our high standards.

Provide a safe and happy environment

Offer a safe and happy environment for parents, carers and children.

Offer friendship

Offer true friendship to everyone who comes to our group and create an environment where friendships can be made among our group.

Involve parents and carers

Encourage parents and carers to assist and participate fully in the group, as the group is for them and their children.

Policies and Procedures

Parental induction

All adults and children attending will be welcomed into our group and familiarised into our routine.

Parental involvement

The aim of our group is to support parents as their children's first and most important educators by involving them in their children's education.

Behaviour Management

We encourage children to be kind to each other at all times and would ask for your help in ensuring that your child's behaviour does not affect the other children's enjoyment of the group. It is not our position to question individual parenting skills. Every adult and child in this group is entitled to an environment that promotes dignity and respect for all. No form of intimidation, bullying or harassment will be tolerated. If any inappropriate behaviour is observed within this group, it will be challenged and support offered, if required.

Snack Time

This group regards snack time as an important part of the group's session. Eating represents a social time for children and adults and helps children to learn about healthy food. At snack time, we aim to provide nutritious snacks, which meet the children's individual dietary needs. We encourage the children to sit down to enjoy their drink and snack; this is to ensure the safety of your child and the cleanliness of the equipment.

Parents/carers are asked to clear away their child's plate and cup when finished.

Hot drinks will be provided for adults in a travel mug with a lid. Do not leave hot drinks within reach of children.

Complaints procedure

Our group believes that children and parents are entitled to expect courtesy and careful attention to their needs and wishes. We welcome suggestions on how to improve our group and will give prompt and serious attention to any concerns about the running of the group. We anticipate that most concerns will be resolved quickly by an informal approach to the people concerned. We aim to bring all concerns about the running of our group to a satisfactory conclusion for all of the parties involved.

Play activities

We aim to offer a full range of play activities to meet the needs of all babies and toddlers attending the group.

Play Session includes:

Baby Area (play mats, rattles etc)

Construction (building blocks, Stickle Bricks etc)

Small World Play (trains, cars, dinosaurs, happyland)

Fine Motor (lacing cards, threading)
Role Play area (kitchen, work bench, shops)
Sensory play
Arts & Crafts (gluing, painting etc)
Puzzles (Large floor Puzzles, Inset Puzzles, threading)
Large Play Equipment (climbing, ride ons, etc)
Book Area & Puppets
Soft play
Ball Pit
Singing, Dancing and Musical Instruments
Garden
Messy Play (Mud, Rice, Foam, Soil etc)

Equipment and resources

We aim to provide children with safe, clean, attractive, developmentally appropriate resources, toys and equipment. We aim to provide the children at our group with resources and equipment that help to consolidate and extend their knowledge, skills and interests. In order to achieve this aim we:

Provide made, natural and recycled materials that are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use
Provide furniture that is suitable for children and furniture that is suitable for adults
Repair and clean, or replace, any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment.

Nappy changing

Nappy Changing facilities are located in the disabled toilets in the community building and both toilets in the main church building. Please ensure that nappies are disposed of in the appropriate way and the facilities are kept clean.

Confidentiality

We adhere to the Data Protection Act 1998, any personal information you give to the group will be kept in our registration folder and will be kept in a locked cupboard. The information you provide will only be made available to the group leaders. The information supplied will not be used for any other purpose than that stated. We will ask your written permission before taking any photographs.

Sick Children

We love to share, but if your child is ill, please do not share it here! Parents are asked not to bring any child who has vomiting or diarrhoea until 48 hours has lapsed since the last attack. If your child is unwell on arrival or becomes unwell during the session you may be asked to leave the group.

Fire Safety

Fire doors must be kept closed (not locked) when access is not required. Fire doors and all exits must be kept clear to enable easy access. (Please see Fire Safety Procedure for more information).

Health and safety

This group believes that the health and safety of children is of greatest importance. We aim to make our group a safe and healthy place for children and parent/carers. We inform children and their parent/carers of health and safety issues to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment. We carry out regular risk assessments and have public liability insurance in place.

Safeguarding

Please see separate Safeguarding policy.





