



At Calmore  
Registered Charity No. 1062510

# NEWSLETTER

# May 2026

### Picking up your child from pre-school

If someone different needs to pick up your child and they are not on our known contact list, please could you phone us in advance and let your relative/friend know the password. We will not be able to allow them to take the child otherwise.

Thank you

### Drinks

Please could we ask that you only fill drinks bottles with water. It's so much healthier generally and kinder to teeth.

Thanks for your co-operation.

### Payment of Invoices

Please be aware that it is our policy that unless the previous half term's invoice has been paid in full, your child will not be able to attend sessions the following term until the debt is cleared. If they are funded, they will be restricted to funded hours only.

**Payment deadline for Summer Term 2<sup>nd</sup> Half will be Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July.**

### Sickness at Pre-School

If your child has a high temperature or is feeling unwell, please keep them off pre-school until they no longer have a high temperature and are feeling well enough to attend.

If your child has a sickness bug, they cannot return until 48 hours after the last episode.

### Staff Structure

Manager Tracy Mitchell

Deputy & Safeguarding Ruth Houghton

SENCO Donna Broom

Practitioners  
Vanessa, Amber, Lisa, Nicole, Emma, Alana, Loren, Hayley, Vicki, Bethan, Amy, and Sue (bank staff)

Support Staff Lorna  
Admin Assistant Denise

### School Dinners

Please send us your orders & payments by midday on Wednesdays for the following week. The cost per meal has increased to £3.60 from 27.4.26.

### DIARY DATES

#### **May**

25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

Half Term

#### **Jun**

12<sup>th</sup>

Inset day - Longdown Farm

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>

Father's Day Activities Week - info to follow

#### **Jul**

21<sup>st</sup>

Last day at pre-school (except party)

22<sup>nd</sup>

Leavers party (pre-school closed, info to follow)

23<sup>rd</sup>

Summer holidays begin

#### **Sept**

1<sup>st</sup>

Inset day (pre-school closed)

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pre-school reopens

#### **2027**

Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

Inset day (pre-school closed)

Apr 12<sup>th</sup>

Inset day (pre-school closed)

Jul 21<sup>st</sup>

Inset day (pre-school closed)

### Your child's report

Staff are currently working on your child's report, and this will be completed & issued in July.



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### Pre-school Policies

Please be aware that a folder containing our policies is kept in the foyer so that parents can read or refer to them at any time.

### Privacy Notice

Our privacy statement will be posted on facebook and on our website so you will be able to refer to it as & when needed. The Hampshire County Council privacy statement will be displayed at Caterpillars.

### Tapestry

Please don't forget to log in to Tapestry regularly as it contains lots of information on what your child has been doing at pre-school. It would be lovely if you could add what your child has been doing at home too.

### Longdown Activity Farm Trip – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

If you are interested, please let us know by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.  
Payments should be made to our Fundraising A/c  
00020609.

### Sponsored Bounce

This will continue to run into next half term so that all children have a chance to complete the challenge.  
Many thanks to those who have sent in sponsor money.

**PLEASE, please, please** make sure all your child's belongings eg clothes, shoes, bags, lunch boxes and drink bottles are **NAMED**.

**Also please make sure you provide your child with a coat** as they do go outside to play on the Infant School playground. We do not have any spare coats at preschool. **If you think your child is not well enough to play outside, please consider carefully whether they are well enough to be at pre-school. Thank you for your cooperation.**

### Updating emergency contacts

**Please make sure that we have your up to date contact numbers, addresses and child health forms. It can be very distressing for the children, parent and staff if we can't get hold of you in an emergency.**



### Facebook

Please ask to join our Caterpillars at Calmore Facebook Group. It's a quick way of getting messages and updates to you and for you to contact us.

### Folder/Bookbags

Please remember to send in your child's folder/bookbag each day. Also check your child's bag for regular information and letters.

### Safeguarding Information

If you have any concerns because you think that a child might be being abused and you want to talk to someone, or ask someone to find out what is going on, you should contact the Children's Services Dept. During office hours (8:30am - 5:00pm) you should contact Children's

Services: **0300 555 1384**

For all emergency situations call 999.

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Women's Aid: 0808 2000 247

(Free phone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline)

Hampshire Police: 0845 045 4545

You can find out more about child protection at

[www.hants.gov.uk/child -protection](http://www.hants.gov.uk/child-protection)



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## Funding Information

### Caterpillars Preschool is registered to take:

- 2 year additional support to eligible 2 year olds: 15 hours free early education and childcare dependent on an economic criteria, for children looked after by the local authority or children with additional needs.
- Early years education funding (3-4 years): All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to free early education or childcare for 15 hours a week during term time. This starts the term after they are 3.
- 30 hours free childcare: Working parents for 2, 3 and 4 year old children may be entitled to up to 30 hours free childcare. New applications will need to let us know their eligibility code so we can offer you a funded place for your child.
- Early Years Pupil Premium: For 3 and 4 year old children whose parents are in receipt of certain qualifying benefits, or who have been adopted or are in care.
- Tax free childcare: A government scheme to support working parents with childcare costs. For every £8 you pay in, the government will pay in an extra £2.

### When to apply for 30 hours of free childcare:

You can apply from when your child is 23 weeks old. When you can get your hours from will depend on the date your child turns 9 months old.

When your child turns 9 months old	When you can get your hours from	Deadline for applying
Between 1 September and 31 December	1 January	31 December
Between 1 January and 31 March	1 April	31 March
Between 1 April and 31 August	1 September	31 August

If you require more information, eg how changing your working hours affects your funding, please go to the funding section on [beststartinlife.gov.uk](http://beststartinlife.gov.uk)