

Thursday 24 March 2016

### Our Aims and Values

At Cromwell Academy we all strive:

- To create memorable experiences for the whole community
- To build strong relationships and work in partnership to develop children who feel comfortable, safe, confident and valued
- To ensure every child has an equal opportunity to succeed and achieve
- To develop independent lifelong learners and responsible citizens through a stimulating and dynamic curriculum

Our statement of purpose is: Committed to Achieving



Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a jam packed term full of EGG-citing activities and are already looking forward to the Summer Term.

We are very keen to get parents/carers and extended family involved in a project we have planned for when we return after the Easter break. Our aim is to create a set of Culture Discovery Boxes. We know that we have children who are from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, eg Indian, German, British, Japanese, Chinese, and Spanish. In order to fill the boxes, we request that if you have any items such as: materials, pictures, models, objects or anything else you think would fit into our discovery boxes and would be happy to donate, please send them in when we return to school. Please do not send anything that is of value as we may not be able to return them.

Thank you to all of our parents/carers that have helped and supported us throughout the Spring Term; it is very much appreciated. We look forward to continuing *working with you in order to make our children's time at Kids Club a memorable one.*

We wish you all a happy and safe holiday!

Kind regards

Lisa Allen and Helen Goodyear  
Kids Club Leaders

Remember to follow us on:

Twitter: @cromwellacademy

Website: [www.comwellacademy.com](http://www.comwellacademy.com)

## WELLY BOOT WEDNESDAY



Bring in your welly boots on Wednesdays and have some fun in the Wildlife Haven. We may be bug hunting, wood collecting, fire lighting, den building, bird spotting, whittling willow and many more activities. We have already been wood collecting and successfully lit our first fire in our fire pit. The marshmallows we toasted were delicious!



## SAFEGUARDING

To ensure the safety of our members we would like to ask parents/carers to inform us if their child will not be attending Breakfast Club. Calls should be made by 8.10am on each day of absence. Please do this by calling the Kids Club telephone number: 01480 437582.

Thank you to all those parents/carers who already do so.

## FOREST SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Do you have any spare pairs of welly boots that your children have grown out of? If so, to help us enhance our outdoor and Forest School provision we are asking for donations of outdoor clothing and wellies that can remain in Kids Club. This will allow all of our children to be able to access muddy and outdoor activities, such as using the fire pit, playing in the Mud Kitchen and nature hunts whenever they like.

Thank you for your help in providing fantastic play experiences for our children!



## PLACES AVAILABLE

We currently have places available for our morning and afternoon sessions but they are filling up fast!

Opening Times and Costs

Our rate for Kids Club sessions are as follows:

Times	Cost per child*
Before School 8.00am - 8.45am	£3.80**
After School 3.15pm – 5.00pm	£7.60**
After School 3.15pm – 6.00pm	£12.00**

\*There is a 10% discount for subsequent siblings

\*\*Includes breakfast and snacks

If you are interested in sending your child/ren to Kids Club then please speak to Helen Goodyear or Lisa Allen or email [kidsclub@cromwellacademy.com](mailto:kidsclub@cromwellacademy.com).

## PARENT/CARER SURVEY

Thank you to all of our parent/carers who completed our survey. We had many positive responses as well as some areas for us to think about; all of these comments have been displayed during the spring term. We welcome your feedback to help us enhance our provision for the children. We will be sending another survey out to you in the Summer Term.

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
My child/ren enjoys Kids Club	16	9	0	0
Kids Club is a safe environment for my child/ren and the staff teach my child/ren about being safe	17	8	0	0
The staff have built good relationships with my child/ren and have helped them to develop confidence and self-esteem	19	6	0	0
I feel informed of the activities available and the ideas behind different types of play	6	14	5	0
Kids Club helps my child/ren to have a healthy lifestyle	8	15	2	0
Kids Club meets my child/ren's individual needs appropriately and helps my child/ren to become independent	12	11	1	0
Kids Club staff deal with behaviour effectively and help children to make the right decisions about their behaviour	12	11	2	0
Kids Club is led and managed effectively	16	8	1	0

Some of the comments you made:

*"Completing this survey has made me reflect on finding more about how my child gets on at kids club and what he does. Typically he can't remember when I ask him after school! I wonder whether there might be some opportunity perhaps once a year to meet with a kids club staff or get some feedback on this... the morning drop off is typically quite rushed - as we need to get to work and he just wants to play! Which is a good thing. Just a thought."*

*"I struggled to answer some of the questions as I neither agreed nor disagreed, I didn't know, but there wasn't a category for this. For example, I don't know if this encourages healthy eating, as I don't know what they get to eat."*

*"Kids club is a lifesaver for after school childcare and without it I would struggle to find another solution to allow me to work. A big thank you to all that work at kids club!"*

*"The kids both love coming & have a great time! Thank you!"*

*"My son has settled so well into the Kids Club during his first term. He enjoys attending and loves all the activities and games available to him. The staff are always friendly and my Son has built up a good relationship with his key worker Simon. The availability of kids clubs allows me to continue to be a working single parent and I feel happy in the knowledge that my son is being cared for in a happy and safe environment. The staff all do an amazing job and provide a provision I am very grateful for."*

*"From the day my child started, the staff have been supportive, warm and encouraging of him. I appreciate that they have actively fostered this relationship with him: it makes it more enjoyable for him to attend and more comforting for us to leave him."*

*"Safe, friendly environment. Well run and organised. The children are clearly well looked after by fantastic staff"*

## WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN?



During the Summer Term, we will be investigating where in the world the children have been and we would like to include all parents/carers and other extended family members in our project. If you have any photographs of your children or other family members in a different country, that you would be happy to bring or email in, it would be great to put these on our display. We also welcome any holiday snaps from around the United Kingdom!

## FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD!

This term we have been very lucky to try lots of wonderful new snacks and breakfasts. Some of these include fruit kebabs, Singapore noodles, making Easter crispy cakes, sandwich building, sushi, beans on toast, crumpets, cereals, spaghetti hoops, bacon butties, savoury rice, hot dogs, lychees, cherries and much more; all of which have been suggested by the children.



## CONTACTING KIDS CLUB

If you need to get a message to us at Kids Club during the school day, please call the office on 01480 437830. If you would like to get in touch with us during our sessions, 8.00am – 8.45am and 3.15pm – 6.00pm then please call 01480 437582. Your support in this matter is appreciated.



## OUR STAFF TEAM

Our Staff team is made up of the following people:

				
Mrs Helen Goodyear Kids Club Leader	Miss Lisa Allen Kids Club Leader			
				
Ms Joanne Forrest Playworker	Mr Simon Parker Playworker	Miss Jayne Mann Playworker	Mrs Carol Jeffrey Playworker	Miss Marcie Mawby Playworker (maternity leave)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 8.00-8.45am	Lisa Allen Simon Parker Jo Forrest	Helen Goodyear Simon Parker Jo Forrest	Helen Goodyear Lisa Allen Simon Parker	Lisa Allen Helen Goodyear Simon Parker	Lisa Allen Simon Parker Helen Goodyear
After School 3.15-5.00pm	Simon Parker Jayne Mann Jo Forrest	Lisa Allen Simon Parker Helen Goodyear	Lisa Allen Jo Forrest Simon Parker	Helen Goodyear Jo Forrest Carol Jeffrey	Carol Jeffrey Jo Forrest
After School 5.00-6.00pm	Simon Parker Jo Forrest	Simon Parker Lisa Allen	Jo Forrest Lisa Allen	Helen Goodyear Carol Jeffrey	Jo Forrest Carol Jeffrey

Please be aware that there may be occasions when staff are not in Kids Club as stated in the above timetable. This could be due to staff training, staff meetings or staff absences. At Cromwell Academy Kids Club we endeavour to cover any staff absences with existing staff that are known to the children. If this is not possible we endeavour to use an experienced member of Academy staff who matches our requirements with qualified Playwork practitioners.



## INVOICING AND PAYMENTS

You will be invoiced monthly for session fees. Where possible (to reduce our use of paper and help the environment) these will be sent electronically to you via email from [dfairbank@cromwellacademy.com](mailto:dfairbank@cromwellacademy.com). Payments should be made through Parentpay where possible. Please ensure that you have given us your email for this purpose.

In the instance of parents/carers arriving late to collect their child a charge of £5.00 per 15 minutes will be made and added **to the following month's invoice**. Sessions end at 5.00pm or 6.00pm; you will have stated which session your child is booked in for.

If parents/carers do not inform the Club that a child will be absent from a booked session either in person, by telephone or by emailing the school office a discretionary charge of £5.00 may be made if no reason is given. Please note, in accordance with our Payment Policy, all absences will be charged for.

## THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS BAD WEATHER

At Kids Club we will go outdoors in all weathers, this means children may get wet or even muddy at the end of the school day. This is part of the Playwork ethos and an important part of childhood. We request that you provide a change of clothes, waterproof jacket and a pair of wellies for your child to keep at Kids Club should they wish to go out in wet/cold weather. If these items are not provided we cannot guarantee your child will come home clean and dry.

Please ensure all of your child's *belongings* are labelled clearly with their name so we can return them to the right person. There is a lost property box in our cloakroom which will be emptied on a termly basis so please make sure you check this regularly.



## THE PLAYWORK PRINCIPLES

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.
8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and well being of children.

## COMMENTS AND SUGGESTION BOX

If you have any comments or suggestions, please do let us know by placing them in the box in the cloakroom. Your views are very much appreciated and support us in making our Kids Club even better at being the best we can be! If you have any comments or suggestions, you can also let us know by emailing [kidsclub@cromwellacademy.com](mailto:kidsclub@cromwellacademy.com).