

Emerson Valley Playgroup trading as

The Wendy House



River Valley Centre, 6 White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley, Milton Keynes, MK4 2AS
Mobile: 07359 777267. Phone: 01908 506982. Email: evplaygroup@gmail.com
Registered charity No: 1056708

September Newsletter 2025

Welcome

We have been back now for a few weeks and the staff have been so excited to see both old and new faces come through the door. All the children have done so well in settling in especially for those new to The Wendy House.

Term Dates

Our term dates for 2025/2026 are at the bottom of this newsletter. These will be updated when required. If you need to contact us for any reason all our details are at the top of this newsletter.

Available spaces

We do have a few spaces available. If you would like to increase your hours or know anyone either family or friends that might be interested, please come and discuss it further with Wendy/Charlotte.

Bank details

Please make sure you are using the correct bank details as our old bank account will be closing soon.

Metro
A/c 54453655
Sort Code: 23-05-80
Emerson Valley Playgroup
REF: Childs Name.

Payment by card

If you would like to make payment via our card machine please come in and see Charlotte between the hours of 9-2pm.

Coat Donations

We will be placing our coat rack back out. We would be grateful for any donations. Please speak to Nicky or Charlotte.

As the weather is turning cooler please ensure your child brings a warm coat to pre-school – we go outside all year round. Please feel free to take one from our coat rack.



Uniform

Please speak to Charlotte if you would like to purchase any uniform from us. These are a great idea as we do a lot of messy play here at the Wendy house and sometimes the children do get a little excited while doing it. 😊

School admissions 2026

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 it is time to start thinking about them attending school. Please click on the link below and this will take you to the Milton Keynes government website with all the information that you may require, however if you have any questions please do come and speak to either Wendy or Charlotte.

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-or-juniormiddle-school-september>

Absence

Please can we ask parents to let us know at the earliest opportunity if your child is going to be absent from playgroup and the reason. (sickness, holiday, appointments etc). We don't mind you taking children out during term time, they are only little once and making memories is precious. Keeping us informed helps us with activity planning and keeping our registers up to date. You can do this via Whats App using our mobile number: 07359 777267. If we do not hear from you we will have to contact you.

Collection

If your child attends only a morning session and is NOT staying for lunch the morning session ends at 12:00. Please be mindful for our children that are staying for lunch, collecting your child late may upset the other children.

We have been trialling two new pick up times for our afternoon sessions in the attempt to further support our parents that have multiple school pickups to do. We will continue to open the back gate at both 3pm and 3:20-3:30pm. Please no later than this due to other users of the hall. If you think you may be late please speak to either Wendy, Charlotte or Nicky. If you are late to collect your child without prior approval you may be charged a late fee.

To avoid disruption to our children we will only open our doors between 3:00 - 3:20 in an emergency. If you need to collect your child outside of these hours please let us know.

Please help your child and us

We also want to continue to promote independence for all children and we can clearly see how hard the parents have worked to ensure the children can recognise their own coats. Please can you continue to do this as this supports the children with their independence and self confidence.

Please can all children put bags/lunch boxes on the trolley and carry in their own coat or hat to place on the peg. Also, if buying new coats, shoes please consider the ease with which the children can put on/take off themselves. Trainers with fixed laces can be **very hard** for the children and staff to get on and off. Our preference is velcro shoes/trainers. We would not expect children to do laces at this stage.

There will be a box on the bag trolley to place all water bottles that your child may need for lunch.

Could we please ask that all of the children's belongings either bags, hats, coats, lunch boxes have their names on them.

Messy Play

At the Wendy House we encourage our children to learn through play and we love Messy play. Messy play is crucial to help with fine motor skills, cognitive growth, creativity, social and emotional development along with sensory exploration.

For us to continue to do this we would like to ask for any donations you may be able to provide. Such as:

Flour, Salt, food colouring, dried rice and pasta, cornflour, dried cereals, chia seeds, flavour essence - peppermint, coconut, almond, vanilla.

We are always looking for donations of sensory toys as well please.

Thank you 😊

Lending Library

We have lots of books and resources available that are available for parents to borrow as part of our lending library. please let us know if you would like to borrow any:

- Dual language books
- Potty training books
- Behaviour and wellbeing books.

St Marks Meals

We are pleased to be able to share that we have partnered with St Marks meals. A registered Charity which provides meal boxes to ensure children are not going hungry. We are able to pass these meal boxes on to our families in times of financial or other difficulties. If you, or someone you know is struggling please speak to Wendy or Nicky. Please don't be offended if you are offered a meal box, we know not everyone likes to ask for help, we just want to make your day a little easier.

Events/Celebrations

29 September - World day of food loss and waste awareness day.

5 October - Harvest festival

10 October - World Mental Health day.

21 October - Diwali

31 October - Halloween

5 November - Bonfire night

13 November - World Kindness day

14 November - National PJ day (wear your PJ's to school)

11 December - Christmas Jumper / clothes week.

Gift shop - Look out for more information in October

Autumn Term 2025	
Open on the morning of: Last day of term:	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 Friday 24 th October 2025
Half term (closed)	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October 2025
Open on the morning of: Last day of term: Christmas Party:	Monday 3 rd November 2025 Tuesday 16 th December 2025 Wednesday 17 th December 2025 (10:00-1:00pm only)
Spring Term 2026	
Open on the morning of: Last day of term:	Monday 5 th January 2025 Friday 13 th February 2025
Half term (closed)	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026
Open on the morning of: Last day of term:	Monday 23 rd February 2026 Friday 27 th March 2026
Summer Term 2026	
Open on the morning of: CLOSED: Last day of term:	Monday 13 th April 2026 Monday 4th May 2026 Friday 22 nd May 2026
Half term (closed)	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026
Open on the morning of: Last day of term: Summer Party:	Monday 1 st June 2026 Thursday 16 th July 2026 Friday 17 th July 2026 (10:00-1:00pm only)

