



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

January Newsletter 2026

Welcome

All the staff at The Wendy house were excited to see some new and old faces back at playgroup this week.

We all hope you have all had a lovely break.

Staff News

Anne has now retired from the Wendy House after many, many years with us. We all wish her a long and healthy retirement.

We have two new members of staff Julie and Rhoda please join us in welcoming them to the Wendy House.

Term Dates

Our term dates for 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 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.

Absence

Please can we ask parents to let us know at the earliest opportunity if your child is 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.

Coat Donations

We will be placing our coat rack back out in September, however we do require some more donations. Please speak to Nicky or Charlotte.

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

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.

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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.

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:

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

Payments

Please can we remind parents invoices need to be paid on time. If you are going to be late please speak Charlotte/Wendy or late fees will be added and your children sessions can be stopped.

Thank you 😊

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Spring Term 2026	
Open on the morning of:	Monday 5 th January 2026
Last day of term:	Friday 13 th February 2026
Half term (closed)	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026
Open on the morning of:	Monday 23 rd February 2026
AGM	Tuesday 10 th March 2026 7pm
Last day of term:	Friday 27 th March 2026
Summer Term 2026	
Open on the morning of:	Monday 13 th April 2026
CLOSED:	Monday 4th May 2026
CLOSED:	Thursday 7th May 2026 - POLLING DAY
Parents & Prospective Parents Evening:	Wednesday 13 th May 2026 3:30 - 6:00pm
Last day of term:	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Half term (closed)	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026
Open on the morning of:	Monday 1 st June 2026
Last day of term:	Thursday 16 th July 2026
Summer Party:	Friday 17 th July 2026 (10:00-1:00pm only)