

Welcome!

Reception 2026 - 2027



Our vision and values



What is special about Fir Tree?

- A strong **values-based ethos** built around “Learning and Growing Together,” helping children develop holistically alongside academic achievement
- A broad, enriching **curriculum** that helps children discover and nurture their individual strengths and interests
- Extensive **outdoor facilities** including forest learning areas, gardens and the introduction of **OPAL - Outdoor Play and Learning** scheme
- A Passionate and experienced Early Years teaching team
- Fabulous school lunches!



Who's Who?



Senior Leadership Team

Marc Knight - Headteacher, DSL

Nathan Wilcox - Assistant Head

Helena Grant - Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Lead, DSL

Sophie Lloyd - Upper Key Stage 2 Lead

Delyth Hutchins - Lower Key Stage 2 Lead

Kathrine Lee - Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo), DSL

Office Staff

Annette Yenner - School Business Manager, DSL

Claire Archer - Senior Administrator

Cat Stockley - Home School Link Worker (HSLW)

Breakfast Club and After School Club Staff

Dominique Partridge

Sarah Johansen

Claire Parker

Rabia Ahsam

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Elizabeth Bachelor - Chair

Georgina Delvenne - Treasurer

Sarah Risby - Secretary

School Governors

Alex Smith - Chair of Governors

Nina Harman - Vice Chair of Governors

Flavia Cerrone - Community Governor

What will
the
Reception
year look
like?

- Builds on from a strong start in nursery
- Following the EYFS curriculum
- Prepares children with the skills, knowledge and vocabulary to succeed in Year 1 and beyond



What will the Reception year look like?

- Learning through play - inside and outside

- Inclusion at the heart of our practice

- A curriculum inspired by high quality texts

- Daily phonics and maths sessions with opportunities to revisit and embed learning during play times

- High-quality interactions prioritised

- Links with the local community

- PE lessons taught by a specialist coach

- On site Forest School and extensive outdoor space

- Trips and visitors

- A fun, vibrant, happy and aspirational place to learn and play



What does a day in Reception look like?

A “play sandwich”!



08:30am - 08:50am	08:50am - 09:10am	09:10am - 09:30am	09:30am - 11:00am	11:00am - 11:30am	11:30am - 12:30pm	12:30pm - 12:45pm	12:45pm - 1:15pm	1:15pm - 2:30pm	2:30pm - 3:15 pm
Gate opened Children complete a settling activity Families invited to support their child to settle	Register Morning routines Whole class “sensory circuit”	Phonics - <i>Read, Write, Inc.</i>	“Discovery time” Play based learning opportunities, inside and outside Focused tasks with an adult	Carpet time - Maths <i>Mastering Number</i> <i>White Rose Maths</i>	Lunchtime - Children eat lunch in the Hall Playtime in the Reception garden	Register Whole class “sensory circuit” Dough Disco/ Handwriting	Carpet session - Topic/ Literacy	“Discovery time” Play based learning opportunities, inside and outside Focused tasks with an adult	Tidy up Snack time CLL focus Children get ready for home Home time



What does my child need to wear?



Jumper, cardigan or fleece
With or without Fir Tree Logo
Can be purchased from [Fir Tree Primary School – Make It Mine](#)



White polo shirt



Grey or black
Trousers, skirts, pinafores



Black school shoes
Velcro

Please name ALL clothes!!



Long hair tied back



No jewellery except watches and small stud earrings

PE kit




Plain white t-shirt

trainers



Black, grey or navy
Shorts, leggings or joggers



What does my child need?

Please name ALL items!



Water bottle



Bag



Book bag (Optional)

Brought to and from school each day



Wellies



Puddle suit/
Waterproofs



Spare clothes
Drawstring bag

Left in school



Sun hat



Sun cream



Coat

Weather dependent

Wrap-around Care

Breakfast Club

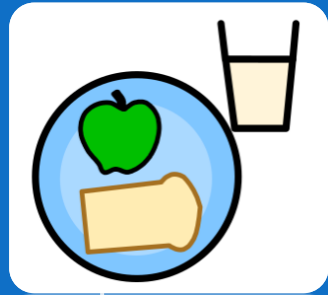
- 08:00am - 08:30am
- £3.50 per day
- My Child at School (app)
- "Drop in" - no need to book in advance

After School Club "Fir Tree Fun Time"

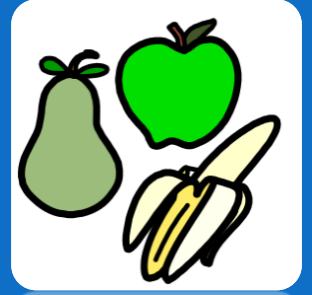
- 3:15pm - 5:30pm
- £13.00 per day
- Book in advance
- My Child at School (app)

If you are interested in a space for your child at breakfast and/or after school club, please fill in the digital form.





School lunches and snack



Lunch

- Every child in Reception is entitled to a free school lunch
- Our menu is designed by our passionate, experienced chef, Siva
- Always a vegetarian option
- Daily jacket potato or “soup of the day” option alongside a range of familiar or more adventurous options
- Your child may choose to bring a healthy packed lunch
- Water only please - no juice or squash
- **We are a nut and seed free school**
- **School lunches chosen in advance via the My Child at School app**



Snack and Milk

- We provide a healthy snack of fruit or vegetable every day
- Fresh water or milk is offered each day
- Please also bring a named water bottle each day
- All children under 5 will automatically be offered free milk.
- If your child is over 5 and you would like them to receive milk each day, please register and pay on Cool Milk.

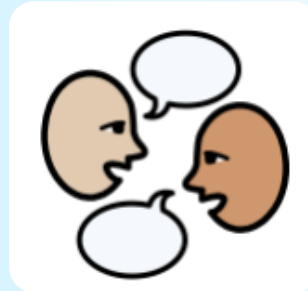
Parents - Cool Milk



Cool Milk

Home School Partnership

- Communication is key



- Tapestry - a two way tool



Learning at Home



- Talking together

- Sharing stories

- Explore early counting

- “Virtual Classroom”
phonics videos



Tapestry

Please fill in the digital consent form so we can make you an account

- The link for this is accessible on the offer letter that was emailed to you and on the school website
- If you need the link re-sending to you, please let us know at the end of the session

Posts over the summer to aid transition

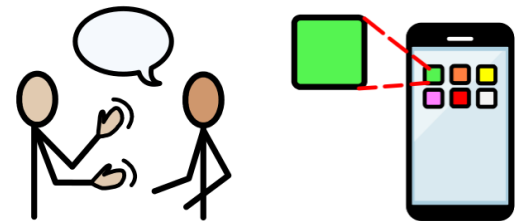
- We will post on Tapestry over the summer with pictures, videos and information to help you and your child feel more familiar with the Reception environment and adults

It is a two way tool

- We love to celebrate important moments and achievements in your child's life with you. Upload an observation to Tapestry that we can share with the class

What to expect

- Weekly whole-class updates; termly wow moments; home-learning opportunities; memos and updates



EYFS Curriculum



- We follow the **Early Years Foundation Stage Framework**, this has four guiding principles:
 - *Every child is unique*
 - *Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships*
 - *Enabling environments help children to flourish*
 - *All children learn and develop at different rates*
- We use non-statutory guidance such as **Development Matters** and **Birth to Five Matters** alongside our **bespoke Fir Tree Early Years curriculum**

- There are 7 areas of learning

- Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development

- Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

At the end of their year in Reception children are assessed against the “Early Learning Goals”

Characteristics of Effective Learning:

- Playing and Exploring
- Active Learning
- Creating and Thinking Critically

EYFS Curriculum and Pedagogy



- A mixture of direct teaching (e.g. Phonics, Maths, Topic) and play based learning
- Sometimes following the child's lead, sometimes following the adult's
- Children learning from and with each other
- Whole class, small group or one-to-one learning
- Indoor and outdoor, all year, all weathers!

Phonics - Read, Write, Inc.



- Daily lessons
- Children learn the sound that each letter, or group of letters (*special friends*), make
- Each letter is linked to a recognisable image to help children visualise and memorise
- Blend (reading) - e.g. c-a-t = cat
- Segment (spelling) - e.g. cat = c-a-t
- Parent workshop in the Autumn term
- Reading books and reading records



Health and Safety

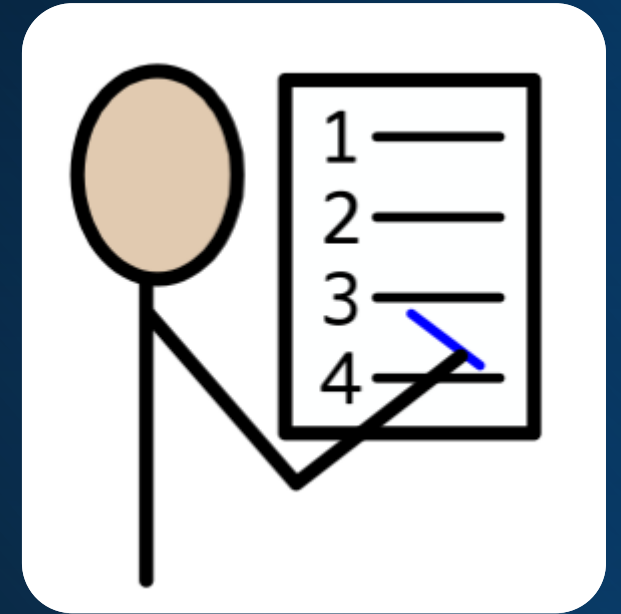
- We have Paediatric First Aiders on site at all times
- Accident forms
- Head injuries
- Medication
- Allergies
- Nut and seed free school
- Sickness and diarrhoea - 48 hour rule
- Minimum of two emergency contacts - keep up to date



Attendance

Drop off and Collection

- Our school aim for attendance is 96%
- If your child is unwell, please contact the school **each day** they are absent **before 09:00am**
- Good attendance is vital for your child's learning, development and well-being. Please send them to school whenever they are well enough to attend
- If you need to request a planned absence, please complete an absence form from the school office. Absence during term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances
- If you arrive after the gate is locked, please bring your child to the main school office
- If someone unfamiliar to school staff will be collecting your child, please inform the class teacher or the office. You will be asked to provide a password. A photograph is also helpful



Inclusion at Fir Tree



- We are proud to have an experienced and knowledgeable SENCo, Ms Kathrine Lee, who works closely with staff, families, and external professionals to ensure every child receives the support they need
- Early identification is a key priority within our school. We work proactively with parents and carers to recognise needs quickly and put effective support in place at the earliest opportunity
- We value strong partnerships with families and collaborate with a range of outside agencies and professionals to provide the best possible outcomes for our pupils
- Inclusion is at the heart of our school community. We are committed to creating an environment where every child feels valued, supported, and able to thrive both academically and socially
- Our inclusive practice ensures that all pupils are encouraged to participate fully in school life, with high expectations and appropriate support for every learner
- If you would like to discuss your child's additional needs with school, please let us know.
- Settling in Coffee Morning - Autumn term (Date tbc)



Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)



- We are proud to be introducing the OPAL approach to play
- OPAL encourages children to develop important life skills such as teamwork, communication, problem-solving, resilience, and independence through play
- A wide variety of play opportunities ensures that all children can find activities they enjoy, supporting inclusion and positive wellbeing
- High-quality outdoor play has been shown to improve behaviour, confidence, social interaction, and readiness for learning in the classroom
- We believe play is an essential part of childhood and an important contributor to children's physical, emotional, and social development.



Transition Information



Informal stay and play socialiser

- Tuesday 30th June, 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Independent stay and play

- Wednesday 8th July 10:00am - 11:30am or 1:00pm - 2:30pm
- This has been emailed to you. Please ask if you would like reminding

Setting visits

- During your child's usual nursery session

Home visits

- Please let us know if you would like to arrange one

Tapestry over the summer

- Complete digital consent form so we can create and activate your account

Summer pack

- Please take a named pack for your child with some optional activities to complete over the summer

Settling in Coffee Morning with Ms Lee

- Autumn term - date tbc



First Week of School



- Please follow instructions from the office on how to register for a My Child at School account. You will need this to choose school lunches.
- Choosing lunches for the first week - more info will follow over the holidays or the first week of September
- Drop off and home time - 08:30am to 08:50am / 3:15pm. Use the "Early Years entrance" (to the right of the car park)
- Settling and separation - some tears (from the children or parents!) are normal, but they will settle quickly! We can give you a call to update you. Any additional support can be discussed.
- Birthdays - Fir Tree tradition to wear own clothes on a birthday (or shortly after if it happens at the weekend). No nuts or sweet treats please due to health, safety and allergy management.
- Enrolment forms - please return if you have not done so already

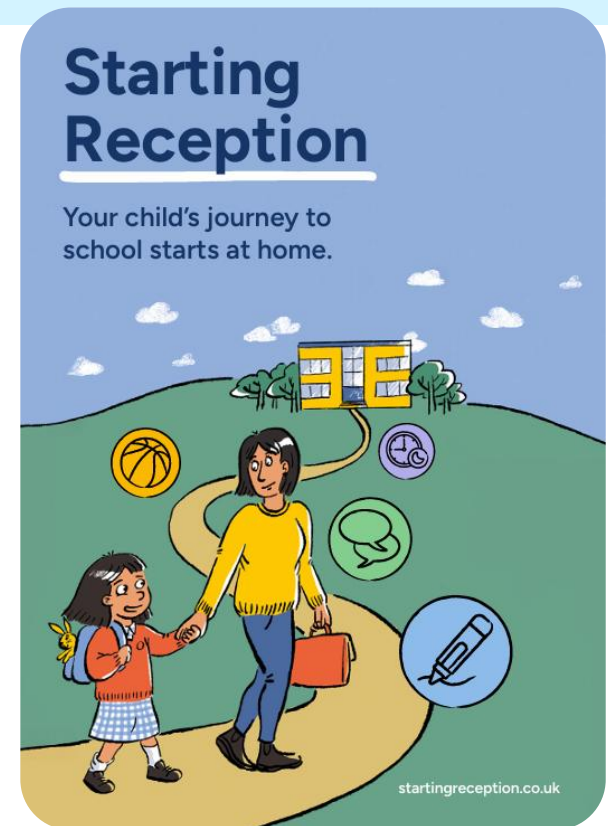
Cool Milk

Getting ready for school



Top tips!

- Talking
- Reading stories
- Dressing themselves
- Using the toilet and washing hands
- Knife and fork skills
- Taking turns and following instructions
- Mark making experiences
- Counting skills



Home - Starting Reception

Fir Tree PTA



Who we are

- 1 Elizabeth Bachelor - Chair
- 2 Georgina Delvenne - Treasurer
- 3 Sarah Risby - Secretary

Contact

firtreeschoolpta@gmail.com

facebook.com/groups/firtreepta/

Be part of the PTA!

- Get involved as much or as little as you like
- A great opportunity to meet parents across different year groups
- A simple way to make a positive contribution and support the school community

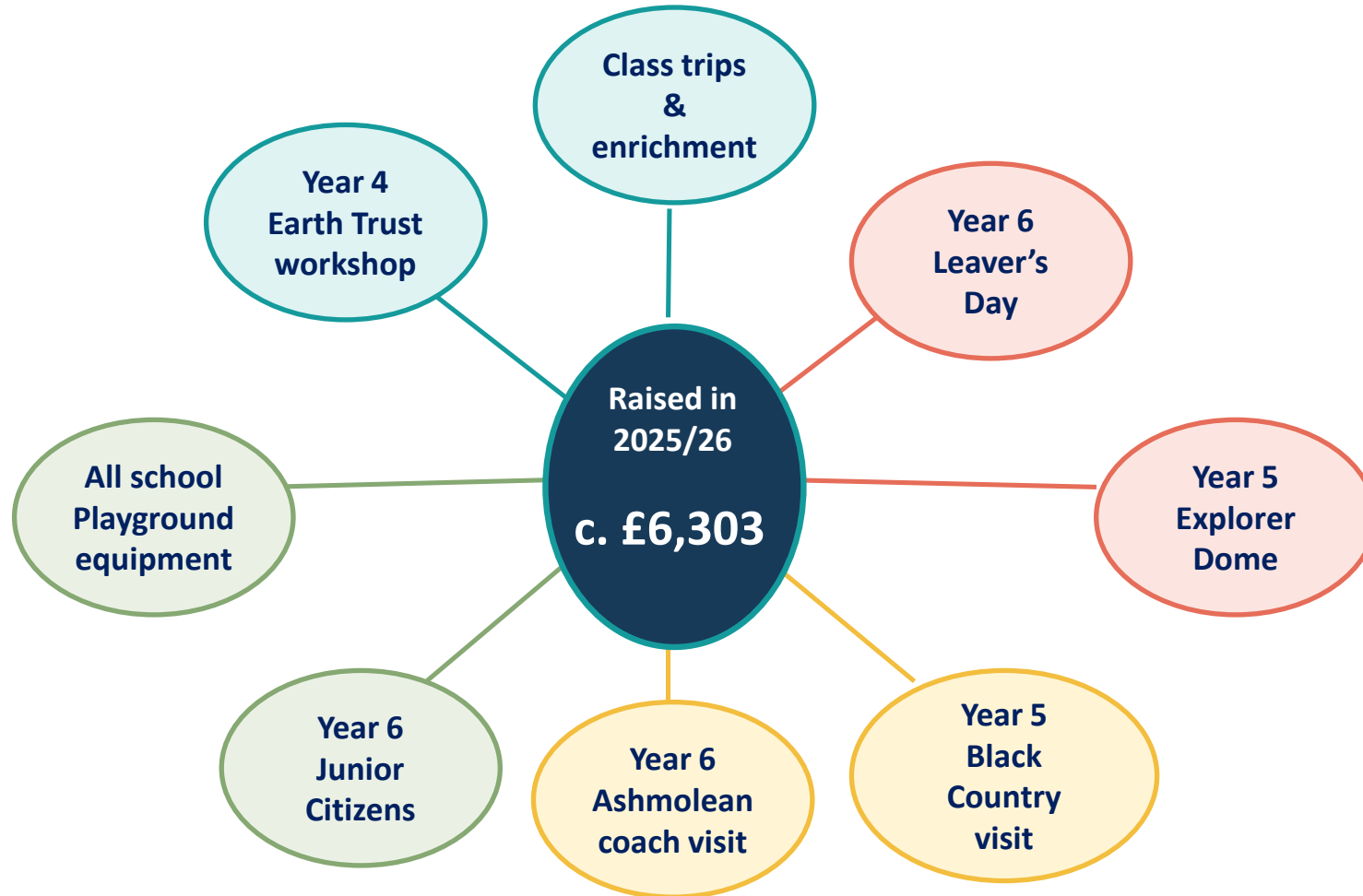
Fir Tree PTA - Fundraising in 2025/26



Summary of main events and income streams.

Activity	Included	Amount raised
■ Christmas Fayre	Ticket income, stalls, games, food, craft fayre, raffle	£2242
■ Toy Auction	Prizes donated, auction fundraising.	£561
■ Cake Sales	Termly cake sales with donated baked goods	c.£600
■ Quiz Night	Parent and teacher evening quiz and curry night	£780
■ In School Events	Balloon race, Easter egg drop, sports day refreshments	c.£300
■ External Fundraising	Santa Sleigh, Charity donations in Waitrose, Easy fundraising fundraising	c.£2000
Total fundraising income		c.£6303

What PTA money funds



Previous years also funded

- New lighting & sound system for hall productions
- Repaired castle structure in the playground
- Gardening equipment for Forest School
- Author visits and workshops

THRIVING NOT SURVIVING

Wigod Way



**WALLINGFORD
FAMILY CENTRE**

- REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1173241 -

Wigod Way where positivity thrives, and people grow. A space where individuals can authentically express themselves, feel heard, build meaningful connections, and find the support they need. A place without judgement, a place for everyone!

How We Support Families

Follow us on Instagram @wallingfordfamilycentre

Follow us on Facebook Wigod Way WallingfordFamilyCentre

Wigod Way WALLINGFORD FAMILY CENTRE

Book a place at a Family Centre run session (only book a space for adults attending) via scanning the QR code or visit Eventbrite: wallingfordfamilycentre.eventbrite.com

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Toddler Group ONCE UPON A PLAYTIME WITH A WARM WELCOME 10am - 11.30am	OXFORDHEALTH. NHS.UK/HV/ GROUPS/WELL-CHILD/ 	Baby Group BABY BUNCH 9.45am - 10.45am & 11.30am - 12.30pm	Baby/ New Walkers Group CRUISERS & CRAWLERS 9.45am - 10.45am Baby Massage BOOKING VIA: LIZZIEKINSBROOK.CO.UK 12.45pm - 1.25pm	Toddler Group NATURE EXPLORERS 10am - 11.30am MumFit by Hannah BOOKING VIA: MUMFITBYHANNAH.MYFITNESSCLASS.COM @MUMFIT_BYHANNAH 1.30pm - 2.15pm
SATURDAY MONTHLY	SEN Group A SPECIAL TIME TO PLAY See website for dates & times			SWAP SHOP SEE FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM FOR UPCOMING DATES

WigodWay Wallingford Family Centre is a charity and relies on donations to run our term time sessions. Suggested donation for attending our sessions is £3 if you are able and can be made in sessions. If you would like to make a one off or monthly donation please scan the QR code:
WWW.WALLINGFORDFAMILYCENTRE.COM

96A WILDING ROAD WALLINGFORD OXON OX10 8AJ

13 APRIL 2026 v2

Bump Club – Support for expectant parents

Mrs B's Brain Boost – Fun learning and enrichment activities

Holiday Provision – Activities and support during school holidays

1-to-1 Family Support – Tailored guidance for families

Food & Clothing Parcels – Practical help when needed

Workshops & Community Groups – Wellbeing, skills, and connection

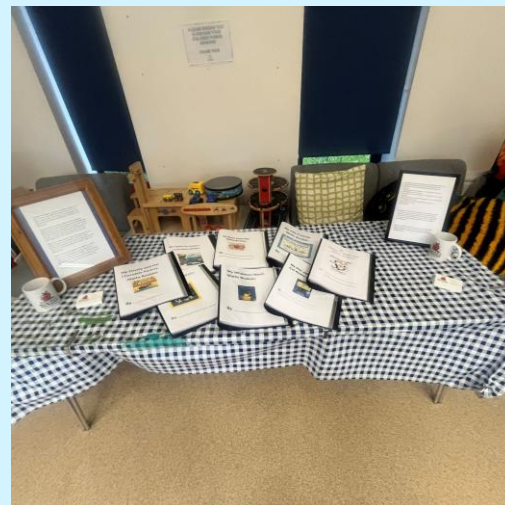
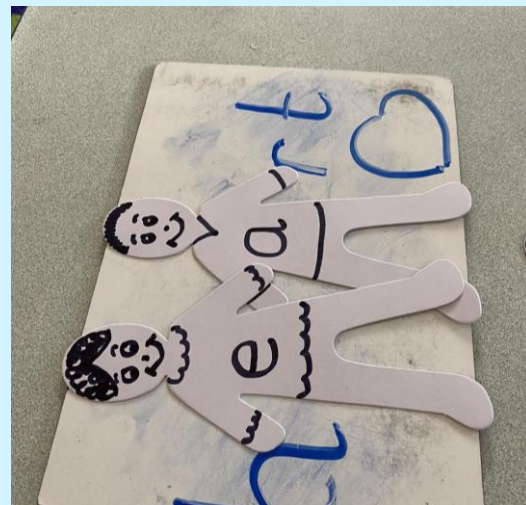
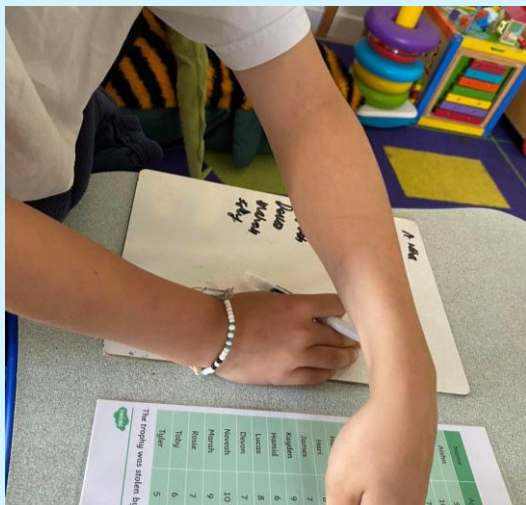
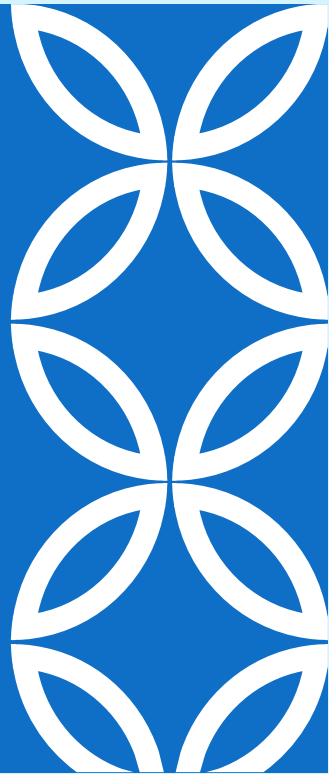
Birthday & Christmas Support – Helping make special occasions possible

Listening Ear & Signposting – Emotional support and access to services

Supporting families from pregnancy through to school age and beyond

Brain BOOST

Providing group tutoring and personalised learning support to complement school learning, helping children build confidence, overcome challenges, and achieve their full potential.



Special Educational Needs (SEN) Sessions

Dedicated SEN sessions cater to the unique journey of family with children with Special Educational Needs. These sessions offer a safe and inclusive space for participation and growth, celebrating each child's individual strengths and fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment.



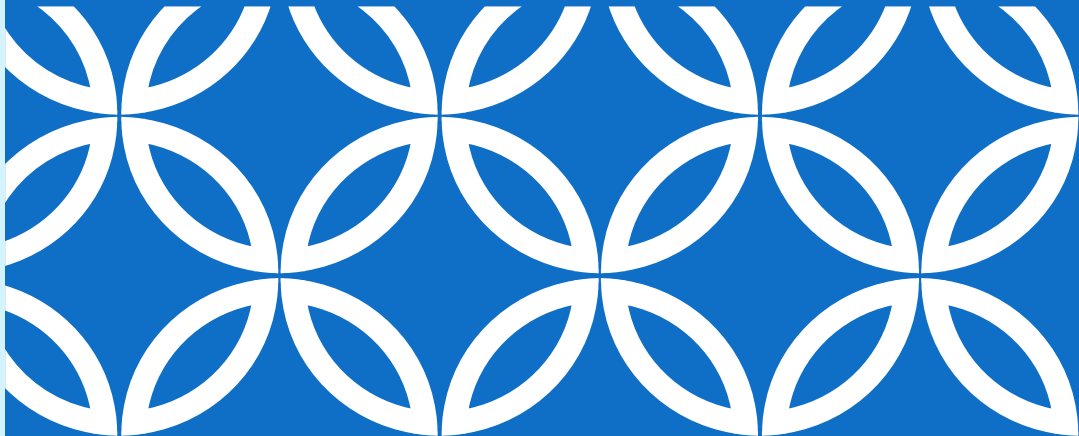
Swap SWAp

Our Swap Shop promotes sustainability and community spirit by allowing community members to exchange gently used items such as clothing, toys, and household goods. This initiative not only reduces waste but also ensures that every child has access to the essentials they need to grow and develop.



Wellbeing Session

We offer a range of wellbeing and support sessions for parents and carers, creating opportunities to connect, learn, and take time for yourself.



Holiday Sessions

Wallingford Family Centre

Summer Holiday Sessions

Summer Baby Groups

Wednesday 29th July
10am - 11.30am

Wednesday 5th August
10am - 11.30am

Sensory Play
Baby Space
Supportive atmosphere

Summer Family Groups with You Move

Monday 27th July
10am - 11.30am

Monday 3rd August
10am - 11.30am

Indoor & Outdoor Fun
Games
activities & Play

DigitAll Summer Coding Event

Thursday 6th August
10am - 10.40am
&
11am - 12pm

Interactive Digital &
Coding Fun

Booking is essential as spaces are limited.
Sessions are free to attend thanks to secured funding but donations are welcome.



For full info and to book scan the QR code or visit:

wallingfordfamilycentre.eventbrite.com
96a Wigod Way, Wallingford, OX10 8AJ

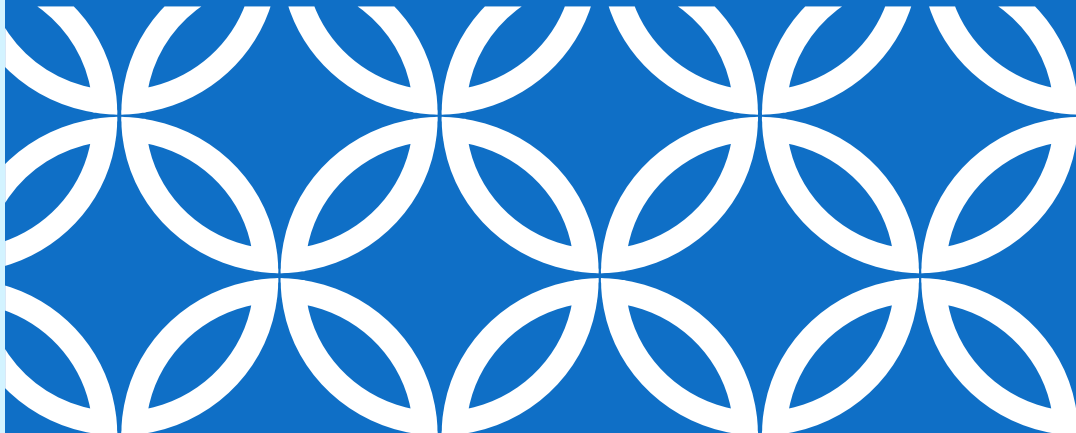


Sessions are free to attend, however spaces are limited.
Please only book if you can attend. A charge of £25 will apply for no shows.



Christmas

On run up to Christmas, we support multiple families. We aim to ensure every family can enjoy Christmas, regardless of their circumstances.



Everything we do is made possible by the incredible people around us.
Together, you make everything we do possible.

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Our Volunteers – The friendly faces who help make our sessions so welcoming.

Our Trustees & Supporters – For their guidance, encouragement, and commitment to local families.

Our Funders & Community Partners – Whose generosity allows us to continue providing support where it's needed most.

Our Families – For trusting us, joining our sessions, and being part of our community.

Thank you for being part of the Wigod Way Family Centre community.

It all makes it happen. Thank you.

Thank You



ANY
QUESTIONS?



Stay Connected with Wigod Way Family Centre!

Keep up to date with our services, events, activities and ways to get involved.



Visit our website

Scan the QR code to visit our website



Find out more about our services, upcoming events, and how we can support you and your family.



We'd love to keep in touch and welcome you to the Wigod Way Family Centre community!



Wigod Way



WALLINGFORD
FAMILY CENTRE

- REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1173241 -

Follow us and join our community!



Facebook

News, events and updates for our local community.



Instagram

A look at what we do and the families we support.



LinkedIn

Updates for professionals, partners and supporters.



WhatsApp Community

Join our community group for information, support and local updates.



Together,
we're stronger
as a community.



Any questions?

