

### ***What is Acorn Under Fives?***

Acorn Under Fives consists of a Parent and Toddler Group and a Playgroup run in the community wing of Highcliffe County Primary School. The Parent and Toddler Group accepts children from 12 months until 3 years old (and their younger siblings) and the Playgroup is registered to take children from 2 years old until they start full time schooling.

A Committee of parents work with experienced staff to run the group which is a registered charity.



Ofsted inspect Acorn Under Fives on a regular basis and the group abides by their regulations and recommendations.

### ***What will my child learn?***

Acorn Under Fives offers a varied curriculum based on the principles for

the Early Years Foundation Stage This includes the 4 Themes:

- Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environment
- Learning and Development

### **The Characteristics of Effective Learning**

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

### **And the 7 Areas of Learning:**

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development;
- Communication, Language and Literacy;
- Problem-solving, Reasoning and Numeracy
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World;
- Physical Development; and
- Creative development.

Young children learn through 'play' and Acorn provides opportunities and experiences for this to happen. This is achieved by providing an environment that is stimulating and allowing them to play in an atmosphere where they feel safe and secure.

### ***How are parents involved?***

Acorn acknowledges that the parent is the main educator of their child and values their involvement. There is a parental committee keyworker system which allows parents to be directly involved in their child's progress. Every child and parent is treated with respect and Acorn offers an inclusive environment free from discrimination. This partnership with parents helps to prepare children for a smooth transition from home/playgroup to full time education.

### ***What activities are provided?***

Painting, sticking, playdough, clay modelling, drawing, scissor skills, sand and water play, outdoor play, book corner, puzzles, home corner, construction, role play, puppets, small scale imaginative play (cars and garage, trains and railway etc.), climbing frame, sit and ride toys, milk bar, music and movement, computer skills to name but a few.

### ***Are staff trained in childcare?***

All Acorn staff are trained in Early Years Education and hold the relevant qualifications set down by Ofsted.

### ***How do I pay?***

Toddler group Fees are payable half termly.

Children at Acorn Under Fives may be eligible for funding by the LEA. Three and four year olds and some two year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early learning and childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year. Please ask us for a copy of Leicestershire County Council's leaflet "Free Early Education Entitlement: A parent's guide" for full details. If you need to discuss flexible payment of fees due, then please speak to Acorn Under Fives.

### ***How do I apply?***

#### **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP**

A child can be placed on the Parent and Toddler waiting list by speaking to the Parent and Toddler Leader or by telephoning Acorn Under Fives.

#### **PLAYGROUP**

A child can be placed on the Playgroup waiting list on completion of an application form obtained from the Acorn room.

Please ring **0116 2672795** for further information.

#### **OPENING TIMES**

#### **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP**

##### **Monday Mornings**

9.15am to 10.45am,

0.45am to 12.15pm

#### **PRE SCHOOL PLAYGROUP SESSIONS**

**Monday** 8.30 - 11.30

(Lunch hour session 11.30 - 12.30)

12.30 - 3.30

**Tuesday** 8.30 - 11.30

(Lunch hour session 11.30 - 12.30)

12.30 - 3.30

**Wednesday** 8.30 - 11.30

(Lunch hour session 11.30 - 12.30)

12.30 - 3.30

**Thursday** 8.30 - 11.30

(Lunch hour session 11.30 - 12.30)

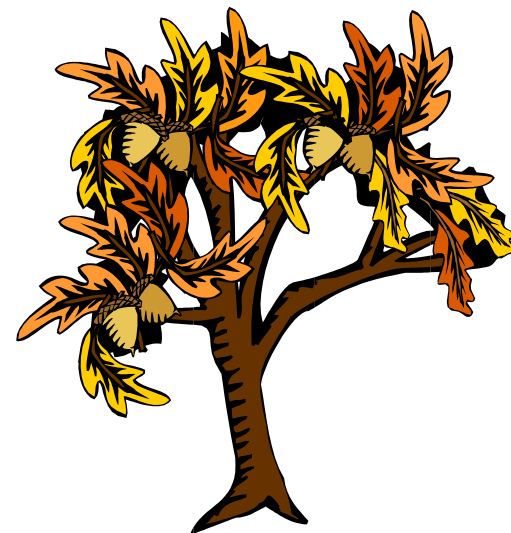
12.30 - 3.30

**Friday** 8.30 - 11.30

(Lunch hour session 11.30 - 12.30)

12.30-3.30

**ACORN UNDER FIVES  
(BIRSTALL)  
Reg.Charity No: 1030959**



Community Wing  
Highcliffe County Primary School  
Greengate Lane  
Birstall  
Leicester  
LE4 3DL

Tel: 0116 2672795

<http://www.acornunderfives.co.uk/>