Farnborough Kids Club!

@ Farnborough Social Club.

Parents Handbook

After School Fun!

Penny Turpin

Home - 01689852637

Mobile - 07963 345480

email

penny.turpin@virginmedia.com

Farnborough Kids Club!

Providing Breakfast and After School Clubs @ Farnborough Primary School

As a working mum I struggled to find quality, flexible and affordable childcare and being unable to rely continually on the goodwill of family members and friends I decided to set up my own provision.

As a Primary School teacher with 16 years experience, I was not unfamiliar with what children find fun, however the official paperwork and many facets of establishing a new business has been a steep learning curve! From having two interested families registered when we opened in September 2011, we have now grown to providing childcare for over 80 families.

We start early at the school with our Kickstart Breakfast Club!, which officially starts at 7.30 am and runs to start of school. However with many parents working flexible hours or shifts we often start earlier! The children select from a menu of healthy cereals, fruit juices and toasted items. Fresh fruit is also available throughout the session. We share breakfast together, after which the children are free to choose from a variety of activities, which are linked to the weeks' theme. We love celebrations so have had 'haunted' breakfasts, Christmas breakfasts – complete with crackers and Chinese New Year breakfasts with fortune cookies!

The ethos of a 'family school' is important to parents and it is something that I wish to continue in our before and after school care. Even if children only book

one session per term, it is important that they feel part of the club and that it is a place where they have some say and feel welcome.

The after school club is based in the school hall which is transformed every evening into a fun play space. We have up to thirty children per session aged from 4 to 11. Every week is themed and we try to provide as many different activities to suit all needs and interests. I like to plan activities that maybe offer new experiences or those activities which within a class room setting would not be possible! Recent themes have included Superheros, Autumn, Halloween, Divali, Hanukkah , Winter/ Frozen & Fashion weeks.

We aim to provide something to suit everyone's interests and offer opportunities for club members to suggest themes or activities they would like to try. Club members are able to choose what they would like to do during each session. Sometimes to support our themes we invite visitors to come and share new experiences of information with club members. Recent visitors have included the local fire officers who came complete with a fire engine where we all had a go with the powerful hoses and thermal imaging cameras. We have had visitors from RSPB, KRAG society, Dogs Trust, NHS, Police service & RNLI and various sports clubs.

Although we are based in the school we are very different in that the club members choose what they take part in and our staff are called by their first names. We do try to be 'the next best thing to home' and members have a key role in how the club is run and the service we provide. We work together on formulating both club rules and sanctions.

A fixed feature of the after school sessions is our 'tuck time'. Where we share a healthy snack together - this is a great time to share not just food but news or work achieved. We are lucky that we are able to use the schools extensive grounds which means we can provide a variety of indoor & outdoor play opportunities. We also have use of the ICT suite which we visit once a week as well as the using the large screen in the hall which makes our film nights really professional! As a qualified teacher we are able to offer a homework club, so even sharing homework tasks becomes fun!

It is hard to put down in words what our clubs are all about, so why not come and visit to see all the fun that is going on! To arrange a visit or register for our before or after school care, please contact **Penny Turpin on 01689 852 637 or 07963 345480**

We look forward to welcoming you to our club family very soon!

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