



## Pre-Nursery Afternoon Class

We are delighted that you are considering choosing the British School of Guangzhou for your son or daughter. We look forward to a happy partnership with you and your child.

Pre-Nursery is part of the Foundation Stage which also incorporates Nursery and Reception. In this phase children in each class are supported by two members of the teaching staff (teacher and assistant), as well as a support assistant (Ayi). This phase is led by the Foundation Leader Miss Kathy [katherine.weir@bsg.org.cn](mailto:katherine.weir@bsg.org.cn) who can be contacted to clarify any issues about the nature of the Pre-Nursery class.

### **Arrival**

Bus transport to school cannot be provided for this class and parents will need to make arrangements for children to arrive at school by 12:30 where they will be met by our teaching staff who will help them to prepare for their activities and distract them from saying goodbye to parents.

At the end of the day we are able to provide bus transport to a pick up point for which there is an additional cost. However many parents choose to collect such young children and are encouraged to arrive early as children can become distressed if they think they have been forgotten.

The finish time will be at 3:30 on normal days and at 4:30 on those days when we operate our after school activities.

### **Afternoon Pre-Nursery:**

- 12:15 Arrival time children should be delivered to classrooms
- 12:30 Registration and session begin
- 13:30 Playground time
- 14:00 Snack
- 14:15 Session resumes
- 15:30 End of day

### ***Tuesday and Thursday***

- 15:30 Clubs (check notices for details)
- 16:30 End of day for Club days

## Life in Pre-Nursery

Early years classrooms are very busy and active places. Your child may initially feel overwhelmed. This is normal and to be expected, but provided we work in partnership, he/she will soon become confident and happy. If you are dropping your child at school, please say goodbye and leave immediately as it is often very distressing if children can see their parents through the window or door but cannot speak to them. We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

- Please make sure your child is dressed in correct uniform
- Shoes should be black leather and not have laces. It is important that they can put their shoes on independently.
- No jewellery should be worn except ear-studs.
- No nail polish or fake tattoos should be worn to school.
- Encourage your child to dress themselves and show them how to do up buttons/zips on coats and bags as they will be expected to do this independently at school.
- We play outside every day (weather permitting). Ensure your child has a warm coat they can put on easily when the weather gets colder and a sunhat (to be kept at school) in summer.
- There are often mosquitoes around the school grounds. Please apply mosquito repellent patches on your child's clothing each day. Creams and sprays are less effective as they do not last the whole day and wash off during water play and when children wash their hands.
- Please provide a complete spare uniform as well as spare socks and underwear to be kept in your child's locker at school.
- Please label *all* items clearly with your child's full name to avoid them getting lost.
- In Pre and Nursery classes during each session the children will be provided with a healthy snack so no food should be brought to school.
- Please kindly remember that we are '*nut free*' school so please ensure your child's snack does not contain nuts.
- Please provide a named bottle of fresh water each day (water only, no juice or milk).
- Please do not allow your child to bring sweets or money.
- Toys or other personal possessions should not be brought to school unless the teacher has requested them as part of the curriculum studies or for 'Show and Tell' sessions.



## The Foundation Stage Curriculum

We must always remember that 'play' is the young child's work and that the ground we cover will lead automatically to readiness for reading, writing and number work in school.

Our well-balanced, carefully planned curriculum will enable your child to progress towards the National Curriculum. Work is planned through the six areas of learning where language, numeracy, social, physical, scientific and technological skills are provided for and developed through conversation, discussion, questioning, reasoning, stories, rhymes, books, social play, games and outdoor activities.

The six main areas of the Early Years curriculum are:

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

Physical Development

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Creative Development

Communication, Language and Literacy

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We aim to provide a caring, relaxed and happy atmosphere which will allow your child to enjoy the learning experiences offered while developing their potential at their own time and pace. Our work is carefully differentiated to cater for individual needs. Praise will be given for successes and support in areas for development. Learning experiences are play based to ensure wide ranging and first hand experiences for all. Our curriculum is designed to retain the best features of the Foundation Stage curriculum alongside the early structures of the UK Literacy and Numeracy strategies which are introduced within the Reception classes.

Cultural awareness is developed throughout the year using songs and rhymes and class celebrations and festivals. Time is given for expression through art, music, dance and drama, often integrating with school assemblies and singing sessions.

Records will be kept of your child's development and these will be discussed with you during parental consultation. Any records kept are intended to help your child's development. An entry profile will be completed to give us information from now and the progress s/he will make by the end of the year.

A guideline to the main objectives of the Early Years programme is included on the following page. Additionally, an outline of the themes taught in Pre-Nursery, Nursery and Reception are given; these themes will be reviewed and maybe modified during the school year.

## Foundation Curriculum Outline

<b>Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy</b>	<b>Communication, Language &amp; Literacy</b>
<p>Children will develop their understanding of problem solving, reasoning and numeracy in a broad range of contexts in which they can explore, enjoy, learn, practice and talk about their developing understanding.</p> <p>They will be provided with opportunities for practice to develop children's confidence and competence.</p>	<p>Children will learn to become competent in communicating, speaking and listening, being read to and beginning to read and write.</p> <p>Children will also be given the confidence, opportunity, encouragement, support and disposition to use the skills in a range of situations and for a range of purposes.</p>
<b>Physical Development</b>	<b>Personal, Social &amp; Emotional Development</b>
<p>Children will be given opportunities to learn through being active and interactive, improving their skills of coordination, control, manipulation and movement.</p> <p>They will be encouraged to use all of their senses to learn about the world around them and to make connections between new information and what they already know.</p> <p>Children will develop an understanding of the importance of making healthy choices in relation to food.</p>	<p>Children will be provided with experiences that enable them to develop a positive sense of themselves and others. Children's emotional well-being will be supported by helping them to know themselves and what they can do.</p> <p>They will be encouraged to develop respect for others, social skills and a positive disposition to learn.</p>
<b>Creative Development</b>	<b>Knowledge and Understanding of the World</b>
<p>Children's creativity will be extended by supporting their curiosity, exploration and play.</p> <p>They will be given opportunities to explore, share their thoughts, ideas and feelings, for example through a variety of art, music, movement, dance, imaginative role-play activities, mathematics, and design and technology.</p>	<p>Children will develop the crucial knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world.</p> <p>Children will be given opportunity to learn to use a range of tools safely, encounter creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments and in real-life situations, undertake practical experiments and work with a range of materials.</p>

## A Thematic Approach

Our teachers adopt a thematic approach to teaching and learning in Pre-Nursery, Nursery and Reception. Children will learn by participating in a varied set of carefully planned and structured play based activities for each theme, with slightly more formal activities beginning in Reception.

### Pre-Nursery Themes 2009/2010

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
All About Me Pets Food Christmas	Traditional Tales Chinese New Year Jungle Life Easter	The Farm Getting Around The Seaside

## Discipline

From time to time, children sometimes make mistakes or misbehave. This will be dealt with in a sensitive way and the children reminded of acceptable behaviour. If a problem persists, you will be notified and an appointment will be made for teachers and parents to discuss the problems. Under no circumstances do we accept unruly or violent behaviour.

## Merit System

The school has a house system which encourages good behaviour, academic achievement and effort. Each student within the Foundation Stage will have the opportunity to earn 'house points' and these will go towards individual merit certificates. Students will also participate in an Early Years Sports Day and be involved in other events as a member of their house. Siblings will be assigned to the same house.

## Health

Regular daily attendance is expected but sometimes absence is unavoidable through sickness. Please telephone the school on the day if your child is not able to attend.

Please advise us of any medical problems your child may have, particularly when there is a contagious condition or an allergy to materials or food. The health questionnaire should have been completed, including a doctor's confirmation.

Medicines will only be given in special circumstances and then the medicine must be clearly labeled with your child's name and dosage. You will be required to sign a medical form obtainable from the school administration staff.

## Food and Drink

Pre-Nursery and Nursery students are served a small healthy snack and drink between sessions.

Please remember: **The school is a nut free zone** to protect some of our students who have severe nut allergies. Please do not send nuts to eat on the bus or at school.

If your child is celebrating a birthday during term time, please contact your class teacher to arrange a suitable day for distribution of small individual cakes/brownies or cup cakes. Other sweets and presents are not necessary or appropriate.

## **Home/School Communications**

A school "book -bag" will be sent home each day with a communication book inside. This is our main source of communication to keep parents and teachers in regular contact, as the teacher is not always available by telephone. Please check your book frequently and write your initials next to each message to indicate it has been read and understood. Please make sure your child brings it to school everyday. Your teacher's school e-mail will also be available but please be aware that concerns should not be dealt with via e-mail. You are advised to make an appointment to speak to the teacher if you have a serious concern.

## **Reports**

Progress reports are sent home each term. The initial settling in report will be mainly a pastoral account of how the child has settled into class and their attitude to learning. Later reports will focus on academic achievement as well as personal and social matters.

## **Parent Evenings**

Parent/Teacher consultations will be held twice a year. During the first consultation it is normal to discuss learning habits and personal and social matters, while later in the year we would expect to discuss the curriculum and individual targets, as well as personal and social matters. Parents need not wait until an official Parent/Teacher Consultation to meet with teachers, but it is essential that you make a mutually convenient appointment to avoid disappointment as during the day teachers must put the needs of the children first.

Other occasions when teachers will meet with parents are at curriculum days organised throughout the year to give you information on subject matter and methodology.

**Welcome and we hope that you enjoy your early years of education at BSG!**