

# St Thomas’s Church Hall, 75 Monsell Road, London N4 2EF

## Tel: 0207 354 9347

[www.stthomaspreschool.co.uk](http://www.stthomaspreschool.co.uk)

A parent-run preschool for local children. Founded in 1991.

Open Monday-Friday 9.05am to 1.15pm

Extended Hours: Monday-Friday 1.15pm to 3.15pm

A world beyond home

St Thomas Pre-School aims to provide children aged 2 to 5yrs with a safe, stimulating environment in which they can explore the world beyond home. It provides a friendly meeting place where children can become more independent, discover new ways of expressing themselves and mix with other children.

Equal opportunities

The preschool welcomes children from the whole community. The group meets in a spacious church hall but has no religious affiliations.

Day-to-day activities

Our preschool manager is in charge of the daily sessions and is supported by a deputy manager and four playgroup practitioners. Children can freely access the indoor and outdoor space to take part in a variety of activities in all weathers.

Activities are informed by the Early Years Prospectus which can be downloaded from the website.

The Areas of Development and Learning comprise:

- personal, social and emotional development;

- communication and language;

- literacy;

- problem solving, reasoning and numeracy;

- knowledge and understanding of the world;

- physical development; and

- creative development.

Fees for 2022/23 (subject to change)

The standard fees for 2 year olds are £120 per week. This is for 20 hours per week, for a 39 week year. From the term after a child's third birthday, the fees are reduced to £65 per week. Fees are payable each half term.

The playgroup has 5 inset days per year (these days are used to set up the preschool and plan activities for the term). All 5 inset days are payable in full for returning and new children.

St Thomas Pre-School is working with the council to offer a small number of free places for two year olds who are experiencing economic disadvantage. You must apply when your child is 2, but the free place will continue until the child leaves to attend school aged 4. Free places will be part-time, four mornings a week (Mondays to Thursdays), term-time only (16 hours per week), from 9.05am-1.15pm.

Eligible two year olds will be able to start their place the term after their second birthday.

Extended Hours

We offer extended hours every day of the week, between 1.15 and 3.15pm (this offer is dependent on uptake). We have found that children really enjoy this extra time where they can do more activities in a smaller group, such as visiting the library, cooking and child-led play. Thursday and Friday afternoons are ‘Forest School’ and the children visit Gillespie Park and Ecology Centre to explore nature and do fun outdoor activities.

The cost of Extended Hours is £20 per day. For two afternoons this is a total extra payment of £40 per week; for three afternoons this is £55 per week; for four afternoons it’s £70 and for five afternoons it’s £85 per week (fees subject to change). This will be invoiced each half term. Please apply separately for Extended Hours (with the preschool manager) after you have been offered a place for core hours.

Joining the Preschoool

St Thomas Pre-School is a registered charity and all parents become part of the committee, which helps to run the playgroup. An elected sub-committee is responsible for policy, finance and administration. All parents are expected to get involved in the running of preschool and to attend committee meetings and fundraising events.

**Please think carefully about your ability to get involved before applying for a place for your child. To join our waiting list, please complete and return the application form on the following page.**

If you have been offered a place at St Thomas Pre-School and decide to accept it you will be asked to transfer an admission fee of £200 to the preschool account. Your place is only secure on receipt of this payment. We cannot offer a sibling or twin discount.

If you have been offered a 'free' place (government funded) on the '2-Year-Old Offer’ your non-refundable admission fee is £20.

(Completing this form does not guarantee a place at preschool and we unfortunately do not take length of time on the waiting list into consideration when allocating places. Most places will be offered in May for a September start. However, places can become available throughout the year.)

Application Form

Name of child\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Carer\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address incl. postcode (where child is resident)

 \_\_

 \_\_

Telephone (day)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile contact\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Place sought from (day/ month/ year) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in Extended Hours, 1.15-3.15pm? (see above for details) No commitment to Extended Hours is required at this stage – please discuss with the Preschool manager if you are offered a core place.

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Any siblings who attend(ed) the playgroup? (please supply name and approximately dates)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any Special Educational Needs or medical conditions to be considered?

No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
If ‘yes’ please specify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Would you like to be considered for an assisted place for your 2-year-old?
No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
If ‘yes’ please go to [www.islington.gov.uk/freeearlylearning2](http://www.islington.gov.uk/freeearlylearning2) and complete the online eligibility form and note the eligibility code:

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Which position do you consider to take on when joining the preschool?

(The playgroup is parent-supported; every family is expected to take on duties. Bigger roles are Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary – the trustee roles.

Smaller roles include: member of fundraising team, Admissions, garden maintenance, handy jobs in the playgroup, laundry, book club, website management…)

Please specify:

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Where did you hear about us?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to:

In person: St Thomas Pre-School, St Thomas’s Church Hall, 75 Monsell Road N4 2EF

By email: Admissions Officer admissions@stthomasplaygroup.co.uk