# Preschool introduction





## Welcome to Gagnef municipality preschool!

We are so happy that your child is coming to our preschool. Starting preschool is a big step in both your and your child's life. There may be many questions and concerns. Here are information about how the preschool introduction will be performed and what you can expect as a caregiver.

## You as the caregiver are expected to be active and involved.

During first days of introduction you will attend and stay with your child for the entire time. This means that you will be able to support your child. During the first days, you will be close to your child in every situation; when they eat, when they play and in caring situations. You are the one who gets your child dressed when we go out and change the diaper when needed. This is to ensure that your child feel safe the new environment. When your child has become more comfortable, the educators will be more present and active during activities and caregiving. This provides an opportunity for you as caregiver to be present but more in the background.

A positive attitude is important when starting preschool. The positive attitude and conveying that everything will go well will make it easier for your child to start preschool.

## **Approximate times**

An educator from the preschool will contact you with more information regarding the introduction. Below is information about the first few days.

### Day 1

Usually a shorter visit, about 1–2 hours. The first visit is shorter sinse everything is new for your child. There are many new impressions and it is normal for your child to feel a little bit tired afterwards.

## Day 2 and onwards

Gradually, the time at the preschool will be extended. Usually between 9:00 and 14:00. You as a caregiver may, free of charge, eat together with your child the first time the child eats lunch at preschool. The second time the price is 30 SEK per portion and from the third time and on will be 60 SEK per portion.

## When it is time to leave your child at preschool

How the interaction between your child and us educators works determines how many days you as a caregiver need to be with your child in preschool. It can be difficult to in to determine in advance when it is time to leave your child alone with us for the first time. We decide this in consultation with each other.

When leaving, it is important that you are clear that you are leaving and that you are saying goodbye to your child. Sometimes children will be sad when you leave, which is common. If your child is sad we recommend short goodbyes and to trust us educators to comfort your child. The comfort will help your child in the process of calming down. We always offer a hug and we are there for your child. The sadness usually passes quickly, often almost immediately when you are no longer there. If you have any questions or want to know how things are going, just get in with us.

# Good to know before starting preschool

## **Providing comfort**

Preschool education must feel safe for all children. Sometimes there isn't enough hugs and this is why it is good to bring something familiar from home for comfort. It might be a pacifier, teddybear or a blanket.

## **Diapers**

As a caregiver, you bring the childs diapers to preschool. It is recommended to bring one package at a time.

#### **Clothes**

We go outside every day! Your child needs clothes for any kind of weather and season. During summer we recommend that you apply sunscreen ton your child at home in the morning and bring sunscreen to the preschool so we can apply more when necessary. A hat or cap is also recommended during sunny days. For winter play bring a suitable play helmet of approved type with green safety buckle.

We play, investigate, tumble and get wet. Your child needs to have extra clothes available. This includes a minimum of two extra: sweaters, trousers, socks and panties/underpants (if needed). Remember to check and stock up on extra clothes!

## Sleep/rest

If your child needs to sleep during the preschool stay we offer the option of sleeping in either a carry-on stroller or on a mattress. Your preschool may have specific routines for sleep and rest and all children have different needs. This will be discussed during the introductory meeting.

#### Labeling

All personal belongings must be labeled with the childrens name. This is to prevent things from getting lost and to make it easier for the personnel and substitute educators.

You can find more information and guidelines for preschool and educational care on our website - www.gagnef.se/barn-och-utbildning/