

# Great Yeldham Parent & Toddler Group

First Wednesday of the month\*

9.30 - 11.30am in the Reading Room

Supporting local families as they play,  
learn and grow together

Connect with us via our Facebook page or come along.

\*Our sessions are usually on the first Wed of the month but check for dates.

Our next sessions are 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> July

## About our group...

The first few months of being at home on your own with a young baby can be a daunting and isolating experience and we hope to offer a friendly and supportive atmosphere where families can get to know each other, seek advice or even just have a reason to get out of the house for a bit so the children can burn off some energy.

Whilst we have always been the 'Parent & Toddler Group' our aim is to be a welcoming place for parents, grandparents and carers with babies, toddlers or pre-school aged children and also families who are expecting their first babies.

## The last year...

The temporary disappearance of the group between March 2020 and September 2021 had left a real gap for families with babies and young children. Whilst our local Pre-School and school were able to remain open at points during the pandemic lockdown periods, the usual support networks for expectant and new parents simply weren't available.

This has resulted in a very different Early Years experience for this group of families with children not having had the same opportunities to socialise, learn to play together and share toys. This has given us a renewed sense of the importance of our group for families in the local community. It is truly a joy to see the friendships forming and growing between the children and families and we have had a wonderful year together at our Parent and Toddler Group with around 10 families attending each month.

## What's next....

- With our running costs covered by our United Charities grant, the sessions will remain free to attend and we hope to apply for further funding next year.
- There have been a couple of times this year when the leaders have struggled to open due to their own childcare commitments. We are looking to recruit more helpers to ensure that we have sufficient cover for the group.
- Although the children tend to enjoy the routine of having the same format each month, we are looking to add some new activities to expand the range of experiences they have at our group.