

## Meet the Team!



The Pre-School team is a strong, united group, with each person bringing their own strengths but sharing the same passion for high-quality interactions, independence and child-centred practice.

### Becky Richardson



Becky is the Manager of the Pre-School starting in April 2026 and brings almost 20 years of Early Years experience across a wide range of settings, including nurseries, pre-schools, primary schools and private schools. Having started her career as an apprentice and worked her way up through roles such as Room Leader, Nursery Practitioner, Teaching Assistant, Form Tutor and Head of Nursery, she understands the sector from every angle. Her passion lies in inspiring children to become independent, confident explorers, filled with curiosity, imagination and a love of learning. Becky believes deeply that Early Years is the foundation of education; when children are encouraged to ask questions, investigate, take risks and discover the world around them, they are set up not just for school, but for life. Her leadership is rooted in warmth, high expectations, reflective practice and a commitment to creating a nurturing, child led environment where every child feels seen, valued and capable.

At home, Becky is mum to a 13-year-old son, Dillon, who was born through IVF, and a one-year-old daughter, Harriet a joyful surprise and a true little miracle who keeps the whole family on their toes. Family time is everything to Becky, and they love adventuring together in their caravan or campervan, exploring nature, walking, paddle boarding, surfing and swimming. Being outdoors is where Becky feels calm, grounded and most connected, and she brings this belief into her practice, championing the importance of children experiencing nature, getting messy, and finding happiness in the freedom of the outdoors. Her own children are always covered in mud and full of joy, exactly the kind of childhood she strives to nurture for every child in her care.

## Jade Shepherd



Jade returned to the Pre-School team in May 2026 after her maternity leave with baby Olivia, and we are so pleased to have her back. She is our Deputy Manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead. Jade first joined us in 2013 as a volunteer, then became a Nursery Assistant in 2014 while completing her Level 2 and Level 3. She later stepped into the Deputy role and has truly worked her way up from the very beginning. Because of this, she understands every part of the setting and has huge empathy for the team. Jade is also incredibly organised, she keeps us all updated, on track and in the loop, and her calm, structured approach makes a huge difference to the whole setting. With her eldest daughter, Evelyn, now in Reception, family life keeps her busy, but it also inspires her. Growing up with the Pre-School, with

her mum running it for over 20 years, Jade brings deep knowledge, warmth and a genuine love for Early Years.

The children have loved having Jade back. She builds strong, trusting relationships and encourages independence and confidence in everything she does. She is equally brilliant with parents, offering clear communication and a friendly, reassuring approach. Outside of work, Jade enjoys relaxed weekends with her family, bike rides, park trips and cosy evenings at home. Fridays are often movie or games nights. She and her husband, Dean, love trying new foods, visiting food festivals and exploring new restaurants. In the evenings, once the girls are asleep, Jade unwinds by reading, gaming on her Nintendo or getting creative with her junk journal and bracelet making. Her positivity, organisation and dedication shine through every day, and we feel incredibly lucky to have her leading alongside us.

## Lucy Bull



Lucy is an Early Years Educator at the Pre-School and holds a Level 3 qualification in Early Years, she started in the Pre-school in March 2026 with four years of experience in the sector, including the past year and a half at Bishops Tachbrook Primary. Inspired from a young age by her mum's work in childcare, Lucy has always been passionate about supporting children's development, confidence and emotional wellbeing. She is now preparing to begin her Forest School training and will become our Forest School Lead, an exciting development that will enrich our practice and offer children even more opportunities for outdoor, hands-on learning. Lucy also has a strong interest in SENDCo and is committed to expanding her knowledge through further training, particularly around emotional regulation strategies.

Outside of work, Lucy enjoys spending time with her family and going on long walks with her two dogs, Mabel and Frankie. She loves reading, learning about nutrition, going to the gym, and treating herself to her favourite chocolate, especially Kinder Buenos. Her warm nature, reflective practice and genuine dedication to children's learning make her a valued member of the team, and we are excited to see her lead our Forest School journey as it becomes an integral part of our setting.

## Alaya Coope



Alaya joined the Pre-school team as an Early Years Practitioner in November 2025 and has since taken on the role of Acting Deputy Manager during Jade's maternity leave. She is now our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, having completed her DSL training in March 2026, and she is excited to continue developing her practice as Jade returns to her role as Deputy. Alaya graduated from university in Summer 2025 with a degree in Early Childhood in Society, following strong Sixth Form results including Distinctions in Children's Play, Learning and Development, and Health and Social Care. Alongside her professional work, she volunteers with her local Guides and Rainbows units, something she has enjoyed for many years and credits for giving her valuable experience and opportunities.

Every day in Early Years brings something new, and Alaya particularly enjoys creative, messy, child-led learning. She is passionate about getting to know each child as an individual so she can plan engaging experiences based on their interests, supporting their learning and development in meaningful ways. Outside of work, she loves travelling, going on holiday, and exploring new places around the world. She is also a big fan of the theatre, especially musicals and enjoys attending live music events, with her favourite concert so far being Coldplay at Wembley in Summer 2025.

## Bea Nagra



Bee joined the Pre-School team in April 2026 as our Apprentice Early Years Educator, bringing with her valuable experience from her previous role at Busy Bees. Born and raised in London, she moved to Warwickshire in 2018 after getting married and has built a wonderful family life here with her four-year-old daughter, who starts school in September and is very much her little sidekick. Bee has always worked with children and is passionate about Early Years; after a brief period working for the council, she quickly realised her heart truly belongs in childcare. She is enthusiastic about completing both her Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications and is already proving herself to be a dedicated, capable and genuinely valued member of the team.

Outside of work, Bee loves hosting friends and family in her new home and enjoys the social side of bringing people together. She thrives on connection, conversation and creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere, qualities that shine through in her practice with the children. Her positive energy, willingness to learn and natural rapport with little ones make her a wonderful addition to our setting, and we are delighted to have her as part of our team.

## Lexi Reacher

Lexi has been a dedicated and much-loved Apprentice Early Years Educator within our Pre-School team and having now completed her Early Years T Level at Warwickshire College, she is preparing to take the next exciting step in her journey by heading to university in September to study Primary Education. We are incredibly proud to have been part of her development and to have supported her as she worked towards her Level 3 qualification. Throughout her time with us, Lexi has shown a natural talent for working with children, a calm and thoughtful approach, and a genuine passion for helping little ones learn through hands-on, play-based experiences. She has been an invaluable member of the team, and her contribution to our setting has been truly appreciated.

Outside of work, Lexi enjoys spending time with her family, including her twin brother and their cocker spaniel, Rosie. She loves caravan holidays and watching football with her dad, and brings that same warmth, humour and grounded energy into her practice with the children. Her belief in the importance of children visualising and experiencing their learning shines through in everything she does. While we will miss her very, very much, we are excited to see her continue to grow and thrive as she moves into teaching, and we know she will make a wonderful primary school educator.