



Welcome to
Pre-School

from 33 months onwards



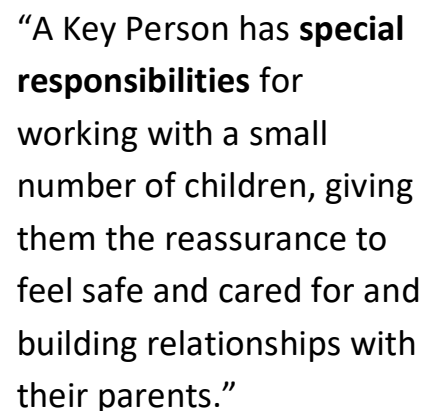
National Day Nurseries Association

Key Person and 'Buddy'

As a setting we strongly promote the role of the key person, understanding that children thrive from a loving, secure and caring relationship. If you are just starting at nursery, the key person will visit you and your child at home to complete a care plan and start to build an important bond. They will be responsible for your child whilst they are at Nursery and will generally hand over to you at the end of the day or will leave any important messages with a member of the team.

Meetings can be arranged with your key person at a mutually convenient time to discuss any concerns or to simply have a catch up on your child's development.

Each key person will be paired with a 'Buddy' who will also get to know your child and will support the key person with observations, record keeping and assessment, and will support your child in the absence of their keyperson.



"A Key Person has **special responsibilities** for working with a small number of children, giving them the reassurance to feel safe and cared for and building relationships with their parents."

Planning

At nursery we use Tapestry, which is an online record keeping system and provides a two-way link between nursery staff and parents via a secure login. Your child's keyperson will post observations and photos of activities and achievements for parents to view via their login at any time. Parents can share photos, experiences or learning from home online and can comment on observations posted on their child. We strongly encourage parents to share their child's/children's interests to enable the key person to provide activities to engage them, and further their development. This can be done via Tapestry, or verbally with your keyperson.

Children's folders contain photographs and examples of arts and crafts and will remain at Nursery until your child leaves. Copies of your child's EYFS and ECAT Tracker will be kept in their folder at nursery. You are welcome to view these at any time. Please speak to your keyperson if you would like to discuss your child's progress.

Your child will have next steps/ targets to achieve to help them with their development that the keyworker will set. The activities we look at are then set up to support these. If there is anything that you have noticed at home you would like us to work on with your child please speak to your child's keyperson.

Independence

In the pre-school room, the staff team are on hand to support the children in developing their independence skills. The room is bigger, the outdoor space is bigger and whilst the staff are always ensuring that the children are safe, the children have a lot more freedom and can choose where, with what and with whom they would like to play. They have access to scissors from the art trolley, they serve themselves lunch, and clean the tables afterwards. They are encouraged to dress/undress themselves and learn to become more independent in using the toilet. There is also a focus on encouraging the children to think about risk, such as when balancing on a board between crates or logs, and what they can do to minimize the risks involved. This helps them to develop their critical thinking and determine what is safe and what is not safe.

"The outdoors can give children the space, freedom and independence to extend their play and exploration onto a higher level."

**LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
4.1 EYFS 2012**

encouraged to

Room

Upon your child's arrival, they will be greeted by a member of staff, preferably your child's key person. As part of the routine we ask the children to sign themselves in, moving their picture from the home board to the group board.

Our pre-school room is split into older and younger children with both groups having free access to all the toys and resources within the room. We promote outdoor play and have a free flow system, allowing the children access to the outdoor areas throughout the day.

Talking Boxes

A weekly programme targets specific skills for specific children. The activities generally promote listening, turn taking, speech sounds and non-verbal communication.

Interactive Whiteboard

The Interactive whiteboard is used in a multitude of ways to support the children's learning and their understanding of the world. It is used as backgrounds for role play or acting out short plays, stories, interactive games such as on CBeebies, yoga and Jolly Phonics.

Jolly Phonics

This is an easy and fun way for your child to learn all the sounds in the English language in order to learn to read. Reception classes use Jolly Phonics and by simply playing the 'The Jolly Song' found on U tube your child will have a head start when it comes to reading in school.

Library Box

Learning to love sharing books with the important people in their lives, will foster language, vocabulary, imagination and improve their own ability to read once they start school. We offer a home sharing library and have a box of books

available for you to take home one at a time to share with your child. The box is situated at the main entrance to the room. Parents/careers are more than welcome to sign any books in and out as often as they wish.

Visual Timetable

This is headed 'Our Nursery Day'. It sets out in symbols (simple pictures) the routine for the room. This helps the children understand what we are doing next. The children are encouraged to update the timetable themselves and put the completed activities into the 'finish' box.

Communication groups

These are small intervention groups of about 3/4 children where an adult will play games/ singing and other activities to help with the children's speech development.

Teeth Brushing

Once a day after our PM snack the children will have the opportunity to brush their teeth. Each child has their own toothbrush that is regularly changed and is given mild mint toothpaste. We play a song for two minutes and using a puppet the adult sits with the children showing them how to correctly brush their teeth. If you have any questions on teeth brushing please as a member of the staff team.

Other Information

Clothing

In Bears we often get wet and messy. It is preferable that parents/careers provide a named bag with a couple of full changes of clothes. Although the children wear aprons to protect their clothing during water play and when painting etc., their clothes can often get soiled. Old, hand me downs or less expensive clothing is ideal for nursery. For wet weather conditions we have mud suits available for the children but they may need some wellies if we do not have any their size. We do have a selection of spare clothing if you ever forget anything.

Sun Cream

We provide sun cream for the children, we just ask for a small donation, which is usually added onto your bill. If your child has highly sensitive skin or allergies, please provide an alternative sun cream for us to apply.

Nappies

We ask parents to bring in a small pack of nappies and some nappy cream. These are stored separately for each child. The nursery will provide wipes to clean your child. Your key person will inform you when the nappies are running low and we need some more.