

Welcome to Yew Trees Toddlers



Yew Trees

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Welcome to Yew Trees Toddlers

Thank you for the interest you have shown in our toddler unit and we hope that you find our prospectus to be useful and informative.

Yew Trees provide a safe, caring and educational environment in which the children are encouraged to learn through play.

We are in a rural location and the premises are surrounded by open countryside. We encourage outdoor play throughout the year whatever the weather. Our purpose built nursery has under floor heating and double glazing and provides a bright and airy space where our children can move around freely.

We appreciate that all children are unique and we are able to provide a flexible approach to their individual needs and developing routines.

Please visit the Ofsted website to access our latest report - www.ofsted.gov.uk

Early Years Foundation Stage

The Principles which guide the work of all early year's practitioners are grouped into four themes:

A Unique Child – every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

Positive Relationships – children learn to be strong and independent from a base loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person.

Enabling Environments – the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

Learning and Development – children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development are equally important and inter-connected.

Meeting the individual needs of all the children lies at the heart of the EYFS and as Practitioners we aim to deliver personalised learning, development and care to help children to get the best possible start to life. Good planning is the key to making children's learning effective, exciting, varied and progressive. It enables us as practitioners to build up knowledge about how individual children learn and make progress. In order to do this effectively we are focusing strongly on planning for children's individual.

Please feel free to browse your child's assessment at any time, but unfortunately we are unable to let the assessments leave the premises.

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's care or development please do not hesitate to contact their Key Worker or the room supervisor.

A Guide to Your Child's Daily Routine in the Yew Trees Toddler Room

We believe that a routine helps children to feel secure but our 'routine' will not be so rigid as to exclude some natural spontaneity.

- 7.00 am** The nursery opens and breakfast is served until 8.45am.
Play activities.
- 12.00pm** Lunch time.
- 12.30pm-3.00pm** Sleep time for those needing a nap and selection of activities for those that stay awake
- 3.00pm** Drink Café.
- 4.00pm** Tea time.
Selection of quiet activities.
- 6.30pm** Nursery closes

Children will have nappies changed, use the potty, go to the lavatory and wash hands regularly throughout the day according to their needs.

Our Staff

The nursery staff are experienced in caring for children of all ages and hold various Early Years Care and Education qualifications and are encouraged to continue their development through further specialist or in-house training.

Key Worker

Your child will be allocated a key worker who will ensure your child's development whilst at nursery. Their responsibilities include observations, record-keeping and building up a detailed knowledge of your child. Each day they will spend time with their small group of children developing relationships with each child. Please feel free to share your child's achievements and discuss any concerns however small with your key worker.

Key Families

Ladybirds	Aimie
Red	Naomi
Caterpillars	Rachel
Yellow	Lily
Butterflies	Marie
Blue	Harlie
Dragonflies	Lucy
Green	Maisie

Settling in your child

We want your child to feel safe, secure and happy whilst at our nursery. As each child is different and has individual experiences we keep our settling-in procedure flexible to take this into account. We encourage you to visit with your child before they are due to start with us and join in our activities. Your child can bring along a favourite toy, comforter or item to remind them of home which they can keep with them.

We will then encourage you, the parent, to leave your child for short sessions at first, to enable you both to part from each other without distress, gradually building up the length of time your child is at nursery until you are happy and secure in the knowledge that your child is settling-in well. You are welcome to contact the nursery to check on your child at any time for your own reassurance.

Security

The safety of your child whilst at nursery is of utmost importance. No child will be allowed to leave other than with their parent or guardian unless we have prior notification. If you or the person leaving the child will not be collecting please notify a member of staff. For extra security if we have not already met the person we will ask for an agreed password.

We have also recently added a fingerprint security system. This allows only parents and carers who have registered their fingerprints to have access to the building. Therefore anyone who is not registered with us has to be granted entry into the building by a member of staff.

Areas of Learning

The Early Years Foundation Stage framework sets the standard for learning, development and care for children from birth to five. We plan and deliver a curriculum that promotes the development in the seven areas of learning:

Prime Areas

- 1: Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- 2: Development
- 3: Communication and Language

Specific Areas

- 4: Literacy
- 5: Mathematics
- 6: Understanding the World
- 7: Expressive Arts and Design

Our Long Term Plan (yearly) is based on a broad outline on the subjects or topics we wish to cover. The topics enhance our basic provision and will respond to the children's interest.

Our Medium Term Plan (half termly) will go into greater depth and detail with the aspects of development to be covered and will be drawn up using child's observations and records.

Our Short Term Plans (daily) will show the aspects that we aim to cover. They will be based on the individual child's interest.

Activities

We provide a wide range of educational and fun activities for the children to choose and take part in. Our aim is to nurture your child's learning by providing the activities and opportunities for your child to learn through exploration, discovery and problem solving.

Children need plenty of first hand experiences or learning may differ from those anticipated but all learning, planned or unplanned, is a valid contribution to the child's development. The process is valuable and should not be undermined by an emphasis on planned outcomes. The adult's role is to support and not control the child's learning. Activities are offered but not imposed on the children.

For our basic provision we have activities such as the role-play area which becomes various different situations like a home, post office, travel agents, vets, doctors to encourage creative and imaginative play. There is water, sand and textured play, dough, clay and other malleable substances for building on physical and creative skills. We have construction of various sizes and types from Duplo, wooden bricks, Lego, magnetic blocks, links and stickle bricks. We have lots of board games, puzzles, threading cards and sorting pots to encourage mathematical awareness. The children have a lot of opportunity to get involved in the preparation and cooking of foods.

There are quiet times with stories, singing and gentle music and energetic sessions with drama and physical movement. During craft sessions we provide paints, glues, collage materials and items for junk modelling to encourage self-expression.

Children get to go outside every day if possible. This has a positive impact on a child's sense of well-being and helps all aspects of their development. Being outdoors offers opportunities for doing things in different ways and on a different scale to when indoors. It gives children first-hand contact with weather, seasons and the natural world. Outdoor environments offer children freedom to explore, use their senses and be physically active.

Illness

We encourage you to consider keeping children at home if they are unwell especially with any conditions that are contagious. Children recover far quicker if they are able to rest and recoup in their own home. If any illnesses occur at nursery a notice is displayed on the door for your information.

Chicken Pox - children must stay out of nursery until the spots have healed over, this is usually five to ten days after they appear.

Sickness and Diarrhoea – children will be sent home immediately and shouldn't return to nursery until 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Conjunctivitis – children will be sent home immediately and shouldn't return to nursery until the eyes are clear, usually 24 hours after treatment begins

Impetigo – children will be sent home immediately and shouldn't return to nursery until the wound is dry and has stopped weeping, usually 24 hours after treatment begins.

If you are unsure about any other conditions please check with a member of staff.

Medication

We are happy to administer any medicine or tablets prescribed by your child's GP provided we have prior written consent. We are also happy to keep medication eg teething gel, calpol etc at the Nursery for your child's use. Medication will be administered as per the dosage instructions on the medication packing.

Pegs and Drawers

Every child has a named peg for their bags and coats; these are located in the bathroom area. They also have a named drawer in the classroom which needs to be checked daily for artwork and letters.

Sleep Time

Normally children sleep after lunch when we create a quiet calm atmosphere providing an ideal environment for the children to sleep or rest, cosy blankets are provided.

Appropriate clothing

Toddlers need to be provided with suitable clothing for the time of year. They play outside even in the winter so please can they come in with a warm coat, hat and gloves (named please) as well as raincoats, all-in-ones and wellies if they have them, for when it is wet. All children need to be provided with spare set of clothing that can be left in a named bag on their peg.

What to Pack in your Bag

Nappies – you are welcome to bring a whole pack of nappies for us to keep here or just bring in enough nappies to last the session.

Nappy cream and wet wipes.

Summer time – Sun cream and a sun hat

Personal comforters for when they sleep.

Potty training

We are happy to follow and encourage any routines that are being undertaken at home with regard to potty training but it is not the responsibility of the staff to start the process. If the children are in the process of learning to use the potty please provide adequate spare items of clothing.

Family Photo

It would be helpful if you could provide a family photo for your child's family book; which we use for group activities such as circle time.

Concerns

Please feel free to approach any member of staff with any comments or concerns that you may have.

Parent's notice board

There is a general parent's notice board in the corridor for general nursery information. Daily activities are displayed on the classroom door. Activities are planned around the child's current interests and also to encourage new interests.

Wow Box

We have a 'Wow' box for written notes that keep the staff informed of any achievements the child has made at home and not yet shown at the nursery. We can then track these achievements in your child's individual folders.

Meals

Our meal times not only provide a well-balanced healthy diet but a time to join together and share a happy social experience. Our meals are provided by an outside catering company who provide a well-balanced menu using a range of organic and local produce. Their website details are www.earlyyears catering.co.uk.

Our menu contains a wide range of foods from a traditional roast, moussaka, pasta dishes, casseroles, stews to vegetarian ones. Puddings include fresh fruit crumbles, sponges, jelly and ice-cream, banana and custard. Fresh fruit, yoghurts and fromage frais are also available daily.

Mid-morning snacks consist of a range of fruit, both fresh and dried and vegetable sticks which the children help to prepare. A choice of drink is available which includes milk, water or fruit juice. Sometimes our snacks are linked with our topics to encourage children to try new tastes and foods from different countries.

If your child has special dietary requirements then please ask and they will be provided with a suitable alternative.

Jugs of fresh drinking water and cups are provided in each room in order for your child to have access at any time.