



An Introduction to Little Monkeys Day Nursery

Little Monkeys is situated on a quiet residential road parallel with the A66 in Braithwaite, Keswick.

It occupies the ground floor and first floor of a converted dormer bungalow and has a large garden at the front, which has been split into lots of different and exciting areas for the children with a sensory garden, secret tunnel, water play, wheeled play area, mark making area, baby section, digging areas, music areas, child planting areas, lots of sensory plants, under cover area and a fantastic wooden climbing frame with wobbly bridge and slide.

We strongly believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life, with support to fulfil their potential. We understand that the experiences a child has in his/her early years have a huge impact on their future and at Little Monkeys we provide exceptional care for children aged 0 - 5yrs.

The children are cared for in a safe and stimulating environment, and their progress is observed and encouraged following the appropriate government guidance which is called the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This guidance has a strong belief in the individuality of all children and letting the children's personal interests come first.

We are open from 8am until 6pm. During this time you have the option to drop off and pick up your children at any time, giving you the flexibility you need.

At Little Monkeys we encourage a healthy lifestyle through our high quality freshly prepared food, our day to day routines(inc teeth cleaning time with Mr Croc), and all our activities provided for the children.

Little Monkeys is owned and managed by Laura Fradsham who holds her BTEC National Diploma in Childhood Studies at distinction level, a BA HONS degree in working with children and families. Laura is coming to the end of her level 3 forest school practitioner as we are expanding to include forest school as part of our Pre School routine.

Laura has worked within many settings, from private day nurseries to children's centres, family centres and French ski resorts.

She has held different positions within the industry, from nursery practitioner to crèche manager. Laura has great passion for all aspects of childcare and has brought together her knowledge and experience to create Little Monkeys Day Nursery.

The nursery operates a "key worker" system. This means that a named member of staff is allocated to work with each individual child. Upon induction the parents and the child are introduced to the key worker who has the responsibility of the safety, care and education of the child. Key workers plan, implement and evaluate activities relevant to the child's interests, age and ability.

Our staff children ratio is ~

0 - 2yrs = 1:3.

2 - 3yrs = 1:4.

3 - 5yrs = 1:8

All our staff are highly qualified and hold an up to date paediatric first aid certificate. They have continual training in all areas of childcare (in-house and out).

Activities at the nursery are split between inside and outside.

Every area of a child's learning and development is covered :

*Physical development (Gross and fine motor skills),

*Personal, Social and emotional development,

*Communication and Language.

*Understanding of the world.

* Literacy

* Mathematics

* Expressive arts and Design.

All children learn best in a relaxed, enjoyable environment, both through free play and structured activities.

Nutrition

The nursery menus are carefully planned to be both balanced and nutritious. We include the recommended 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per child each day, most of the lunch time meals have been taken from the National Day Nursery Association cook book and the caroline walker trust book. In December 2010 we took part in a government survey called 'Little Nippers Nutritional survey' Our results came back fantastic and we took the small amount of advice from the child dietician to create the perfect balanced menus we provide.

We supply all necessary meals, including -

*Breakfast ~ (toast, cereal, fruit, yoghurt and porridge).

*Lunch ~ (all home cooked meals)

*Tea ~ (all home cooked meals)

*Snacks ~ (fruit, veg sticks, pancakes, crumpets, malt loaf & bread sticks with dip)

*Water is available at all times for the children.

We cater for any dietary requirements, including vegetarian, religious/cultural, gluten free, dairy free, and vegan.

If our knowledge of a child's requirements is vague we won't hesitate to get outside help and training to assist us.

Babies -

Bottle Feeds

Expressed milk may be brought to the nursery if the child is breast-fed.

The nursery provides bottles and formula milk.

- All bottles are sterilised using the steam sterilisation method
- Bottles are tagged with the child's name for easy identification
- Bottles are warmed in warm water.

The nursery works in partnership with parents through their child's weaning process. The nursery has a flexible approach to provide continuity to the child. Parents are given a full, daily written report on the child's milk/food intake during the weaning process.

Weaning

The nursery introduces first solid food to the child with the parent's direction. Food cannot be given before the recommended age without consultation with the child's Health Visitor.

The nursery provides fresh pureed potatoes, vegetables and meat for weaning. However, if a parent prefers to use ready made baby food, the nursery will use the same.

The child will be introduced to more coarse textures and finger foods at an appropriate age, according to medical guidelines and in agreement with the parent/s.

At the end of the weaning process the child moves on to the nursery menu.

About our rooms

The "Mini Monkeys" Room ~

A homely and spacious room for 6 babies aged 0 - 20months.

We focus on each baby's individual routines, needs and interests.

With a ratio of 1 highly trained member of staff to 3 babies there is plenty of opportunity for cuddles, fun and development through interaction and exploration of this well-resourced room.

When the children reach around 18 months old their confidence and abilities are at a high, ready to move on to the next stage of development in the squirrel monkeys room.

The "Squirrel Monkeys" Room

The "Squirrel Monkeys" room is a carefully designed room which is a colourful, homely and stimulating environment. We focus on each baby/childs individual routines, needs and interests.

With a ratio of 1 highly trained member of staff to 3 babies and 1:4 once they turn two years old there is plenty of opportunity for cuddles, fun and development through interaction and exploration of this well-resourced room.

Children aged 0 months to 30 months have access to lots of different areas. The areas include small world, music, paint, glue, water, sand and many more. There is also an area designated for the very young babies which is separated by a small wooden dividing fence which ensures the safety of the very young and stops any restrictions being placed on the older children during their very important explorations. There are 4 highly trained staff working in this room supporting and encouraging all the children to reach their full potential. When the children reach around 30 months old their confidence and abilities are at a high, ready to move on to the next stage of development in the Cheeky Chimps Pre School room.

The "Cheeky Chimps" Room ~

The Cheeky Chimps room is vibrant, busy and full of fun, smiles and play, providing space for 12 children aged 30months - 5 years with 2 highly trained members of staff.

We take a holistic approach to each child's development through carefully planned yet spontaneous activities, which start from the children's own interests and needs. We provide Education right up to your child moving into reception at school following the same curriculum as a school based nursery and ensuring full "school readiness" when they leave.

The children have continuous and free access to a range of areas inside and outside:

Mark Making,

Numeracy,

Quiet / reading,

Role-play, Computer,

Small world,

Sand,

Water,

Creative,

Listening / music and investigation, and many more.



LITTLE MONKEYS DAY NURSERY

Education

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT

"Every child deserves the best possible start in life and support to their full potential. A child's experience in the early years has a major impact on their future life chances. A secure safe and happy childhood is important in its own right, and it provides the foundation for children to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up. When parents choose to use early years services they want to know the provision will keep their children safe and help them to thrive. The Early Years Foundation Stage is the framework that provides that assurance."

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) applies to children from birth to the end of the reception year. At Little Monkeys children join us aged 0-5.

The EYFS is based upon the principle:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{A Unique Child + Positive Relationships + Enabling Environments} \\ = \\ \text{Learning and Development} \end{array}$$

In the EYFS we set realistic and challenging expectations that meet the needs of our children. We meet the needs of all our children through:

- Planning opportunities that build upon and extend children's knowledge, experience and interests, and develop their self-esteem and confidence;
- Using a wide range of teaching strategies based on children's learning needs;
- Providing a wide range of opportunities to motivate and support children and to help them to learn effectively;
- Providing a safe and supportive learning environment in which the contribution of all children is valued;
- Using resources which reflect diversity and are free from discrimination and stereotyping;
- Planning challenging activities for children whose ability and understanding are in advance of their language and communication skills;
- Monitoring children's progress and taking action to provide support as necessary.
- Working with parents/carers to ensure a continuity of experience and so that all of the children's interests are fully recognised.

The playrooms at Little Monkeys are organised to allow children to explore and learn securely and safely. There are areas where the children can be active, be quiet and rest. The playrooms are set up in learning areas, where children are able to find and locate equipment and resources independently. The children have direct access to our enclosed outdoor area and are encouraged to 'free flow' between indoors and outdoors as they choose. This has a positive effect on the children's development. Being outdoors offers opportunities for doing things in different ways and on different scales than when indoors. It offers the children chances to explore, use their senses and be physically active and exuberant. We plan activities and resources for the children to access outdoors that help the children to learn and develop.

Through play our children explore and develop learning experiences, which help them make sense of the world. They practise and build up ideas, and learn how to control themselves and understand the need for rules. They have the opportunity to think creatively alongside other children as well as on their own. They communicate with others as they investigate and solve problems. They express fears or re-live anxious experiences in controlled and safe situations.

We believe that children should be given the opportunity to be creative through all areas of learning, not just through the arts. Adults can support children's thinking and help them to make connections by showing genuine interest, offering encouragement, clarifying ideas and asking open ended questions. Children can access resources freely and are allowed to move them around the playrooms to extend their learning.

Areas of Learning

The EYFS is made up of seven areas of learning and Development:

Children should mostly develop the 3 Prime Areas first. These are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 Specific areas. These are:

- Literacy
- Understanding the World
- Mathematics
- Expressive Arts and Design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The Practitioners teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but its suitable for very young children, and its designed to be really flexible so that practitioners can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Planning is written for each individual day so that it reflects the interests, abilities and rates of development of the children attending that particular session. Each child is assigned a key worker for the duration of their time at nursery and this person makes observations of the child and uses these observations to plan future activities

Observations are used to chart the child's learning and development using the EYFS and if any concerns are identified the parents are informed and any other relevant agencies are contacted with parental permission.

Each child's work and their observations are kept on individual files and are presented to parents when the child leaves the setting. With parents permission we work in partnership with other settings/schools, sharing information on children to provide continuity in their care and education.

Updated September 2015



What do you need at little monkeys?

At little Monkeys we do provide:

- All meals,
- All drinks,
- Formula milk up to the age of 1 year,
- Wet wipes and nappy sacks,
- All in one waterproof suits,
- Suncream,



Listening to the sound of the rain!!

Things we ask that you provide are:

- Nappies, (you can bring a full pack at a time or bring in for each session, whichever you prefer)
- A spare set of clothes, however we do have a few,
- Sun hat for summer,
- Wellies, hat, scarf and gloves for winter
- A weather appropriate coat.



Building snowmen!!

At little monkey's we are very fortunate to have a fantastic outdoor environment which we use for all kinds of learning experiences, we firmly believe that whatever a child can learn indoors they can learn out doors and more!!

Some of the things we do are:

- Mixing colours: using the rain to mix colours together to explore the effects.
- Light and dark: Exploring shadows in the sun.
- Large scale construction.
- Visits from lambs and other animals.

As we all know the Lake District weather can be very unpredictable this makes the above clothes very important for every child.

(If your child does not own a piece of the above equipment, don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff and if we have spares your child will be more than welcome to use them during nursery time.)

Little Monkeys nursery fees & opening hours

- * Morning session 8am - 12.30pm (inc. breakfast, lunch & snack) = £26.25 per session. (£5.83 per hour)
- * Afternoon session 1pm - 6pm (inc. snack & tea) = £27.30 per session (£5.46 per hour)
- * Full day 8am - 6pm (inc. breakfast, lunch, tea & snacks) = £51.70 per day (£5.17 per hour)
- * 5 full days per week = £236.00 (£4.72 per hour)

Any combination of hours not mentioned can be priced on request.

We also have reduced rates for parents with a second child joining the nursery; these rates vary depending on the hours the children do.

All fees are paid monthly and at the start of the month. We accept most childcare vouchers, cheques, cash, BACs and debit cards.

We also provide the 15 hours free educational sessions provided by the government for 2, 3 & 4 year olds and the government funded 30hr for 3 nad 4 year olds for eligible families.

Nursery contract with parent/main carer

Please read the terms and conditions outlined below carefully.

- A nominated person may collect your child from nursery only, unless a prior arrangement is made.
- You must notify the nursery if your child is to be absent.
- The nursery must be advised if your child or any family member is suffering from an infectious disease.
- The nursery reserves the right to refuse admission to a child if in any doubt over the child health.
- Little Monkeys can not care for sick children and will contact parents/carers if necessary. Any child who has been sent home from nursery because of ill health will not be re-admitted for at least 24 hours.
- Only prescribed medication will be administered.
- Little Monkeys cannot be responsible for any valuables your child brings into nursery.
- Four weeks notice is required if your child no longer requires a place.
- The nursery will be closed on the annual bank holidays.

Fees

- Fees are payable monthly and in advance.
- Fees must be paid irrespective of whether your child is present or not.
- The nursery allows 2 free weeks per annum. One of these must be taken at Christmas when the nursery closes, the other at any time during the year. (N.B a reduction for these 2 free weeks is already allowed for in the monthly fees, which are calculated on a 50 - week basis. Therefore, no refund or reduction in fees will be due for a holiday.)
- Little Monkeys reserves the right to refuse admission if fees are in arrears.
- Increase in fees is at the discretion of the proprietor. You will be notified in writing at least 4 weeks notice should any increase be imminent.
- Nursery opening hours are 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. Please inform the nursery in all cases that you will be late.

I have read and understood the terms and conditions set out above and agree to abide by them. I understand that the nursery has a responsibility to inform the social services department if abuse of a child is suspected.

Name:.....Relationship to child:.....

Signed:.....Date:.....