**‘Our Lovely Nursery’**



23 Spring Road Edgbaston Birmingham B15 2HA 0121 446 4044 cheekymonkeysnursery@hotmail.com

We pride ourselves in providing a setting which is welcoming and friendly to all of our setting users. We promote a positive environment which boosts the child’s self-esteem and self-confidence. The setting is situated in a large house which gives a real home from home feeling. The younger children are based upstairs and the older children occupy the downstairs. We have a large natural garden at the rear of the property which the children use on a daily basis.

During the 20 years we have been open we have seen many families return with their new arrivals and then continue on through the setting to the after school and holiday club. We feel honoured to play such a part in the lives of these special children.

If you would like to visit our nursery then please pop in between 9.30 – 2pm. Drop in’s are welcome but to ensure you have dedicated time, calling and booking a slot is encouraged.

**The Early years Foundation Stage Curriculum**

We use The Early years Foundation Stage Curriculum as a guide for our learning and developmental assessment.We plan our activities towards the EYFS through long term, daily and spontaneous planning. This ensures that all areas of the EYFS are covered on a daily basis.

Planning within the Foundation Stage covers the seven areas of development. These are:

**3 prime areas**

* Communication and language
* Physical Development
* Personal, social and emotional development

**4 specific areas**

* literacy
* mathematics
* understanding the world
* expressive arts and design

Each of these areas are covered every day within a planned focus activity and through spontaneous activities. All activities are extended, simplified or adapted when required to meet the needs of the individual child.

For children aged 2-5’s the teaching is slightly more structured. The morning consists of adult led informal activities which are planned from each child’s individual needs and targets. Each Practitioner focuses on delivering a particular area of the EYFS with groups of children selected on their ability. The afternoon is an extension of the morning activities when the child can explore and play through investigation.

Our ethos is very much about learning through play and development. By allowing the child to learn at their own pace and develop their own ideas encourages them to be independent thinkers.

We adhere our ethos to the Characteristics of Effective Learning dictated by the EYFS

Playing and exploring – engagement

* Finding out and exploring
* Playing with what they know
* Being willing to ‘have a go’

Active learning – motivation

* Being involved and concentrating
* Keeping trying
* Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – thinking

* Having their own ideas
* Making links
* Choosing ways to do things.

Every room has an array of age-appropriate books to extend the child’s interest in literacy and phonics. We support this by reading to them at set times and spontaneously throughout the day. The letters and sounds document is used to support sound, rhythm and rhyme. Various mark making resources are available in every room. Other opportunities and activities are available for mark making outdoors in helping children to increase their finer manipulative skills and hand eye coordination. It allows the child to be creative and to understand that marks have meaning.

**Staff**

We have an excellent team of staff whose priority is to make your child’s day fantastic. We are in excess of the actual number of staff we need so children are able to have more one to one than they may need. We offer many incentives to maintain staff motivation and therefore our staff retention is excellent boasting some staff that have been here for twenty years plus. We offer staff incentives and excellent working conditions to offer job satisfaction and thus promoting a happy environment.

Jo Southerton, Proprietor, holds the NNEB, The Foundation Degree, BA HONS in Early Years and Masters Degree in Early Years Education and is passionate about staff professional development in order to maintain a learning ethos where staff can share their enthusiasm for teaching young children.

**Special Education Needs**

We endeavour to meet the individual needs of every child who attends Cheeky Monkeys Day Nursery. Some children may need a little bit of extra support and we have three staff who are training in SENCO in order to put things in place to support them. We screen every child who attends the setting for Speech and Language with the WellComm toolkit. We can then set achievable goals in order for them to progress and develop.

**Heuristic**

We view heuristic recourses as important to a child’s learning to develop their senses. We have a variety of resources of items made from natural resources such as wooden spoons, sticks, wicker balls etc together with a large basket with mixed items of similar content. These loose parts encourage the children to use their imagination and create structures and patterns.

**Hours**

We are open from 8.00 – 6.00 Monday – Friday 52 weeks of the year as we only close on Bank Holidays. Bank holidays and times of absence are still payable in full.

**Settling in**

Children settle in much better if they receive a reasonable period to acclimatise themselves with the staff and the setting. We advise that parents/carers bring the child and stay with them for an hour. The child may then return again for a further hour without the parent/carer. We then advise further settling in where necessary. The slower and more consistent the settling in process is, the easier the transition will be.

**Meals**

We are a vegetarian setting. Meal times are a social occasion which children share with staff. They are encouraged to use their manners and simple table etiquette. Drinks of water and milk and snacks of fresh fruit, rice cakes and savoury biscuits are available throughout the day.

Meals are inclusive of fees, however fees may apply to funded only places.

We consider ourselves to be a Healthy setting and hold a GOLD level in the Startwell programme.

**Sleep Time**

Children generally sleep after lunch but we are flexible towards their needs and there are facilities for them to sleep when they need it. Small vinyl mattresses and cots are available with individual bedding to avoid cross infection.

**Nappies and Toileting**

Nappies are changed three times per day or when required. Parents are required to bring their own nappies, wipes and lots of spare clothes when children are toilet training!

**Positive re-enforcement**

We ensure that all children and setting users are valued and respected and treated in a positive manner. We recognise every special moment by displaying achievements on the WOW board for all to see. We use stickers and charts for incentives and timelines for encouragement. We promote sharing and positive behaviour and will work with the family and child through various strategies if these areas need encouraging.

We respect all ethnic backgrounds, religions and cultures and celebrate festivals. The children participate in shows and nativities for their families to express their understanding of the celebration. Birthdays are such an exciting time and the child is made to feel special throughout the whole day.

**Outside**

We value the importance of children being outdoors. The outdoors offers endless opportunities to explore and investigate through nature and to be confident in the natural environment.

Our outdoor area is a natural garden full of exciting things to do. It incorporates climbing and physical activities to enhance children’s gross motor and social skills. Exploration and investigation is also encouraged with dens, bug hunts, hidey holes and willow structures. Our organic nursery children’s garden provides children with the knowledge of where food originates from and the process of cooking and eating.

We appreciate the importance of the local community and ensure that the children learn about charities and helping others. We fundraise for Food bank, St Mary’s Hospice and Alzheimer’s Society

**Pets**

At the nursery we also have two guinea pigs, Cherry and Blossom. Children are encouraged to take part in the care of our pets, including feeding and helping with tidying up after them. Cherry and Blossom are based in our pre-school, but make frequent trips to the other rooms at our nursery.

**What I will need at Cheeky Monkeys**

* Nappies
* Wipes
* Water cup
* Formula milk (if needed)
* Bottles (if needed)
* Spare clothes (lots) – Government Covid Guidance advises us not to hold spare clothes on the premises due to cross infection
* Any comforters (e.g dummy, blanket)
* Any prescribed medication (e.g eczema creams, Piriton, auto injectors, inhalers)
* Suitable shoes
* My full birth certificate
* Proof of address (can’t be older than 3 months)
* My red book



Please do not bring me in my best clothes as I will be doing lots of exploring and investigating while at nursery and name all of my clothes

