



# Busy Bears

DAY NURSERY

# Nurture, Develop, Grow



## A Parents Guide to Busy Bears Day Nursery, Preston

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## We Welcome You!

We know that starting nursery is a big step in a child's life and can be a worrying but exciting time for parents leaving their children for the first time. We strive to make the transition from home to nursery an exciting and fun experience for both parent and child so therefore the settling in period we have in place is key to achieve this. Before starting your child's full nursery sessions, it is important to have a couple of 'settling in sessions' depending on how well your child feels settled at nursery. As soon as both parent and key worker agrees that the child is settled, then they may start their requested nursery sessions and start their nursery experience with us at Busy Bears.

> We are a warm, welcoming nursery where every child is at the heart of everything we do. Our aim at Busy Bears is to provide a happy, caring, safe, and stimulating environment for your child. We take a learning through play approach so your child can develop, grow, and learn during their time in nursery. We pride ourselves on meeting children's individual needs and planning for their learning based on their developmental needs, interests, and the world around them.

It is key that we have a strong relationship within our local community, local authority and outside agencies such as speech and language therapist, social workers, special educational needs specialist, behavioural experts, physios, deaf and sign language teachers, so that they can be involved in children's development if needed.

> We work by using the observation, assessment, and planning structure in planning the correct developmental next steps for your child. We use the Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage/EYFS as part of this process. We use this to plan and track developmental goals, and when planning the correct environment for both indoors and outdoors with a range of resources.

The EYFS (from birth to 5 years) is a legal document which nurseries, pre-schools reception classes and childminders must deliver. From birth to five children's experiences should be happy, secure, fun, exciting and educational. This is an especially important stage; the EYFS helps your child to get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes.

Your child will have an online learning journal which you can access and contribute to yourself, called Tapestry. You will find a collection of photographs, videos, written observations, and special moments of your child that your child's key worker has inputted in the journal. You will be able to access these precious little moments by logging into your Tapestry online account. It is important for your child's development that learning is shared, from us and from parents and we believe tapestry is great in helping us all involved achieve this.



## General Information



### > Eat well, Be well

At busy bears we follow the guidelines from the British Nutrition Foundation. We encourage healthy eating and we carefully plan and cook our meals to ensure that all the children are getting a healthy well-balanced diet. Fruit and water are available throughout the day and nutritionally balanced meals are provided. If you would like your child to have a pack lunch rather than a nursery cooked meal, we encourage you to provide a healthy meal. Please note that we do not allow grapes or nuts in pack lunches. We adhere to children's individual dietary requirements and we will provide different meal options to tailor to this. We support families through all stages of weaning and are on hand to offer help and advice for those 'fussy' eaters. The meal times are relaxed and provide many learning opportunities for children of all ages and stages.

### Keeping you informed

Newsletters are emailed to all parents monthly, keeping you up to date of all relevant information, event dates and a summary of what our learning focuses are for the months. Paper copies of our newsletters are also available in the nursery foyer, and online on our website. We work hard to build positive working relationships with all our parents and carers, and regularly invite our families to participate in nursery activities and events. We value all feedback to continually improve our services.

### Uniforms

Here at busy bears we have our very own uniform for our children and encourage your child to wear one at nursery if you wish. We have pale blue busy bears logo polo shirts and dark blue busy bear logo jumpers. Uniforms are available to order from us within the setting so if you would like to order one please speak to one of the management team.

### Policies

All our policies are available to parents and carers to view at any time. These are kept in the office and you can request copies of policies at any time.

### Medication

If your child is on long term medication such as an inhaler, you will need to fill in a care plan. Any medication given in the setting needs to be prescribed by your child's GP unless it is liquid paracetamol. You can bring in a sealed bottle of liquid paracetamol to leave at nursery for your child, however we do have our own nursery bottle which is stored safely. We have a strict medication policy that we follow vigorously.

### Parking

There are parking spaces free for all parents and visitors at the front of the building. We ask please if you would park thoughtfully and carefully as the car park is used at your own risk. Please always make yourselves aware of children, both your own and others.

## Meet the Team ...



**Stewart  
Proprietor**



**Miss Gill  
Area Manager**



**Miss Maxine**



**Miss Danielle**



**Miss Caron**



**Miss Georgia**



**Miss Yaz**



**Miss Alice**



**Miss Jaz**



**Miss Jodie**



**Miss Chelsea**



**Miss Linda**



## Welcome to Baby Room, 0-2 years

> Our baby unit is a large yet cosy space for babies to learn, develop and explore whilst feeling at home. The babies are very well catered for in a free flow environment, where a range of toys and resources are accessible for them to self-select. During their first months, young babies are competent in observing and responding to their immediate environment and communicating with those around them.

Sensory play teaches babies to engage their brain and focus on their different senses, sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste. Sensory play supports language development, cognitive growth, fine and gross motor skills, problem solving and social interaction. We can stimulate the different senses by offering sensory play. We have sensory bottles and bags, treasure boxes for different textures and touch, musical boxes to develop hearing and sound awareness and many more natural resources.

We have a new neutral soft play corner which is great fun and gives them the chance to let some of their energy out whilst building strength and confidence. During soft play, babies will be interacting with their friends by climbing, building, crawling, or reaching. This interaction encourages teamwork and helps develop key social skills.

Small world play area: this helps babies develop their communication and language skills and many other areas of learning. They do this by building on their vocabulary and understanding, whilst developing their imagination as they play freely.

Black and white materials and spaces are important and needs to be enhanced within the environment for very important for young babies as for the first three months of eye development, babies can only focus approximately 8-12 inches from their face and the only colours they can see are black, white and grey.

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> We use sand and Water play either on the floor for younger babies or on a stand to challenge babies that are developmentally ready to stand whilst being focused on play. As well as building their muscles as they dig, pour, scoop, and pick up items, this kind of play will also develop hand-eye coordination as well as social skills. We plan play activities based on the babies individual development.

Mark making and Creative play is always a popular space for babies to explore and get creative whilst developing fine motor skills. Mark making is the first phase into emerging writing for children and making scribbles and lines freely is key for achieving this.

We have a cosy story area where we like to sing songs, read stories, play with musical instruments, and play with puppets and figures here. We like to have group time here before dinner or teatime to develop our listening, social and literacy skills.

We have a cosy home corner where babies can explore in their very own wooden kitchen, building on their imagination, social and fine motor skills.

Our babies go on regular outings using our prams where we go out on walks in the community and the local parks. It is important that babies listen out for environmental sounds to make links with the world around them to help with their holistic development.



## Welcome to Tweenie Room, 2-3 years

> Our Tweenie room is the next room your child will go to when they are developmentally ready to leave the baby room. Children at this age are becoming more independent and learning new skills each and every day!

The Tweenie room is located upstairs and has a separate bathroom with two toilets and two sinks and a changing room next to the bathroom. There is a hallway leading to the room where you can find a peg rail to hand your child's coat and bag. The main room is cosy and split into two areas.

One side has a sensory station filled with natural resources to investigate out in the continuous provision. There are also tables and chairs for creative/ messy play, mark making, mathematics and puzzle station and sand and water play. We enhance these areas based on the monthly topics, interests, and upcoming events. We do this so learning is fun and interesting whilst being relevant to the world

around us. When it is dinner or teatime, we tidy this area up and have our meals here. We like the children to try being independent as they are able here whilst giving our support and helping when needed.

On the other side, there is a comfy, cosy area with blankets, cushions, materials, and soft toys. It is a place to snuggle up and relax with a good book. We have 'circle time' here with all the children where we sing songs, read stories, and play with puppets together. Circle time is key for teaching children basic key skills. We encourage 'listening ears', 'good sitting' and 'watching eyes' in order to develop listening and attention skills. There is a role play area with a dressing up rail and a home corner to explore and develop children's imagination. The children can create and act out their own narratives by exploring their imagination in the small world area. This allows them to gain communication and language skills and can also encourage friendships by playing in small groups.

**Staff work closely with children in developing speech, language and communication skills. They establish the children's word level understanding in order to communicate effectively, to further help develop this prime area of development for each individual child.**

> There is a construction area filled with natural building blocks, tracks, vehicles, and bricks that enables them to use their imagination to create their own structures, towers, and buildings.

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In the Tweenie room we offer extra curriculum activities such as dance lessons and football lessons. Swimming lessons are also available for children aged 30 months and above. We also enjoy going on walks out in the community and exploring our local forest parks. We enjoy going out on the minibus on educational outings based on the children's interests and upcoming events.

Tweenies have direct access to two large outdoor areas where they can develop gross motor and physical skills, with lots of climbing balancing and ride on equipment to choose from. We have lots of natural elements to our gardens which the children can explore and enjoy too.



## Welcome to Pre-School, 3-4 years

> Pre-school is the room your child will go to after they have left tweenies and will be the last stage at nursery before leaving for school. We have great relationships with our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition process. We ensure that all areas of development are carefully tracked so they have a fantastic baseline to reach their early learning goals in their reception year at school.

This room is key for teaching children school ready skills such as being independent when dressing and toileting, learning how to write and copy letters from their name, introducing aspects of phase 1 phonics which involve rhyming, alliteration, blending and segmenting speech sounds. All of this is the foundation of children learning to read and write.

Preschool children are more vocal in expressing their interest which we use to plan developmental learning goals. This makes learning more fun and child centered which is what we pride ourselves on at busy bears.

Pre-school is an open plan space on two levels. The top half of the room we have a role play area with a kitchen layout and wooden food and utensils for the children to be imaginative with.

There is a mathematics/ investigation area to challenge the children whilst developing key skills. We have a computer which is adult led and allows children to build key ICT skills they can learn and develop.

We have great relationships with our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition process. We ensure that all areas of development are carefully tracked so they have a fantastic baseline to reach their early learning goals in their reception year at school.

> We have a cozy comfy area with blankets, cushions and teddys where the children can lay back and relax with a good book! We have 'circle time' here where we read stories together, talk about what we have been up to with the class, begin to look into phase 1 phonics, learn the days of the week and sing our favorite songs. It really is a special and important time in the day.

The bottom level has a creative/ mark making area the children can get crafty with. They will become to be more independent when using scissors and other mark making tools and gain control over using them.

There is a malleable, sensory station to children can explore in! the children enjoy making their own playdough which enables them to solve and problem solve.

We have a construction area with a range of different resources but also like to do junk modeling and construct something on a larger scale.

We have an indoor, outdoor free flow where children can choose where they want to play and explore. Outdoors is set up with activities following the monthly theme and children's interests. We love the outdoors, and it is such an important place for children to learn and develop!

We have regular outings on forest school where we plan activities based on developmental learning goals. Nature plays a key role in children's development and we pride ourselves on our forest learning approach. We can venture further out of the local area on our minibus where we will take educational outings.



## Extra Curriculum

> We offer a range of extra curriculum activities at Busy Bears as we want to give children the best learning opportunities during their time with us. We have a minibus that can take children to and from different locations and gives us more opportunities to explore! We proudly provide Forest School Learning where the children can adventure in nature in the local parks and forests, learning new skills and becoming one with the outdoors. We also provide: Swimming lessons, dance lessons and football coaching.

We offer holiday club and before and after school places for children in reception to children aged 7 years 11 months. We work with the two local schools nearby, Homeslack and St Gregorys so if your child attends at any one of those schools we can take or pick them up from school if you wish.

**We proudly provide Forest School Learning where the children can adventure in nature in the local parks and forests, learning new skills and becoming one with the outdoors.**



Swimming lessons



Library trips



Football coaching



Beach school



Forest schools



Community visits



Dance lessons



Educational outings



## Parent Partnership

> We recognize the importance of parents and carer's in a child's developing stages. As a care provider you are your child's first educators and we greatly value any input, opinions, and information you can share with us about your child's learning and progress. To facilitate this, we encourage parents to complete activities at home set by the nursery and share feedback on our online learning journey system: Tapestry.

To support this, we also produce a 'Learning Journey' that records your child's learning and achievements during their time with us at nursery. These are always available for you to look through on Tapestry our online learning journeys. We also encourage you to contribute to these by making small observations at home and placing them on Tapestry.

We also have 'WOW cards' which you can ask any member of staff for. When your child brings it back into nursery, we will celebrate his/her achievements with the rest of the children.

This includes things such as, if you have heard your child counting to 10, if they can write their name, have achieved a sports medal or reward or they can ride their bike.

We provide many other opportunities for parents and carer's to take an active part in their children's education. Every 8 weeks we devise 8 targets we are working towards with your child, we share these with you so you are able to see what your child is working on and ask if there is anything you can do to help with the goals at home.

Every term you will be given an assessment tracker that will show where your child is at in their development. You will also be given a detailed report twice a year and twice a year we will have a parents evening where you can discuss and chat with your child's keyworker. Most importantly our family ethos is central to our nursery and as such, we operate an 'Open-Door Policy' where parents are encouraged to meet with staff to discuss any concerns at the earliest opportunity.

At Busy Bears we enjoy having parties for special occasions! We are always welcoming parents and carers into the setting too for upcoming events or celebrations. We have a yearly 'toddle wuddle' which is a sponsored walk where we all gather together in the local park to raise money for a local charity. We invite parents into the setting for valentine's day for a stay and play and to give you the gifts and cards the children have made for you. They want to show you how much they love you on this special day! We also enjoy celebrating other events together such as bonfire night, Eid, Christmas, Halloween, diwali, world book day and many more!

## Things you may need to bring to nursery:



Wellies - we play out in all weathers!



Suitable coats - nothing too special as it may get muddy or wet



Spare clothes - just in case they get wet, messy or have an accident



Hats, scarves, and gloves - weather dependent



Sun cream and sun hat - weather dependent



Nappies and wipes



Baby Bag: Comforters, dummies, formula powder, sudocream, blankets, (anything your baby needs for their time in nursery)

## Contact Information

- > Contact us on: **01772 795286**  
or email: [busybearsinfo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:busybearsinfo@yahoo.co.uk)  
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Find us on  

@busybearsnursery



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