



# SUMMERFIELD

PRIVATE DAY NURSERY

## Nurture, Develop, Grow



### A Parents Guide to Summerfield Day Nursery & Pre-school Lytham, St Annes

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## Welcome to Summerfield Day Nursery & Pre-school

**Here at Summerfield Day Nursery, we pride ourselves on being a warm and welcoming nursery, where every child is at the heart of everything that we do. We opened our doors in 1975 with the ethos of 'helping children grow' and 'providing them with the best quality care. Our beautiful nursery continues to become established as we continuously develop our teaching and learning styles to follow the Early Years Curriculum.**

Luckily for us, we are within walking distance of many local attractions such as the local beach and stunning wildlife parks which we visit regularly. The local area has lots to offer and we access the local community on a weekly basis, providing rich and stimulating learning opportunities for our children. The staff at Summerfield are highly experienced and lucky for us, they have worked in our nursery for many years so they understand the different complexities and needs of the children and the community. This is key to ensuring all families and children feel valued and cared for.

### The Environment

Our nursery has spacious play rooms which have been thoughtfully planned and laid out to ensure that they provide a safe and stimulating environment for the children to develop and flourish in. On the ground floor we have our Baby room, Toddler room and Pre-school classroom which lead to our outdoor area. The outdoor space is a beautiful natural area providing a safe space for the children

to explore and enhance their physical skills. Upstairs we have a physical education room, Holiday Club room and a new Multi-sensory room suitable for all ages. The upstairs space also caters for mother and toddler groups.

### Our Ethos

We pride ourselves on our strong ethos and values at Summerfield. Our Philosophy is to provide a safe and stimulating environment, by planning high quality, purposeful play opportunities which are based on the children's interests making learning fun and meaningful. We believe that the best way for children to learn is through play so that learning is natural and most importantly fun. The learning activities that we provide have been thoughtfully planned to cater to each child's individual needs. Early years is a time where we see rapid change, growth and development which is why we have a very committed and experienced early years team who encompass our ethos throughout.

### Starting with us

Starting nursery is a huge milestone in your child's life as well as yours, therefore it is key that we make this important experience as enjoyable and exciting for your child and yourself. We believe it is important that you get a feel for the nursery before starting with us, therefore we offer free stay and play sessions. This gives you the opportunity to meet the team, participate in some of our activities with your child and see how your child integrates into the nursery environment. We believe the key to this is having a smooth transition from home to nursery.

### Settling in sessions

Before your child begins their full nursery sessions, it is important that you book them in for settling in sessions. These sessions are in place to help your child slowly transition from home into a nursery routine, without it being too much of a change for them and yourself. This will ensure that your child will be at their happiest when starting with us. These sessions will vary in time and how many are needed, all depending on how well your child settles into the setting. We provide as many of these sessions as your child needs to settle in before they start. Your child will have a key worker when starting nursery to help with this transition. This person will be responsible for building a strong relationship between you, your child and their family, as well as helping your child with their development.

### Uniforms

Even though nursery uniform isn't a requirement, we do encourage your child to wear one at nursery if you wish. This can make it easier for our parents when it comes to dressing, as well as encouraging

school readiness. For our uniform, we have available to order: a green logo polo shirt, a purple logo sweatshirt and a purple cardigan for girls. We also encourage a summer dress for girls during the warmer weather.

### Policies

If you would like to read our policies and procedures for the nursery, you can find these displayed on our website. Alternate, if you would prefer to discuss this matter with the manager then they will happily provide you with the help and information that you may require.

### Meals

Our very own nursery chef prepares fresh meals for us in our kitchen. We offer a nutritional menu to support the maintenance of a well-balanced diet for our children. You can find the nursery menu online or on the notice board which is at the front of the nursery. You can find what your child has had to eat and how much if you access Tapestry, our online learning journal. Menus are also available upon request. All of our meals are carefully planned and cooked to ensure that the nutritional recommendations from the government are met, for all individual age groups within the nursery. We adhere to all children's dietary requirements and we will provide different meal options to tailor to this. If you would prefer, you can also bring in a pack lunch instead of having a nursery cooked meal. We take meal times as a great learning opportunity for children of all ages and stages and support teaching at this time. It is also a great time for children to relax and have social interaction with their friends.

## Things you may need to bring along:



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, bring anything that your baby needs for their time in nursery



Waterproofs - all in one wetsuits

## Parent Partnership

**A strong partnership between home and nursery is an invaluable union which we hope to forge throughout your child's time at our nursery. We offer many opportunities for parents to come into nursery to get involved, from parent stay and plays, coffee mornings, summer fairs, parents events, fun days and so much more.**

We encourage communications from our parents and always strive to further develop our nursery, taking on board your valuable feedback. As a care provider you are your child's first educators and we greatly value any input.

When parents and early years educators work together in early years settings, the results have a positive impact on children's development and learning. We recognise the importance of creating a strong parent partnership with you and take many steps to maintain this. We operate an 'Open-Door Policy' where parents are encouraged to meet with staff to discuss any questions or concerns at the earliest opportunity.



## Extra Curriculum and Clubs

### Extra Curricular activities

We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We believe that providing a variety of learning opportunities enhances children's development, giving great opportunities to access different experiences. The nursery has a 15-seater minibus which gives us fantastic opportunities to venture out of the setting for trips and days out. We like to go to the Beach, Woodland Parks, Library trips, Cinema, Zoo, the Sea Life Centre, the Farm and many more. It is great that we are able to go on regular outings to enhance children's learning and development and make links with our local community. The babies have regular walks exploring our local area and attending the local farmers market, they also love to visit our local sensory room on a weekly basis.

### Holiday Club

We offer a fun and exciting holiday club service for children aged 4 to 11 years and runs throughout the school holidays. We have recently developed our Holiday Club room to ensure children have an endless amount of fun during their time with us. The room is filled with exciting games and resources such as a pool table, darts board, computer games, wii fit, arts & crafts station, mini library and fantastic indoor and outdoor sports facilities. We ensure that all children attending

our Holiday Club have a range of stimulating activities, based on their interests and development as well as learning topics. We work hard to ensure all children are accessing fantastic learning opportunities throughout their time spent with us, we like to keep things varied and inspiring. We advise that places are booked in advance to avoid disappointment.

### Before & After school Club

In our before school club children can be dropped off from 7:30am. We offer a healthy breakfast consisting of a variety of cereals, fruits and toast. The children can enjoy socialising and join in with some of our activities on offer before being taken across to school by our staff. In After school club, children are collected from their classes and brought to nursery and we are open until 6:00pm. They get a small tea which is shown on our menus. This can be soups, sandwiches, pittas, salads and wraps to name just a few. They then get to choose to play either inside or outside socialising with friends and joining in the exciting activities we have on offer. We also offer maths and literacy workshops and a quiet place to complete reading and homework.



## Early Years Curriculum

### Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 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.

### Implementing the curriculum

Our curriculum is our plan of what we intend babies and children to experience, learn and enjoy whilst in the nursery. Our planning is based on themes, topics and events. This way children are enjoying new challenges and learning about new things, in a supportive, exciting environment. However, we keep our plans child centred and plan primarily on the interests of the children. Our curriculum has been carefully developed using the educational programmes which cover 7 areas of learning. Three Prime areas cover, Communication and Language, physical development and personal social and emotional development. These areas are particularly important for building a strong and secure foundation. We also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas

are strengthened and applied. These are literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design.

### Our approach

Our educational approach has been drawn from the very best research in early years by exploring a range of educational approaches and blending this with our innate values.

Using a long-term curriculum plan, which is a flexible yearly overview of what learning and experiences we intend to plan for the children, ensures all children receive a broad and rich curriculum, so that their experiences are engaging, exciting and fully inclusive. We take account all mixed age groups and all families who access our settings, supporting children to become educated individuals. Every 8 weeks we devise 8 developmental 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 their targets 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 key worker.

### Learning through play

Whilst children are involved in self-directed learning they move freely between indoor and outdoor areas using the resources which best meet their needs. The aim of both indoor and outdoor play is to provide a stimulating environment for children's learning in all areas of the Early Years curriculum. Outdoor play is essential for all aspects of a child's development. As with indoor learning, the outdoor classroom can provide children with experiences which enable them to develop in the seven learning areas. The provision and planning for indoor and outdoor play, must reflect the range of experiences and develop interests of the children. The adults in the learning environment are actively involved with children in their games and activities where appropriate and are not solely in a supervisory role.

### Tapestry online learning journal

Tapestry is one of the many ways we maintain strong partnerships with all of our parents, careers and family members. Tapestry is an online tracking and observation system that we use to monitor and record your child's learning experiences through capturing their 'wow' moments and photographs. Tapestry is also used to communicate weekly learning opportunities your child will experience that week in the setting, and all nursery news. When you start with us, you will be sent an

email activation link from us that you need to click and complete in order to set up your Tapestry account. You will then be able to access your child's online learning journal. You can also add more relatives if you like so that all the family can view your child's journal online. You can upload home observations and pictures which will provide a holistic view of your child's achievements which we strongly encourage.

### Home learning

We encourage parents to complete activities at home set by the nursery which are available for you to find on your Tapestry account. We would love to see you upload any learning at home observation from yourself. This can include a photo or a snip it observation of your child doing the home learning activity. This will help capture a strong fit of your child's development, not only from nursery contribution but also from contribution from parent involvement. We encourage you to contribute by making small observations at home and uploading them onto Tapestry. We have 'WOW cards' available for you to take home if you see a wow moment, you can simply write this down and bring back into nursery. This achievement will celebrated 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.

## Beach School

Beach Schools is a fantastic learning opportunity in order to enable our children to have endless opportunities to explore and learn in a large natural space. Beach schools accommodates all of the different ways children learn and develop which we tailor to children's individual needs, as well as exploring the dynamics of working as a team. As the world around us is always changing, new learning opportunities are

always available. We provide all in one wet suits and spare wellington boots if needed in the nursery, but we do encourage all parents to bring their child's own wellington boots and to dress their child according to the weather. This is so all children can access the great opportunities outdoors, no matter the weather.



## Forest School

Being outdoors enables exploration, discovery and understanding of the natural world and its resources that are visible to us. Children need the opportunity to explore, understand and discover themselves on an emotional and exploratory level. Learning through nature holds fantastic opportunities for all children. We want to give our children the opportunity to experience the awe and wonder of learning in nature. We believe in providing opportunities for children to get hands-on and develop confidence in a natural environment.

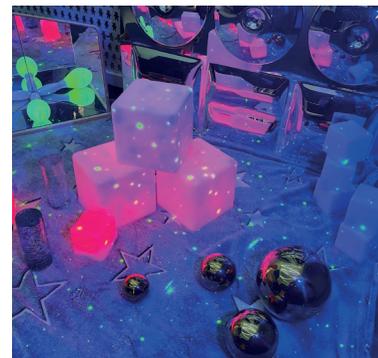
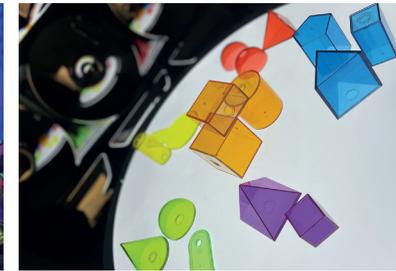
Over the past years forest school learning has become more popular and we wanted to embrace this learning opportunity. We plan forest school activities in order to meet children's individual next steps and their interests. We enjoy gathering the natural resources outdoors and creating something the children are proud of, out of nature. Being outdoors is a fantastic opportunity for children to hone in on the different sounds of nature and listen out for the environmental sounds.



## Multi-Sensory Room

We have recently developed a new sensory space suitable for all aged children throughout the nursery, to escape, unwind and let their exploratory mind come alive. The room is tailored to the different age bands and this learning experience teaches children 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.





## Our Buttercups Room Babies 0-2 years

**Buttercups is made up of three large playrooms, a sheltered and secure outdoor space accessible in all weather, a private changing area and small preparation kitchen. Each play space is thoughtfully planned out to inspire our very young children to explore the large variety of activities that are carefully planned around the EYFS curriculum and child's own interests.**

Here at Summerfield we believe that a child centred approach enables the child to be confident to play and learn. We pride ourselves on creating a home from home feel within our buttercups room, displaying family photographs, providing low level comfortable soft furnishing and rugs. These are just some of the things we provide to make our spaces warm and welcoming.

Each room is used for a specific purpose, and the children can free flow through each of the rooms and outdoor space, giving them independence to explore safely.

Room one is the perfect space to participate in small group circle times where we share stories, carry out babbling baby activities and sing songs together. There is a low-level sofa that the cruisers and climbers can confidently access and there is access to discovery, construction and imaginary play toys all at the child's level. As well as den areas where they can seek out their own chill out zones.

Room two is our calm sensory and sleep space. The windows have black out blinds, so it is a calm dark place to rest and sleep. We have a large variety of low level sensory and heuristic play baskets for the children to explore and discover and lots of low-level displays and mirrors. It is a beautiful calming place to listen to music and relax whilst looking at our twinkly projection lights.

Room three is where all the mess happens! This room has been created to be our messy playroom, with sand, water, painting, mark making and sensory activities available at all times. This encourages babies natural urge to explore and discover the world around them, we get to be as creative as we like developing our fine and gross motor skills, widening our imagination and sparking our curiosity.

Our outdoor space consists of a physical play area, cosy corner, large sand and ball pit, a sensory garden and role play area. We have small hidey dens to encourage small communication spaces and sheltered areas so the garden can be used in all weathers.



## Our Tulip Room Toddlers 2-3 years

**Tulips is made up of two large rooms, a cloakroom and a private toilet and changing area. The room has direct access to two secure outdoor play areas. One of which is sheltered to allow access in all weathers. Each room is carefully planned to ensure it meets the need of our toddler age children. Each of the rooms has a different purpose, and children are able to free flow between the rooms and outdoor spaces, this gives them the choice of what activities they would like to participate in.**

Children at this age are becoming more independent and learning new skills each and every day. Our staff work closely with children in developing speech, language and communication skills. They will 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.

The first room is a beautiful space to relax in our book area, the role play corner provides ample opportunities for children to use their imagination and pretend play. We have an exploration area with a wide range of open-ended resources for the children to make sense of the world around them including small world resources. There is a mark making area with a variety of resources to practice early writing skills and develop fine motor skills.

In our second room we have a large space for messy and creative play, with sand, water, painting, mark making and sensory activities available at all times. This encourages our toddler children to explore a large variety of sensory and messy activities whilst exploring their creativity skills. Their artwork is proudly displayed, and they are able to self-select resources that they would like to use.

The Tulips have direct access to two large outdoor areas where they are able to 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.

We are able to explore outside of the nursery grounds using the nursery prams and reins. We enjoy going out into the community and exploring our local forest parks. We also are able to go out on the mini bus on educational outings based on the children's interests and upcoming events.



## Our Poppy Room Pre-school 3-4 years

The rooms within Poppies offer a wide range of play and learning activities to enhance your child's development through the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

The children's interests play a huge part in the planning process and our experienced staff are very much in tune with their children to ensure they are planning for each child's individual needs. Each area of the room is carefully considered to inspire children and cover all areas of their learning.

Whilst children are involved in self-directed learning they move freely between indoor and outdoor areas using the resources which best meet their needs. The aim of both indoor and outdoor play is to provide a stimulating environment for children's learning in all areas of the Early Years curriculum. We believe that outdoor play is essential for all aspects of development. As with indoor learning, our outdoor classroom can provide children with experiences which enable them to develop in the seven learning areas.

There are many opportunities for the children to explore and become curious within their environment. We also go on regular trips to the beach, park, church, forest and other surrounding areas. It is important for development to have regular visits within our local community as this offers a range of experiences they cannot always get from within a setting.

As the Poppies room is the pre school year for our children we have a high focus on preparing the children for school life. This includes PE lessons in our newly developed physical room, activities based on letters and sounds, early literacy and maths skills and small group work.

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 so have an accurate baseline to reach their early learning goals in their reception year at school.

## Contact Information

Contact us on: **01253 722159**

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Visit us: [netstar9-childcare/summerfield](http://netstar9-childcare/summerfield)



"I've sent all three of my children to School House over the past nine years. My youngest is about to enter the pre-school room, and we will be extremely sad to leave next July. I couldn't recommend the nursery enough. The staff are amazing. They go over and beyond for the children. Always doing a range of activities that look fun. Thank you."

"The staff are absolutely amazing. The care provided to the children is outstanding. The staff have helped my child develop and learn in an outstanding environment. Highly recommended. My child is extremely happy attending the nursery."

"My daughter has been at the nursery since she was 13-months-old and I can see the growth and change in her development. The nursery is a lovely setting and is very welcoming and accommodating. Provide a great service and lots of activities. Would recommend this nursery to others."

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