



# LITTLE RACCOONS DAY NURSERY

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# WELCOME

**Welcome to Little Raccoons Day Nursery. We hope that you find this brochure a useful and informative introduction to our day nurseries.**

When your child joins our nursery, you too become a part of our Little Raccoons' family. We seek to promote a shared commitment to the success of each individual child, by encouraging parent partnership in the life and work of the nursery.



## PHILOSOPHY

Our aim is to provide the highest quality childcare in a happy, relaxed and secure environment.

To achieve this we aim to nurture each child by attending to their unique individual needs.

We actively follow their development needs from a young infant through to a confident pre-schooler, allowing your child to grow through exploring, discovering and learning.







# ABOUT US

**Little Raccoons Day Nurseries are independent nurseries that are personally managed. We came about as a result of being unable to find suitable childcare for our own child that met our high expectations and provided a friendly, family feel. We opened our first nursery in 2011 and have continued to grow to meet the increasing demand for high quality childcare.**

We believe in a nursery that offers the big thinking and experience of the large national chains, combined with our caring, attentive and well trained team to give you the very best in childcare. Our aim is to nurture your child and ensure they are comfortable in their surroundings at all times.

Our staff are committed to the happiness of the children. They are always keen to offer support and advice to parents as required. We provide excellent facilities enabling us to care for and educate all children within groups suitable for their age and stage of development.

Little Raccoons are well designed and equipped to the highest standards to allow your child to develop and grow.

**“THE MANAGER AND STAFF ARE EXTREMELY WELCOMING AND DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THE VERY BEST CARE FOR CHILDREN”**

OFSTED 2019





# EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

All of our nurseries follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The EYFS sets standards for learning and development from birth to 5 years old.

We are a “learn through play” nursery. Our teams are trained to use learning through play as a means for developing children in all areas.

## Prime areas

- ✓ Personal, Social & Emotional development
- ✓ Communication and language
- ✓ Physical Development

We strongly focus on the prime areas with our younger children aged under two. The prime areas create a foundation of all learning and development to prepare them to enter the specific areas of learning, explained below.

## Specific areas

- ✓ Literacy
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Understanding of the world
- ✓ Expressive arts & design



We take into consideration all of the children’s interests and plan accordingly covering all the areas of learning. This is achieved through adult led activities and child initiated activities. We understand that children learn in different ways and so we provide suitable teaching and resources.

The environment is equipped according to the age bands of the children and we also encourage the children to explore the natural environment and resources.

The nursery is set out so that the children can use their independent skills to help themselves and help their peers. We ensure that we support the children appropriate to their age and stage capability. The nursery aims to provide children with the greatest knowledge and confidence so that they are well prepared when transitioning to primary school.





# HEALTHY EATING



The nursery prides itself on providing children with a healthy balanced diet. Our menus are created following the early years' guidelines. All our meals are freshly cooked and we ensure we cater to all of the children's dietary needs.

Meal times do not only involve eating but also the social aspect of eating; learning to feed themselves, promoting good table manners and to be able to socialise with their peers around the table. The nursery encourages our Practitioners to join in on the children's mealtimes. This gives the Practitioners opportunities to promote good manners and role model positive social skills.

The nursery will actively work with you when your child is transitioning to solid foods. We use a weaning menu which will be altered according to the age and stage of your child. Parents are encouraged to introduce new foods at home first before we give it to them at nursery, to ensure they are not intolerant .

We provide three meals a day, snacks and water/milk. The menu can be found displayed in the nursery or can be requested.



7:30-8:30	<b>Breakfast</b> A selection of cereal, porridge and bread.
10:00	<b>Morning snack</b> Selection of fresh fruit
11:30	<b>Lunch</b> Hot meal followed by a healthy dessert
1:45	<b>Afternoon snack</b> Selection of fresh fruit / dry food
3:45	<b>Afternoon tea</b> Selection of light hot / cold meal

Water/Milk is available throughout the day.







# OUTDOOR PLAY

**All of our nurseries have a stimulating outdoor area, allowing the children to explore, investigate and take risks. All of our outdoor areas have a planting area so that children are able to plant, maintain and watch plants grow; this enables them to gain an understanding of the natural world around us.**

Our outdoor areas have a variety of sections to support EYFS so that children can access all areas of learning outdoors.

Physical development is a prime area of education which supports the child in their learning and development; children need to be active as this is vital for their health and wellbeing. We provide a free-flow facility so that children can play outside when they desire in all weather conditions and of course we ensure the children are dressed appropriately.







## OUR TEAM

**All of our staff are fully DBS checked and have attained the appropriate qualifications.**

We review our staff on a regular basis. We strive to train our staff thoroughly in their induction period and throughout their time with us, so that they are able to promote our ethos confidently and provide the highest quality of care.

We have an open door policy so that all staff can speak openly to their manager about their needs, ideas or any assistance required. This approach transcends to ensure happy staff, which in turn reflects in their teaching, resulting in happy children at Little Raccoons.



**“STAFF ARE GOOD TEACHERS AND SHOW ENTHUSIASM IN THEIR INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN”**

OFSTED 2019



# KEY PERSON

**At Little Raccoons Day Nursery we run a key person system so that when your child joins us they will be allocated their key person. They will be introduced to you and your child on their first settle session.**

The aim of your child's key person is to build a special relationship with your child and to understand their individual needs alongside the EYFS framework. The key person will be responsible for tracking your child's learning development and to ensure that their activities are planned effectively.

Your child's key person will be available for you to speak to and if they are away, there is a secondary key person.

We actively promote high quality teaching and care that meets the age and stage requirements of the children.

**“CHILDREN ARRIVE EAGER TO LEARN AND ARE HAPPY AND SETTLED. A STRONG KEY-PERSON SYSTEM HELPS THE CHILDREN TO FORM SECURE ATTACHMENTS WITH STAFF”**

**OFSTED 2018**







## TESTIMONIALS

"From the minute I walked into the nursery I knew my daughter would be happy here. When I pick her up she is happy and I am sure she has enjoyed her day thoroughly."

**Nikki Gale**

"Our 8 months old son and 2 year old daughter really love the nursery. The staff enjoy their job which is a blessing for all. We recommend Little Raccoons to everyone."

**Manon Vrielink**

"An absolutely wonderful nursery! The staff are friendly and welcoming. My son is always happy when I drop him off, his vocal skills have improved dramatically, he is well looked after, has plenty of healthy meals, has become much more social, independent and picked up potty training earlier than anticipated. I am 100% confident as a parent when I drop him off that he is receiving the best care available and I would highly recommend it to anyone."

**Emma McAra**

"Thank you so much for giving my child the best start to his education and everything you have done. I really appreciate everything!"

**Cassell Johnson**

"After viewing many nurseries I can safely say that Little Raccoons is by far the best, my son is very happy here."

**Lisa Hawley**

"As a parent and a childcare professional I could not be happier with this setting. My daughter has settled in very quickly and is learning a lot. I feel this is down to the outstanding care that is given."

**Rachel Chapman**



## "AN ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL NURSERY!"







**PINNER NURSERY**

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