



Welcome to Little Badgers Nursery



Updated March 2022



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We are delighted that you have chosen Little Badgers Nursery for your child's pre-school education and are really looking forward to working closely with your family to give your child the best possible start to their educational journey.

We hope that this handbook will be useful as your child starts Nursery at Little Badgers and hopefully will be a valuable reference throughout your time with us. Our staff will be happy to answer any questions that you may have so please do come and ask.

At Little Badgers the children meet in their own classroom situated within the school and we have a spacious outside learning environment which is easily accessible from the classroom. The children learn through free flow activities, supported by adults, both inside and outside all year round.

The Nursery Team

Mrs Wells is the Nursery Teacher and she is supported by a team of Early Years practitioners.



Mrs Wells

Children's Learning

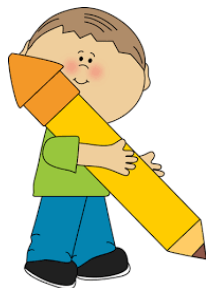
Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)

The EYFS sets the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five years of age. There are four key guiding principles which shape practice and underpin the EYFS curriculum:

A Unique Child
Positive Relationships
Enabling Environments
Learning and Development

There are seven areas of learning and development which are interconnected. Three of these are seen as the prime focus for healthy development of pre-school aged children. They are seen as the foundations of learning and are known as the Prime Areas:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Communication and Language
Physical Development



There are a further 4 areas of learning known as the Specific Areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

The Nursery follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and all the Areas of Learning are planned for and delivered through a range of activities according to the needs and interests of the children. There is a balance of activities led by the children and those guided by adults. Learning is developed individually, in small groups and some whole class sessions. There is free access to activities both inside and outdoors, with learning activities set up for children to access at all times.

During their time at nursery the children's development will be recorded in an online learning journal called Tapestry, which includes photographs, notable achievements and progress statements. This is available for parents to access and add photos and comments to.

Key Person System

As our Nursery teacher Mrs Wells is the key person for all children, supported by all of the nursery staff. Each week we have a focus group and all members of staff will engage in activities with and do observations of every child in that focus group, taking photographs and recording progress. All staff will share their observations and discuss each child's progress and next steps throughout the focus week enabling all members of staff to develop close relationships with all the children.

We offer parents evenings at set times throughout the year where parents can discuss their child's progress and development with Mrs Wells. If there is anything that you would like to talk about at any time, please catch Mrs Wells at drop off or pick up time, or you are welcome to make an appointment, phone or email her if you prefer.

Starting Nursery

When you arrive at Nursery to drop your child off for their session, please line up outside the wooden gate. Staff will be at the gate to welcome your child and support them with hanging up their coat and bag and then coming into nursery.



Our Nursery day



The Nursery opens at 9am (8.45am on Weds). The children will self register by taking their named badger from outside and putting it onto our number line inside.

They will choose from a wide selection of activities in nursery. When Mrs Wells shakes the tambourine we stop, look and listen, then we tidy up and sit on the carpet for group time. We do our day of the week and weather charts and then we may sing, do some phonics, some counting, finding out about something or play a game.



We then have free flow time when the children can choose to engage in activities inside and/or outside in the garden. We all change from our shoes into our wellies when we go outside.

The snack bar opens during free flow time. Every session the children can choose from a selection of fruit, vegetables and crackers or breadsticks, with milk or water to drink. Sometimes we have toast, crumpets, pancakes or sandwiches. Snack is supplied by Nursery.



When Mrs Wells shakes the tambourine we stop, look and listen and all help tidy up at the end of our free flow time. We change from our wellies to our shoes and go inside and sit on the carpet.

We wash our hands and go into the hall for our lunch with Reception. On Wednesday we have a story, sing our home song and go home.



After lunch we have free flow indoors and outdoors. Sometimes we will go into the hall for write dance or movement sessions and we will visit the library regularly to borrow and change our library books. (Please purchase a nursery book bag from Brenda's School Wear). We have music times in the Nursery singing and playing musical instruments.



At 3pm (3.15pm on Wednesday) we have a story and sing our home song. We get ready to go home and meet our parents at the gate.

The 'home tray' lives in the trolley inside the door. We will show the children where it is so they can put any belongings, such as drawings or jumpers, into it during their session.

When you collect your child from Nursery please line up outside the wooden gate and the staff will call your child when you arrive.

Please make sure that the children leave special things and toys at home, unless it is a book or item of interest related to our learning that the children would like to show. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Snacks

The Nursery operates a free flow snack bar each session, consisting of water, milk, fruit, vegetables and a range of other foods such as breadsticks and cheese and biscuits. We learn about healthy eating and the children will be encouraged to help prepare, serve and clear away snack afterwards.

From time to time and at certain times the children will sample different foods from around the world or will try cooking food for themselves. If your child has any food sensitivities, please speak to Mrs Wells.



Lunches

The children stay for lunch on either Monday and Tuesday, or Thursday and Friday depending in their session. Little Badgers eat in the hall with the Reception classes and are supported by two members of staff from Nursery. Children can bring a packed lunch or have a meal from the school kitchen for which there is an extra charge. Menus are available in Nursery.

Packed lunches should not contain any nuts (including peanut butter and Nutella), sweets or fizzy drinks please. Please ensure that the packed lunch has manageable portion sizes for your child.



Allergies and Medication

We will ask you to complete this information on our admission form. Before you start Nursery, we will also discuss any medical information at the stay and play session and create a care plan if necessary. A form must be signed and the prescription label showing the child's name seen before the Nursery can administer any medicine.

Illness

If your child is unwell, please inform the school office by telephone. Certain illnesses, such as chicken pox is notifiable. Please ask when it is appropriate for your child to return to Nursery to prevent the spread of infection. Our school policy is that a child should not return to Nursery until **48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea**. If your child needs Calpol or are on antibiotics, then they are not well enough to come to Nursery.

Toileting

Children do not have to be toilet trained before starting Nursery. We ask that families provide spare nappies and wipes for children that need them. When you start to toilet train we ask that you let us know so that we can support you and your child.



Safeguarding

The Nursery has a duty to safeguard all the children in their care. All staff are trained to adhere to the safeguarding policy and we are also guided by the local authority child protection procedures. All staff have an enhanced DBS check and are trained in first aid.

Mrs Wells is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Nursery.

How Parents can support the Nursery

You can help us by ensuring that we are kept informed of important developments with your child, letting us know if they will not be in Nursery for holidays or illness and provide the necessary items for them on a day to day basis at Nursery.

Children should wear clothes that are comfortable and easy for them to pull on and off by themselves for toileting. Please ensure that the children wear clothes that can get dirty and messy. Although we provide aprons for sand, water and craft play we remind and support the children to use these, there will be times that they become unavoidably messy as part of their learning.

Please bring in a named bag with a full change of clothes
(plus nappies and wipes if needed.)

The children will need a named pair of wellies which can be kept at Nursery and a named coat suitable for the weather.



Sun Cream in the Summer Term

If you have consented to your child having sun cream applied by our nursery team during the summer month, please provide a named bottle that we can keep in nursery to apply when necessary.

Partnership with Families

We aim to give as much information and support as possible to our families. We have an open door policy which provides daily contact with staff members. We also send out regular newsletters and display important or useful information on our outside and internal noticeboards.

Further information is also available on the school website Nursery page at www.sandringham.kite.academy.

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Sessions

We are open term time only and provide two block sessions per week.



Ladybirds session:

Monday 9am - 3pm

Tuesday 9am - 3pm

Wednesday morning 8:45am - 11:45am

Butterflies session:

Wednesday afternoon 12:15pm to 3:15pm

Thursday 9am - 3pm

Friday 9am - 3pm



Children are eligible for up to 15 hours free Nursery education with the Early Years Free Entitlement (EYFE) funding the term after they turn 3 years old.

We also have some spaces for children who are eligible for the free entitlement for 2 year old funding (FEET).

The cost per week for those not eligible for funding is £97.50. **Payments must be made during the first week of each half term and can be made by bank transfer or childcare vouchers.**

If you have any queries regarding booking and paying for sessions and lunches, or regarding funding and free hours, please contact Mrs Cable in the school office: sarah.cable@sandringham.kite.academy

We are looking forward to sharing this important and exciting step of your child's journey with them, with you and your family.