

What babies learn

In the baby room, we focus mostly on their prime areas for learning and development:

- Personal , Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

We also introduce them to the specific areas:

- Early Mathematics
- Early Literacy
- Expressive Arts and Design
- Understanding the World

We encourage babies to explore, participate in heuristic play, play alongside others, develop a love for books and songs, build their communication skills, develop their motor skills and more.

Transition to Toddlers (Farm or Safari room)

The nursery is very open so babies can see the toddlers' Farm area, staff and children from the baby room.

When a child is turning two years old, or when they seem ready, their Key Person will take them to the toddlers area for visits.

Their Key Person will help settle the child and build their confidence with the new toddlers Key Person, environment and routine.

The child will then have settling sessions in the toddlers area without their baby room Key Person.

The time spent in the toddlers area will gradually increase



Early Years Education for Sustainable Development
Bronze Award - April 2023



Runner Up
Nursery of the Year (South)

- National Nursery Recognition Awards 2020



Hythe Bay Children's Centre Nursery

The Baby Garden

Babies aged 3-24 months. Open Monday - Friday 8am-6pm.



Charity Number: 1175752 Ofsted URN: EY556679

Daily Routine

The daily routine is flexible to the individual child's needs. We like to keep to the same routine that the babies have at home.

8:00-8:45	Breakfast Time
8:45-9:00	Relaxation Time
9:00-10:00	Free Play, Sensory / Messy Play
10:00-10:30	Morning Snack
10:30-11:45	Free-Flowing Child-Initiated Play
11:45-12:00	Song / Story
12:00-12:45	Lunch Time
12:45-1:00	Relaxation Time, Morning Session Ends
1:00-2:00	Afternoon Session Starts, Sensory / Messy Play
2:00-2:30	Afternoon Snack
2:30-3:45	Free-Flowing Child-Initiated Play
3:45-4:15	Song / Story
4:15-4:45	Light Tea
4:45-6:00	Child-Initiated Play

Sessions

Morning 8:00-1:00 (includes breakfast, morning snack and lunch)

Afternoon 1:00-6:00 (includes afternoon snack and light tea)

Short Day 8:00-4:00 (includes breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack)

Long Day 8:00-6:00 (includes breakfast, morning snack, lunch, afternoon snack, and light tea)

The role of the Key Person / Buddy:

- ◆ To get to know the child and build a relationship with them, to help them feel happy and secure at nursery.
- ◆ To communicate and build a relationship with the child's family
- ◆ To respond sensitively to the child's needs (e.g. nappy, milk, sleep)
- ◆ To plan, track and monitor the child's progress and development
- ◆ To offer parents' meetings to discuss the child's progress.
- ◆ To work with any relevant professionals including the special educational needs and disabilities co-ordinator, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, specialist teachers and occupational therapists.

Activities

We use 'in-the-moment' planning, following the children's interests. We set up the room and garden to be welcoming and stimulating for each child. We interact with the children to help extend their learning and development.

Babies explore activities, books and sensory trays linked to our nursery curriculum topics. Our curriculum is based on children's interests, natural changes, cultural experiences and children's next steps.

Home Visits and Settling

We encourage parents and carers to accept our offer of a home visit for children starting nursery or moving room. It's an opportunity to talk about your child and what you want from nursery and to ask any questions you might have.

Settling focuses on the children feeling safe in the environment with their parent present, forming a bond with their key person, and then becoming comfortable to explore by themselves. We recommend a parent attends the nursery with their child for the baby's settling sessions, gradually reducing parent contact until the child has bonded with the key person and the parent can say goodbye to the baby.