

RISING STARS DAY CARE

NURSERY PROSPECTUS

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Dear Parent,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding Rising Stars Day Nursery.

Rising Stars Day Nursery is registered with OFSTED and Bexley Early Years Department. The nursery is located in Thamesmead Central.

Staffs are fully qualified with many years of experience in early years. Our staffs recognise and understand that all children are individuals with a variety of need and with different learning patterns. The training received by our staff enables them to recognise and provide the appropriate learning environment and care that develops the child's individual growth with a view to maximising each child full potential

I hope you will take the opportunity of reading the prospectus to learn about the school. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any matters further.

I look forward to welcoming you and your child in the future

Proprietor

Prospectus - Aims

It is our aim at Rising Stars Day Care that every child develops a lively, enquiring mind, feels happy, safe and secure, and fulfils his or her potential in every aspect of progress and growth.

To achieve this we provide a well-resourced, stimulating environment that:

- protects and nurtures the well-being and health of the child;
- encourages active learners to question and gain in confidence and motivation;
- encourages a sense of belonging and active involvement in the education process for children and their families;
- ensures that opportunities for learning are fair and each child's contribution and individuality is valued, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, age or background;
- recognises, promotes and protects the language and symbols of our own and other cultures;
- recognises that children learn through exploration;
- values and promotes play as providing meaningful learning;
- provides a broad, balanced curriculum that meets the needs of each child, reflecting the areas of learning set out in national guidelines for 3 - 5 year olds;
- provides opportunities for children to take responsibility and to share in decisions that affect them;
- Recognises that the acquisition of knowledge and skills should be planned and appropriate to each child's needs.

We are confident that this approach will give lasting benefits to our children and lay secure foundations for the next stage of schooling.

About Our Nursery School

The Aim of the Nursery

Our aim is for the children to have the opportunity to learn through play and new experiences and to develop individual skills at their own pace in a supportive environment where they are positively encouraged, valued and respected; and for the children to be happy in our care

Prospectus - Daily Sessions

Rising Stars Day Care offers full time and part time sessions with places for 20 children to attend each session. Session times are:

Full Time: 7.30am – 6.00pm

Part time:

Morning Session: 7.30am – 12.30pm

Afternoon Session: 1.00pm – 6.00pm

Five days a week

All sessions offer high quality nursery provision.



CHILD'S CURRICULUM EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE FRAMEWORK

The Curriculum - Areas of Learning

At Rising Stars Day Care the curriculum is based on the provision of a full range of planned and spontaneous learning experiences.

The planned curriculum is based on the guidance recommended by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). It promotes activities that lay secure foundations for future learning. This is referred to as the Early Years Foundation Stage and provides the framework for children's learning from birth until the end of their Reception class year.



The Early Years Foundation Stage guidelines are based around six broad areas of learning:

[Personal, Social and Emotional Development](#)
[Communication, Language and Literacy](#)
[Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy](#)
[Knowledge and Understanding of the World](#)
[Physical](#)
[Creative](#)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This area is concerned with emotional well-being, knowing who you are and where you fit in. It is about children's view of themselves; their self-esteem and their relationships with others. Children are naturally interested in other people and we offer opportunities to help to develop independence, confidence and resourcefulness as well as their understanding of:



relationships, feelings and needs;
acceptable social behaviour;
right and wrong;
the world around them - the people in their community and those in the wider world;
The diversity of cultures (different customs and festivals).

Communication, Language and Literacy

It is through language that children learn and make sense of the world around them. Language, written and spoken, enables children to explain themselves, interact with others and to organise their thoughts.

We offer children many opportunities to speak and to listen; to express their ideas in words and in pictures; to share a rich variety of stories and poetry and a love for books and language.



We develop knowledge and understanding of print and that it conveys meaning; that it is possible to record language; that letters stand for something; that print flows in a particular direction and that the alphabet has upper and lower case letters.

Mathematical



The use of mathematical language to help develop concepts during a range of activities forms the foundations on which mathematical understanding is based.

Knowledge and understanding of number; shape and space; pattern; symmetry and positional relationships; measure (time, weight, length, capacity) are all explored. The first hand experiences we offer the children help them to sort, count, sequence, measure and compare.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Children learn about themselves and the world around them and begin to make sense of their world. We provide opportunities for children to find out about past and present events in their own lives; to explore their environment and to learn about other living things.

Children develop knowledge and understanding of materials and their properties; of why things happen and how things work. They design and make models using tools and equipment and use information technology to support their work.



We provide the opportunities that will help children to develop enquiring minds and the skills of observation, prediction, problem solving and experimentation.

Physical

Through the daily nursery routines we encourage children to develop the skills of physical control, co-ordination, movement and manipulation. We help children gain confidence in what they can do and to feel the positive benefits of being healthy and active indoors and out.

We provide opportunities that allow the children to develop knowledge and understanding of how their bodies work; of health and hygiene; the need for safety; how to move with confidence and increasing control; to improve their fine motor skills.



Creative



Children learn through their senses. They need time and opportunity to explore and experiment with ideas and materials; to develop their own ideas and to be imaginative; to observe carefully and to develop the ability to use a variety of tools and techniques.

We help children to develop a knowledge and understanding of texture, colour and shape; of drawing and painting; musical forms and rhythm; and of imaginative play, drama and dance.

Staff:

The staffs at Rising Stars Day Care has been selected on their ability to provide warm and consistent care and for their understanding of developing physical, emotional and intellectual needs of the children in their care. All staffs are required not only to hold the relevant qualifications but also to have experience in the field within which they will be working. Including some of our staffs who are qualified First Aiders. Staff will attend regular external training. All staffs at the nursery undergo an Enhanced Disclosure CRB check before starting their employment with Rising Stars.

We will try to assist Local Colleges and other child care courses providers by allowing them to place students at Rising Stars for limited training periods. Any students training at Rising Stars are in addition to and not instead of, our regular staff.

Premises and Equipment

This large detached house has been extended to provide spacious and light nursery accommodation. The ground floor is solely for nursery use and includes four main rooms for the children's activities. The low level safety windows to the side and rear give the children the unusual benefit of having views into the garden. Our garden is to the rear of the nursery and is completely secured.

We have provided the recommended safety surface for outside play. We provide an extensive range of developmentally appropriate equipment which is carefully chosen in order to further children's development in all areas.

Provision of Facilities

The nursery is open from 7.30 AM until 6.00 PM Monday to Friday. We are open all year apart from Bank Holidays and about a week off over the Christmas Holidays. All children are registered with a regular booking pattern. This can be any combination of full time or morning and afternoon sessions depending on your requirements and our vacancies. Once confirmed these sessions may be altered, increased or decreased by arrangement and parents/carers completing our Change Request Form.

Settling in and Parental Involvement

We want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents, to recognise other adults as a source of authority, help and friendship and to be able to share with their parents afterwards the new learning experiences enjoyed in the nursery. We invite new children to at least one accompanied introductory visit prior to starting. Any parent wishing to remain with their child is welcome to do so. We are pleased to receive all parental enquiries concerning children particularly in the early stages of settling in. We are more than happy for children to bring their comforters with them, dummies, blankets, teddies etc.

For the first few sessions we recommend that your child is collected around 30 - 45 minutes before the end of the session.

Key Workers and Child Records

Each child is allocated a key worker who is responsible for continuously observing and recording development in all areas. Periodically they will make notes and collect examples of work to enter into the child's record folder. To build a greater link between nursery and home we ask for parents to examine their child's folder and/or take a copy home to add comments, observations, pictures, photographs and anything else that you would like to include.

On Becoming Ill at Nursery

If a child becomes ill at nursery the senior nursery officer will endeavour to contact a parent or, failing that, an alternative contact person, as named on the registration form. If necessary, first aid will be given by a trained first aider and/or transport to casualty will be arranged. All accidents and injuries are recorded and collectors are informed.

Medication

Medicines should only be brought when this is essential. Medicines will only be accepted that have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist. Written parental permission with clear instructions must be obtained prior to any medication being administered.

Any known allergies or sun protection cream should be noted to your registration form.

Collection

On registration the Nursery will ask for details and a clear passport size photograph of each person you have authorised to collect your child.

Only responsible, named adults will be allowed to collect your child.

If a non-listed person is to collect your child, please give us advance warning and ask the collector to bring identification.

Providing a Healthy Diet

All meals are cooked on the premises. We provide healthy, nutritious food for our children with an emphasis on fresh fruit and vegetables. Children receive a morning snack, a cooked lunch with dessert and a substantial afternoon tea. Any special dietary requirements are catered for. Fruit juice, milk or water is given at least 4 times throughout the day and a drinking fountain provides water at any time. We have a weekly delivery of an organic vegetable box that supplements our fresh produce.

We aim to reduce artificial colours, sweeteners and preservatives where possible in line with guidance from the Children's Hyperactive Support Group. Menus are published on the board for parents / carers to view. Sweets and fizzy drinks are not normally consumed during nursery hours and any brought in will be kept in the kitchen and returned to the child at home time.

Clothes / belongings

Please provide a pair of slippers /sock for your child to change into on arrival at nursery. It is helpful for the children to be dressed in comfortable, washable and easily manageable clothes as we will be doing a lot of creative and physical activities. Please keep personal non-essential items e.g. toys and books from home to a minimum. These will all be kept in the child's 'Tidy Bag' when not in use. Each child will need to bring a spare set of clothes and a suitable outdoor coat. Please ensure that these are clearly labelled.

Any belongings brought from home need to be kept in the 'tidy bag' on the child's peg. Please do not use plastic carrier bags or back packs as an alternative.

Personal Management

The children's toilet area is designed to enable children to be as independent as they can. We have child height basins and toilets or potties if your child prefers. Please dress your child in nursery uniforms and provide changing clothes that are as easy as possible for your child to manage quickly.

Many children start at the Nursery while still in nappies. This presents no problem as we will continue with your toilet training program. Please supply wipes and nappies. Children are encouraged to clean their teeth after meals so please bring a toothbrush from home.

Rest – Chill out time

All full day children are encouraged to have a quiet period after lunch during which time they may listen to a story or gentle music.

Admissions Policy

Rising Stars Day Care provides full day care and operates between 7.30am and 6.00pm. We also offer a flexible sessions per day. We offer a Morning session and an Afternoon session from Monday to Friday. The nursery is open to families from all sections of the local community. Priority is given to families with children already attending. Our Nursery policy is to give priority to families wanting full day care. The nursery reserves the right to offer places according to planning and Ofsted requirements.

Setting the Standards

The Nursery is registered with Ofsted to provide care and education for up to 20 children between the ages of 3 months and five years. Our Standards are derived from the Childcare Act 2006 and controlled through inspections by Ofsted, the Fire Service and the Environmental Health Department. All staff has Enhanced Disclosure clearance from the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) before having unsupervised access to children.

We maintain all required standards and aim to exceed those where possible. A copy of our latest inspection report is displayed on the parent's notice board.

Being small in number and occupying the ground floor and garden of a detached home we feel that we have created a particularly friendly, family atmosphere. A major contributing factor to this is our high staff to children ratio which is between **1:3, 1:4 and 1:8.**

Funding

Nursery Education Grant

We are Ofsted approved and are able to claim the Nursery Education Grant on behalf of all three year old children from the term after the term in which they have their 3rd birthday.

Working Families Tax Credit

As part of Working Tax Credit, some parents may qualify for extra help towards the cost of childcare. Depending on your current level of income, this help may be worth as much as 80p for every £1.00 a week you spend on approved childcare.

Two useful guides are:

Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit – “An Introduction” and “Help with the costs of Childcare – Information for parents and childcare providers”. Both pamphlets are available from Inland Revenue Order line 0845 9000 404.

Childcare Vouchers

Some employers operate a salary sacrifice scheme paying a portion of an employee’s salary in childcare vouchers. This has beneficial tax implications.

New Deal for Lone Parents

There is funding available for child care for lone parents wishing to return to work or study. Information is available at the Post Office or by contacting the Job Centre

The Next Step

If you are interested in applying for a place at Rising Stars Day Care or would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact us. If we have the space available it is advisable to register at your earliest convenience as places do not remain available for long. To do this you will need to register your interest online at www.risingstarsdaycare.co.uk or visit the nursery to complete our registration forms, agree to our terms and conditions and pay a month deposit. We will provide a warm, secure and stimulating environment enabling you to leave your child with us in confidence.

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