

Welcome to Catkins Nursery...

Catkins Nursery in Horsham opened in November 2015. We are situated just to the south side of the town with good access to the A24 and easy parking. The nursery is registered with 'Ofsted' and has just 24 child places. We are open from 8am to 6pm on weekdays for 50 weeks of the year. We are closed from Christmas Eve until the first working day after New Year, and for the first full working week in August. Fees are payable all year around.

The nursery is registered to care for two to five-year-old children and runs from a 'purpose run' building in Three Acres, just next to The Needles Children and Family Centre.

I own and manage Catkins and I successfully ran a playgroup in Southwater for 18 years with two 'Outstanding' and two 'Good' Ofsted outcomes. Catkins Nursery gained an 'Outstanding' outcome as a result of our first Ofsted inspection March 2018.

We are delighted with our 'Outstanding' setting which has a homely, relaxed feel, where each child can grow and learn from traditional values and high expectations.

I believe passionately in delivering high quality childcare, I aim to achieve high standards, and we are growing and developing as a strong and highly qualified staff team doing just that. I am a hands-on owner/manager and I am just as likely to be covered in paint or 'gloop' as the children!

A part of the day to day nursery routines are focussed on the children helping the nursery cooks to prepare food and taking part in cooking activities and even growing a few of our own herbs and vegetables, as well as a lot of fun, creative, messy play that we really enjoy... if we're a bit painty or muddy at the end of the day...we've had a good time! See what we get up to on Facebook too, at 'Catkins Nursery Horsham'.

Cathy Walden
(N.N.E.B)

Facilities:-

Catkins has a door entry system and a cloakroom area where the children find their picture and hang their coats up and change their shoes upon arrival. Leading off of the hall there are the children's toilets, also a corridor leading to the kitchen/staff room, staff bathroom and the separate nappy change/potty area. Catkins has one large main playroom which is decorated

in neutral tones with plenty of natural wooden toys and furniture, where the children are able to move around to access the activities on offer. There is a door from here to the outside area which has a soft surfaced play area.

Off of the main playroom to the rear of the building is the office and a 'quiet room' where children can take part in specific activities such as stories, phonics or maths work in small groups, or to explore 'treasure baskets'. This is also where the younger children can also have their sleep time after lunch.

Curriculum:-

Catkins offers a wide range of activities for your child with plenty of 'messy' play and an opportunity to socialise with other children and to follow the curriculum in developing their knowledge and learning in the seven areas of learning known as 'The Early Years Foundation Stage'. We employ a graduate teacher to lead the curriculum & we have an experienced and highly qualified staff team.

The 'wooded zone' has natural materials for play & an excellent selection of toys & equipment stored in well labelled boxes to ease self-choice.

Children have plenty of opportunity for 'free flow' fresh air & exercise in our outdoor area with a variety of activities, sand & water play, mark making, painting & gardening to name a few. We also have exclusive use of the family centre garden and sensory room facilities too, when it is shut to the public.

There are plenty of story and singing times throughout the day, and time to rest and 'recharge batteries' for children who attend all day.

We also try to go on walks occasionally to explore the local environment, to the play park and shops nearby, always on a ratio of 1:2 adults to children.

Meals and Snacks:-

Catkins has a fully fitted kitchen and employs a Nursery Cook and Assistant Cook, (both part time) & afternoon kitchen help. All allergies and any special dietary needs are catered for. All kitchen staff hold food hygiene certificates.

Breakfast, lunch, and a substantial tea is prepared, and all food is cooked on site for the children. Healthy and nutritious 'cooked from scratch' meals are carefully planned by the owner and cooks, using as many fresh ingredients, locally sourced where possible. We use British butter, free range eggs and organic milk with some organic vegetables. There is a wide variety of meals for the children to try and staff members sit and eat with the children in a calm and 'homely' atmosphere.

Staff:-

All nursery staff at 'Catkins' hold a current First Aid, Food Hygiene, Manual Handling, Health and Safety and Child Safeguarding qualification. Staff hold

appropriate Level 2/3 childcare qualifications and attend regular training courses. We also have students on training.

All staff have enhanced DBS records check & the recruitment procedure is thorough & robust in order to recruit high quality staff to care for your child.

Fees:-

The fees from September 2019 are £5.80p an hour, (fees are subject to a review each September). Varied session lengths mean you can tailor your child's day to your needs/work. Fees are payable monthly in advance. Unfortunately, we are unable to give refunds if a child is absent through sickness or holiday and a months' notice is required for children leaving nursery or reducing their days. Children attend all year around.

We are registered for several of the employer's 'voucher' schemes such as 'Kiddivouchers', 'Computershare', 'Endred' etc. Please ask for details once your child starts nursery if you are able to use these schemes or similar, through your employer, these methods have also been joined by the government 'Tax Free Childcare' scheme.

Currently from the term after children turn three years of age, they are eligible for a funded place through the Government Early Years 'Free Entitlement' (FE). You will be notified when that time arises, your child is then eligible for up to 11 hours of 'free' education per week stretched over the 50 weeks of the year. We also take some children on 30 hours of FE. Hours are allocated as specific 'FE' hours by the setting and a full policy regarding this is available upon request. Children may increase their sessions when they become eligible for FE, subject to availability. The time between 12-2pm falls outside of the FE pattern of delivery and is charged. Priority is given to children taking full days.

Catkins also takes 2yr old Free Entitlement. Should you think your 2-year-old is eligible for this, visit the WSCC website or enquire at the Needles Children and Family Centre for details of eligibility.

What to do next.....

Should you wish to put your child's name down on a waiting list for 'Catkins', please contact Cathy Walden for further information at the e-mail address opposite or telephone 01403 258962.

Please do telephone or e-mail us to visit the nursery, see us at play and view our clean and modern facilities.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.





Catkins Nursery

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