



A nurturing, warm environment dedicated to the holistic development of your child.



The Little Lighthouse Nursery

Prospectus

Section 01

Introduction

01 Introduction - Introduction & Location

A very warm welcome to the Little Lighthouse Nursery. A positive space where your little ones can flourish. We aim to create a stimulating and nurturing environment and are committed to embedding good manners and respect. Our mission is to ensure that we tend the development of each child in a holistic way, with a deep-rooted appreciation that every child is unique and ensuring that care is taken to develop the children's social and emotional development. We aspire to foster an intrinsic love of learning, that when your child is ready to fly the nest they are equipped for the adventures of Reception.

We are based in Huntingdon, in the heart of a village called Little Stukeley. We are fortunate that our setting is positioned on a brilliant plot of land with a picturesque outdoor area featuring a play park. The land naturally lends itself to programs such as, A Mile a Day, where children can engage in daily exercise in the comfort of the premises. We also have a small area to the front of the building where we are able to have outdoor reading sessions and teach forest school skills.



01 Introduction - About Us

Whilst most nurseries will have Early Years Practitioners, we are a niche in the area, as your children will have taught sessions throughout the day with a qualified Early Years and Primary School teacher. The teacher in the setting has qualified at Cambridge University and will therefore be offering your children the very best standard of pre-school education. The indoor area comprises of a large hall featuring our very own stage ready for nativities and pre-school graduations. The premises also includes a large kitchen area, where children can practice their culinary skills.

The children have access to two toilets that are checked half hourly for the upkeep of cleanliness. Potties are also available. Access to a disabled toilet is currently being newly built with a brand new baby changing facility. In addition, the building was recently extended, and features two new rooms - one of which is used as a sensory room. Each area of the room reflects one of the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum with Montessori practise and resources incorporated.



Section 02

Curriculum

We follow the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum** and adopt a play-based approach to learning, and so if when you ask your child what they have done and they continually

say, “I played”, then we have achieved our purpose as learning is deeply embedded in the independent play opportunities we provide for your children. You will also find hints of Montessori philosophy in what we do and what you see. There are 7 areas of learning, as per the EYFS curriculum which shape the learning environment. These areas are divided into three prime areas and four specific areas, all of which interconnect. The three prime areas are **Communication and**

Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. The four specific areas include, **Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World and Expressive Arts.** There are four key principles that will shape our setting, which are homogenous with the Montessori approach, is an understanding and deep rooted appreciation that **every child is unique** and is constantly learning, can be resilient, is capable, confident and self-assured. Children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**, children learn and develop well in **enabling environments** and children develop and learn at different rates. Please refer to the **Characteristics of Effective Learning.**

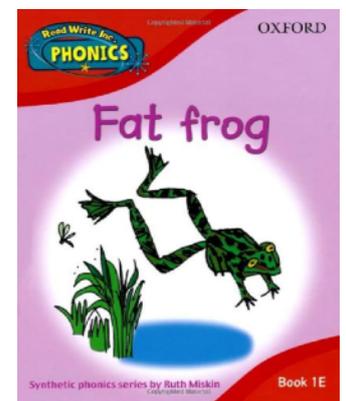
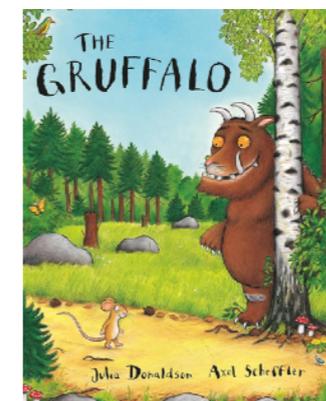
The Montessori approach promotes the idea that children are innately interested in learning and are naturally curious about the world around them. It encourages a hands on, independent and individualistic pace of learning, following the interests of each child. There are five areas of learning, which include, **Practical Life, Sensorial, Language, Mathematics and Culture.** The underpinning idea is that, “the education of even a small child...does not aim at preparing him for school but for life”.



02 Curriculum - Reading

When should you start reading with your child? From the womb! Which is why at The Little Lighthouse Nursery, every child, regardless of age, will be given a book to share each week. Pre-preschoolers will receive an additional phonics book each week, which will reflect our phonics scheme. We encourage parents to read everyday with their children. Reading the same text daily has its benefits, as repetition is key for consolidating the learning of words or memorising the text. There are many pre-reading activities you can do with children, which you will learn about in our reading booklet. Each child will be required to purchase a book bag.

Pre-school children will also be given their very own *Lighthouse Box*, which will have within it the phonics sounds we have been learning. It may also include numbers/shapes learnt and/or key words and French vocabulary we have been learning. Our reason for this is that we feel it is important for you, the parents to keep up to date with what we are doing at the nursery and are big believers of getting parents involved with their children's learning journey. All activities given will of course be reflective of your child's age.



Languages:

We aim to nurture a love of languages from a young age and have subscribed to Bonjour Tonton, a fun French program taught by Heidi and her French-speaking tortoise. French will be reinforced throughout the week as our principle language. This will also be accompanied by opportunities to cook or taste foods from the French cuisine. We will also learn traditional nursery rhymes and songs in French.

Cooking:

We are a cooking nursery. Your child will engage in regular cooking sessions here at The Little Lighthouse as we feel it encompasses many fine and gross motor skills as well as knowledge and understanding of the world. Mathematics is easily embedded with this skill also, as children are introduced to different amounts and quantities. Literacy is included when children have a go at writing recipe cards. Alongside this are the least obvious key skills that children learn such as the art of turn taking, sharing and team working to name a few.

Music:

The Little Lighthouse children will have access to a variety of percussion instruments on a daily basis for children to explore independently. It will also give children the chance to practise what has been learnt during taught music sessions. Taught sessions will involve a variety of different things. This might range from listening to a piece of classical music taught sessions where they will be required to follow a rhythm or beat. Children will also listen to other various instrumental musical compositions and learn to tease out the different instruments. Musical instruments will also be made available during free flow activities for the children to further explore.



Section 03

The Nursery Day

03 The Nursery Day

Fees:

Age Band:	Fee per hour:
2-3 years	£7.50
3+ years	£7.10

***Little Lighthouse Breakfast Club** 8am-9am (charged at the hourly rate). **Late Stay** 3pm - 3:30pm (charged at 50% of the hourly rate).

Session Hours:

Full Time (Funded Hours)	Part Time (Funded Hours) AM	Part Time (Funded Hours) PM
09:00 - 15:00	09:00 - 12:00	12:00 - 15:00

***Please note that we are closed for polling days, bank holidays and 7 working days during the Christmas period.**

Little Lighthouse Breakfast Club:

We will be offering a continental breakfast between the hours of 08:00 - 09:00. Children may choose from a continental menu. A choice of cereals, fruit, yoghurt or toast will be made available to the children. This is also made available to those using funded hours, but at an additional fee and at the hourly rate.

Late Stay:

There is an additional 30 minutes late stay at the end of the day from 15:00 - 15:30pm. Funded children are welcome to utilise this, however you will be charged at 50% of the daily rate.



03 The Nursery Day - Meals

We will not be providing hot meals to begin with. This is to ensure that all attention and focus is centred on settling the children and effective pedagogy, as we are a new setting. Children will therefore be required to provide their own lunch. We have microwaving facilities if required. We consider this to be a fantastic learning opportunity in getting children involved with the purchase and preparation of their lunch. Children can begin to learn about healthy eating and observe the range of healthier food options whilst shopping for their lunch. Why not begin to get children handling money and observing the amounts and features on notes and coins.

Please note that we have a **NO NUTS** policy and all packed lunches must be healthy. We therefore ask parents not to pack sweets or high sugar items. If required we can provide a cold lunch for children upon request at an extra cost of £3 per lunch. This will include a choice of sandwich, yoghurt, fruit or flapjack and a drink. We also ask for a contribution of £1 per day for snack sessions. Alternatively children may bring their own snacks.



03 The Nursery Day - Uniform

From a recent poll, parents have expressed a preference for pre-school uniform. From a nursery perspective, we too are keen to promote adherence to our uniform as it helps to foster a feeling of belonging and togetherness amongst the children. However, uniform will **not** be compulsory at the nursery. Our nursery uniform colour is a royal blue school jumper and black bottoms.

***These all may be purchased at most local shops e.g. M&S, Sainsbury's, Tesco or ASDA.**



Seasonal clothing items:

Autumn/Winter Months



Spring/Summer Months



*** Whilst we do have spares, please note that you are responsible for bringing spare clothes, nappies and wipes daily.**

Time	Activity
08:00 - 09:00	The Little Lighthouse Breakfast Club: Children will take part with the preparation of their breakfast e.g. buttering toast or pouring cereal.
09:00 - 09:30	Circle Time: Register, Wake & Shake, Phonics/Story with teacher.
09:30 - 10:30	Morning Work Cycle begins: Outdoors: First group of children to go outdoors (Children outside will have the opportunity to engage with daily run or exercise and a focus activity followed by free-play). Indoors: Children will engage with activities based on their interest. The teacher and practitioners will scaffold play activities and there will be an opportunity for children to engage in a short structured activity/teaching session.
10:30 - 11:30	Group switch. Indoor children will have the opportunity to play outdoors and the outdoor children will engage with the indoor activities.
11:30 - 12:00	Carpet Session. Maths focus with teacher.
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 13:00	Pre-school outdoor play/Toddler nap-time.
13:00 - 13:30	Circle Time: French Focus (alternate with Knowledge and Understanding of the world & Music Sessions).
13:30 - 14:00	Afternoon work cycle: Outdoors: First group of children to go outdoors (Children outside will have the opportunity to engage with daily run or exercise and a focus activity followed by free-play). Indoors: Children will engage with activities based on their interest. The teacher and practitioners will scaffold play activities and there will be an opportunity for children to engage in a short structured activity/teaching session.
14:00 - 14:30	Group switch: Indoor children will have the opportunity to play outdoors and the outdoor children will engage with the indoor activities.
14:30 - 15:00	Phonics Story (featuring focus sound)
15:00	Home Time
15:00 - 15:30	Late Stay: Table top focus activity

*Please note that this only serves as a guide and there will be days where we deviate from this.

Our aim is for the children to go on an outing at least once a term. The outings will start off around the local area, which might include a walk around the area, a trip to the local parks or a visit to the allotments with the view of building this experience up as the children become more familiar with the nursery. Our ability to do this will always be largely dependent on the numbers of staff, as the safety of the children is paramount.



03 The Nursery Day - Parent/Staff Collaborations

We believe it is important to foster communications between home and school. In order to achieve this, we will make ourselves available each morning for any quick updates concerning your child. If you feel you need more time we will be happy to schedule a meeting to give you the opportunity to talk about anything in greater detail. In addition to this, we have the family app which will update you on what activities your child has engaged with for the day and you will also receive a detailed observation once a month. You can use this means of communications to give us updates, document any concerns, outline any achievements, weekend news or the like.

Parents will be sent a mini news flash documenting what children have done at the nursery for the week. This provides an opportunity for you to discuss this with your child to reinforce and embed their learning. We will always be on the look out for new learning opportunities and experiences for the children. We therefore welcome parents to share areas of expertise, which will help children to embed their knowledge and understanding of the world.



03 The Nursery Day - Safety

If your child has an accident we have a strict protocol. Children will be examined by the first aider and the appropriate treatment will be administered. Thereafter, the incident will be logged in our accident book. For minor bumps, grazes or bruises, your child will be given a wrist band, which will let you know upon collection that they have had an accident e.g. 'graze left knee'. A member of staff will then detail in full what happened. For head bumps (no matter how minor) or for injuries that require more attention you will always receive a phone call as soon as possible. If we are unable to get you on the phone we will send an email detailing the incident. Please refer to our incidents policy.

We are aware that the grounds are large, and whilst this is a fantastic learning space for the children we know we have a duty to keep your little ones safe. Children will only be allowed out with a designated member of staff in small groups, which will be alternated fairly throughout the day. Children will be required to wear the nursery high vis aprons whilst outside. Head counts will be done regularly also. Each area will be colour coded and the children will only have access to one given area at a time.

Staff Ratios:

	3+ Years	2-3 Years	Under 2's
Early Years Practitioner	1:8	1:5	1:3
Teacher	1:13	1:5	1:3

***The above is the governmental guidelines for staffing rations, which we will be adhering to.**



Section 04

Additional Information

04 Additional Information

Dates for your Calendar:

We are closed for 7 days during the Christmas period and 7 days during the Easter period. We are also closed on Bank Holidays and Polling days. Although this is unlikely to happen, the Village Hall reserves the right to revoke use of the hall for three full days per year.

Collection:

We take your child's safety seriously and so we will require you to complete a form detailing those who are permitted to collect your child before they start the nursery. Added to this if you are unable to collect your child, you would still need to notify the members of staff to let them know who will be collecting your child before or on the day. We will also require a password that you will give to the person collecting and ourselves as an added precaution.

Home Visits:

Home visits are compulsory before your child starts nursery. This often helps with the transition from home to nursery. We will get to know your little one a bit better in the comfort of their own home. It also gives members of staff a point of reference for conversation if a child is feeling unsettled for the initial start. We will also give you tips and advice on how to prepare for nursery to ensure that you have done the necessary preparations for your child.

Fees:

Nursery fees are due one month in advance. Any absences due to sickness, holidays or any other reason are still payable at your normal rate. If you intend to use any government funded hours you must let us know in advance and if you are using childcare vouchers please let the nursery know the provider. A term time only enrolment is available for children who enrol on a full time basis. Please note that fees increase each year and come into effect from the 1st April of each year. All deposits and fees should be made payable to:

The Little Lighthouse Nursery Ltd

Sort Code: 60-83-71

Account Number: 11593909





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