

**ETHOS AND AIMS**

Ethos

Strong family values permeate every area of the Day Nursery as the staff care for the children. Children deserve to grow and develop in a happy, supportive and friendly atmosphere and they get it at Berkhampstead.

Through the activities provided, we encourage children to explore, try and ‘have a go’ with the aim of developing a ‘can do’ attitude. We understand that children develop best when they are engaged, captivated and actively involved in the learning process in a non-pressured environment.

Aims

* To provide a happy, caring and fun environment where children feel safe to try new experiences.
* To provide an environment where all children feel included, respected and valued.
* To ensure all children are encouraged to ‘have a go’ and feel secure to do so.
* To focus on all children as individuals and respond to their needs accordingly.
* To encourage independence, good social skills and self-confidence.
* To provide high quality care in a nurturing environment that promotes every child’s physical and emotional wellbeing.

We have a warm, homely and friendly atmosphere and provide an environment that is safe, secure, caring, sharing and stimulating.

We believe in the development of the whole child and recognise that each child is unique. We believe that the children’s experience should be rooted in ‘play’; the Early Years Foundation Stage provides the children with broad, balanced and relevant experiences built on what the children already ‘know’ and ‘can do’. The children are encouraged to develop and learn at their own pace, the result of which is happy, confident children.

We believe in establishing good relationships between home and Nursery, ensuring that children see them as complementary environments, each with their own set of rules.

A strong liaison between home and Nursery has many benefits to all concerned, especially the children. It bridges the gap between Nursery and home and builds foundations for communication, understanding and mutual respect.

We aim to balance the structure of each day, so that children have time to be active and to rest, to be indoors and outdoors. We are able to enjoy a reasonable amount of flexibility in routine, which enables us to make each day varied and enjoyable for the children.

The language through which the children are taught and spoken to in is English.

**Policy reviewed – February 2021**

**Policy to be next reviewed – February 2022** Nursery Manager