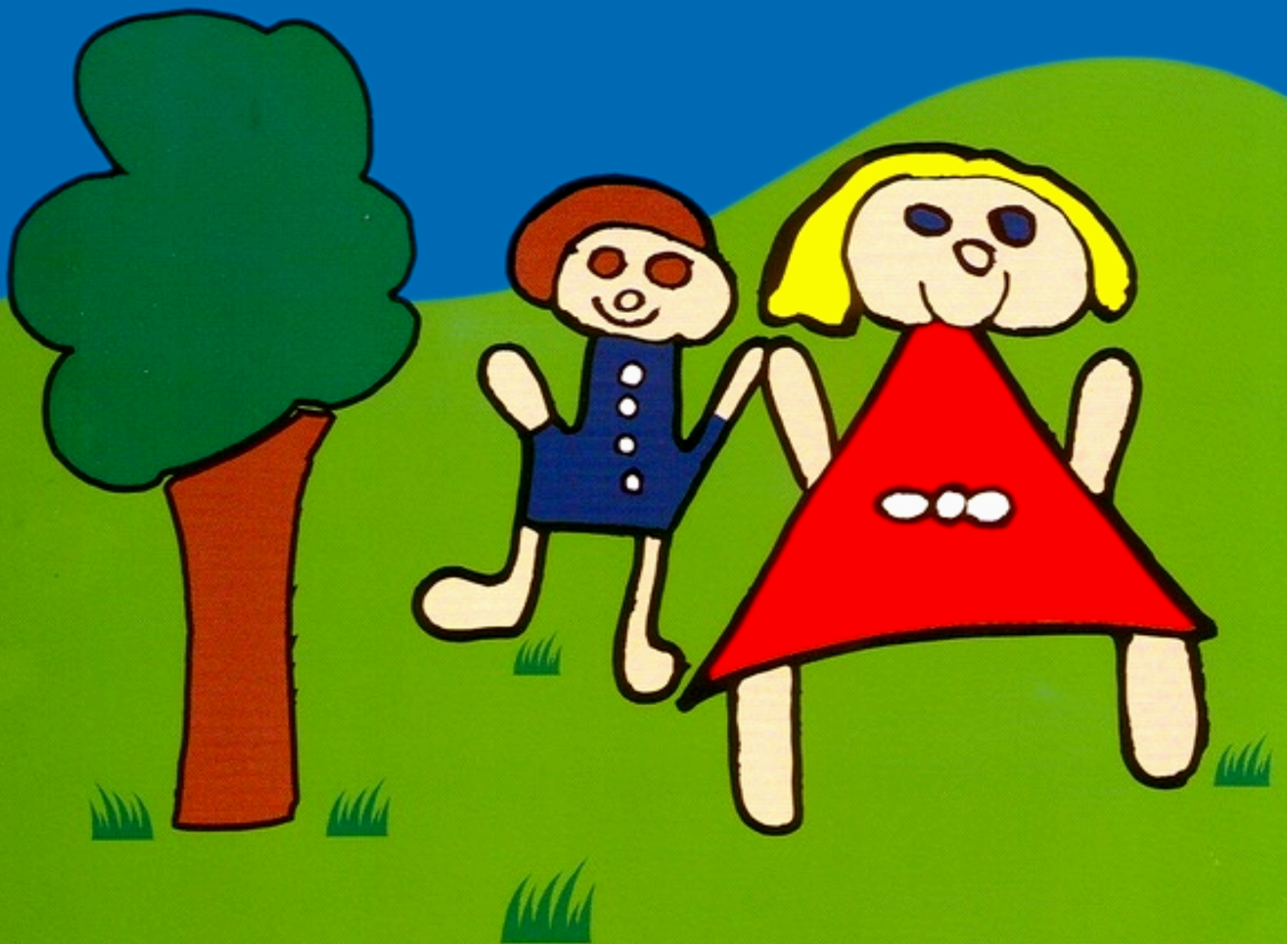




Parent Pack

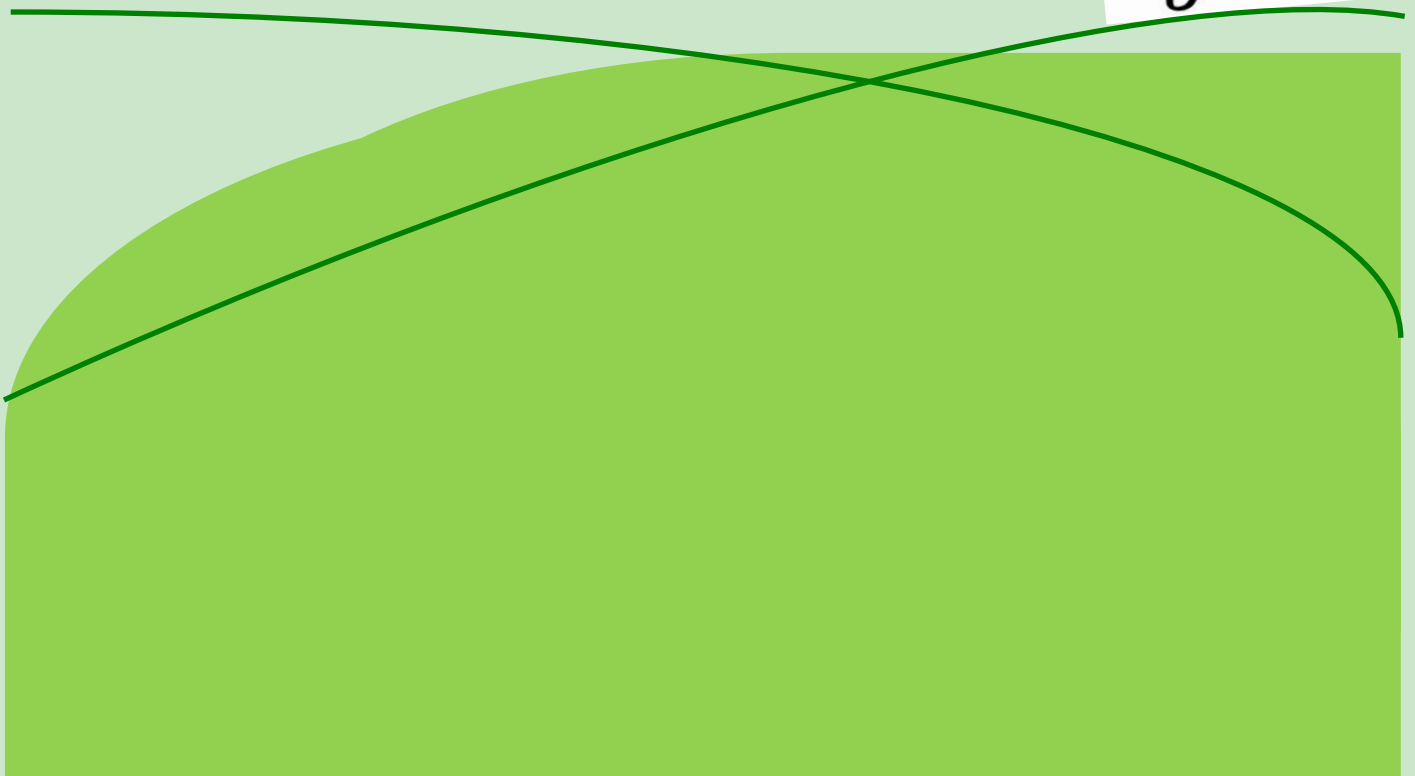
LITTLE ANGELS Day Nursery





Little Angels Day Nursery

Parent pack



WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

We understand that this is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

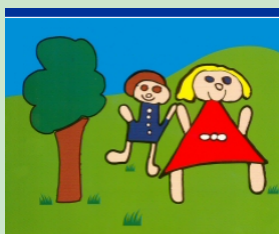
The development of your child during those early years is so important, and we really understand that. Every day we explore new ways to expand your child's experience and learning in a fun and stimulating way.

Our nurseries offer a friendly and homely environment, with Fresh and Nutritious Meals made at the setting. Expert trained staff will care for and nurture your child during their day with us.

When you leave your child at the setting you can have complete peace of mind knowing your child is safe with loving and caring staff; that will treat your child as an individual.

Our nurseries are registered with the regulatory body Ofsted and have a grading of 'GOOD'. Ofsted scorecards are not the be all and end all of a quality nursery, we feel we deliver outstanding care and opportunities every day. As a parent you will know when you have found the right Nursery Place for your child.





What do I bring to nursery?

To ensure your child has everything they need at nursery , we ask parents to supply a bag for nursery containing the Following:

Water Bottle:

If your child brings a water bottle, Please make sure its labelled with your child's name. We have a water jug available at all time. We also provide milk or water at snack and lunch times as well. We will refill water bottles throughout the day.



Weather appropriate clothing:

A waterproof coat. Wellington boots. Warm hat/ gloves and scarves in winter and Summer hat and sun cream that is labelled in Summer. All in one waterproof for wet weather.

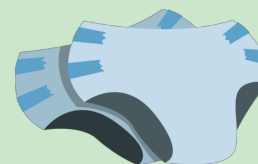


Spare clothes:

Please bring a bag of spare clothes, including tops/ trousers/ pairs of underwear, socks and bottoms. Please make sure all your child's clothes are labelled.

Nappies/Pull-ups and Cream:

A supply of nappies/pull ups is essential along with your own wipes or cotton wool. If you wish for nappy cream to be applied please provide a named pot/tube that can be kept at nursery.



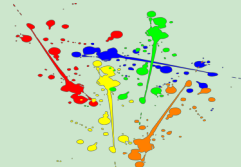
Sun cream:

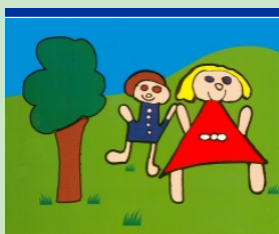
In the summer we ask for all children to arrive to nursery with sun cream already applied and if they are staying for a full day, we ask for a Labelled bottle of sun cream that can kept at Nursery. The staff will reapply in the afternoon.



Dress for Mess

Our children have lots of sensory play and creative activities on offer with - please dress your child for mess so that they can enjoy these activities to the fullest. Please label all clothes with names and avoid dressing your child in clothes that you don't want to get messy with paint, gloop, playdough, mud etc.





Baby Milk and Bottles

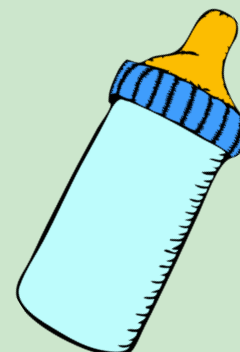
During our registration process we ask parents/carers to share which milk their child has, whether it is formula, expressed breast milk, cows milk or any other type of milk. Please also share the amount they have and their usual routine regarding times of feeds at home. Please pack all bottles and teats needed through the day with a clear name

label.

Formula milk must be measure out and placed in a labelled container, Staff will prepare and make fresh bottles of milk as and when required. We have experiences with children with milk intolerances so we can support you with this if it becomes apparent.

We use to sterilize bottles and feeding utensils throughout the day.

For all children over 1 year old, we provide cows milk / soya milk at no extra cost. We request any other milks are provided from home and clearly labelled with your child's name.



Weaning

Our baby room staff are experienced in supporting babies through weaning choices such as baby led weaning. We are fully supportive of encouraging children to explore new tastes and textures independently.

When babies are weaning, we work with parents during the process to make sure new tastes are slowly introduced.

We encourage babies to try a wide variety of flavours and textures as they grow; almost all babies enjoy experimenting - although often they will go through phases of refusing food that they couldn't get enough of the previous week!





Nappies and Toilet training

We will support families when you are ready to toilet train your child.

Children will display signs indicating they are ready such as:

- Knowing when they have got a wet or soiled nappy.
- They get to know when they are having a wee and may tell you they are doing so or;
- They know when they need a wee and tell you in advance.



Our staff will work in partnership with you to create a smooth transition from nappies into pull ups and big girl/boy pants. Please keep us up to date if you are starting potty training!

If your child wears nappies/pull ups, then it's parents preference whether they want to supply them daily or to bring them in 'bulk' and we will let you know when supplies are running low.

Please also provide ample wet wipes.

Spare clothes: If your child is potty training, we recommend you supply lots of pairs of underwear, socks and bottoms.

Snack and Lunch

We are a nut free nursery.

All food is home made from scratch and cooked on the premises.

Our menus run on a two weekly basis and we review each of termly to include seasonal produce. We have options on the menu to meet your child's dietary requirements and we will discuss these with you on your settling in sessions.

If these change please let your child's key person know and we can inform all practitioners, including our cooks. We are proud to have a menu that incorporates a variety of options over the two week rotation including those from different cultures.



We have fresh water served at all meal times, including morning and afternoon snack.

8am - Breakfast; A variety of cereals

10.30am - Morning Snack; A choice of fruit and a Savoury option alongside milk or water

11:30am - Lunch—a hot cooked meal

2:30pm - Afternoon Snack; A choice of fruit and a Savoury option alongside milk or water **4:00pm** - High Tea—a selection of sandwiches / vegetable sticks.

Birthdays

We like to celebrate birthday's and invite the children to bring in a cake if you would like to. Please make sure the cake is shop bought and in the original sealed box so we can check the ingredient for allergies.

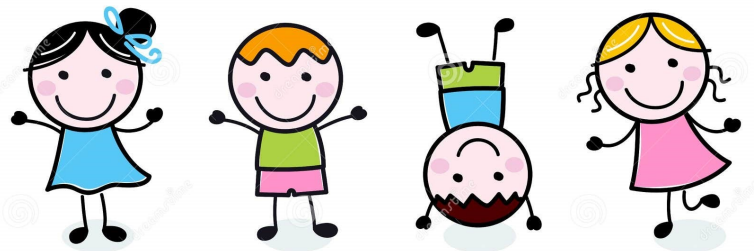


Key Person & Your Child's Progress

Key Person: The key person is a named practitioner who has responsibilities for a small group of children, they are there to help the children feel safe and secure. The role is important for both child and parent and it is an approach set out in the EYFS. The key person approach makes sure relationships between staff and children are 'attentive, responsive, stimulating and affectionate.

We want children to feel safe, stimulated and happy in the setting and to feel secure and comfortable with staff. We also want parents to have confidence in both their child's well-being and their role as active partners with the setting. We aim to make the setting a welcoming place where children settle quickly and easily because consideration has been given to the individual needs and circumstances of children and their families.

The key person role is set out in the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. We allocate a key person to each child. We also allocate a 'buddy,' who will look after your child when the key person is away/on holiday.



Please approach your key person at any time to discuss your child's progress and development.

Sharing your children's progress and achievements are vitally important to us.

There are a range of ways that we communicate your child's progress with you: Emails /Newsletters or through our Blossom App: We regularly use Blossom to keep you up to date about events at nursery, and day to day diaries .

Key Worker System: You are encouraged to communicate regularly with your key worker, where possible, at drop off and pick up times to share information and your key worker can provide you with information about your child's next steps that we are working towards at Nursery.

Blossom App: This app shows instantly your child's learning journey, enables you to keep track of your nursery finances; and request important changes to your child's medical circumstances - online and on your mobile phone.



Blossom also allows you to share celebrations from home with us.

You can upload photos of your holidays and events through the app. We love to see what you all get up to.



Early years foundation birth

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a framework for children up to the age of five, it focuses on three prime areas of learning and four specific areas. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early year's providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life. You will find the EYFS mentioned on your child's observations via Blossom, they are also used for their next steps

Benefits of Activities

The children are able to access the garden whatever the weather, we go by the saying

"There is no such thing as inappropriate weather...its inappropriate clothing".

The children are able to access all areas of the continuous provision and benefit from the curriculum it offers. They make their choices and decide how long they wish to play in an area. We have a rolling snack tables in the preschool rooms, which means that we do not stop the children's play as it could stop there learning.

We encourage getting messy and children have access to all the resources, children are able to get out whatever they wish to play with that day and get as messy as they like. We also set up large messy activities, including shaving foam, gloop, sand, water and much more!

Tracking and Next Steps

We are constantly tracking your child.

Tracking helps us to see where your child is, how your child is developing and if they are ahead or behind in any areas. This will then lead to us being able to plan and move forward from the work that we are already doing.

Next steps are completed termly and they will give you an idea of how your child is developing in the EYFS and how we are planning to move them forward in each of the areas.

Next steps are done for each individual aspect of the EYFS and will cover both the prime and specific areas.

2 year health check.

When a child is aged between two and three, practitioners must review their progress, and provide parents and/or carers with a short-written summary of their child's development in the prime areas. This progress check must identify the child's strengths, and any areas where the child's progress is less than expected. If your child has had their 2y check elsewhere, please inform us and let us have a copy.

Observations

We aim to complete at least one observation on your child each week. These observations will be individual to your child and will focus mainly on their next steps. As well as this we aim to do spontaneous observations, which are things that we notice throughout the day that we may not have had already planned. We also do regular group observations, we also have adult led group observations which will be planned around your child's next steps.



Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs

SENCo -

Our Nursery has an experienced Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo).

The SENCo works closely with the manager and with all practitioners in the setting, to support all our children with Special Educational Needs. A Nursery SENCo has responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the setting's SEN policy, and for coordinating provision across the setting; and for supporting colleagues in all aspects of their work with children with SEN.

Individual Support Plans The SENCo supports staff to create Individual support Plans to support children when an additional need is identified. A child's targets on their support plan are set in partnership between the nursery and family, with the child's needs at the heart of the plan. Each plan is tailored for the child's individual needs and focuses on learning through play. We work closely with a range of professionals who may also contribute to an Support plan and the targets, for example a Speech and Language Therapist, may give us specific play activities and short term and long term goals to work towards. Support plans are reviewed every 3 months as part of the Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle.



Thurrock Early Years Team- Our SENCo can contact the Early Years Team if our staff, or you as a parent, identifies a reason to enquire for further support for you as a family or your child.

The **Early Years Team** is a group of professionals from Health and Children's Services who work together to promote early intervention for pre-school children aged 0-5 years with additional needs affecting their development and learning. The referral into the service will be considered by the Early Years Team to decide which services they may be able to offer. If the child's needs meet our service criteria, they will be allocated to a pathway of support

Early Help is about identifying problems at an early stage and providing purposeful and effective help as soon as possible once they have been identified, working with families to solve those problems before they get worse. There are a wide range of services available through the Early Years team and parents will be involved at all stages.

The local offer—What is a Local Offer? A Local Offer gives children and young people in the borough, who have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or a disability, information in one place. The Thurrock Local Offer aims to provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about what services and provisions are available in Thurrock for parents and young people.

The local offer is part of the reforms to support children and young people with SEND under the **Children and Families Act 2014**. You can find out more about the reforms in the Department for Education's guidance: www.askthurrock.org.uk/kb5/thurrock/fis/localoffer.page





Important information

Authorized Collections

If you are unable to collect your child from nursery please let the staff know who will be coming. Please find makes sure they know a password.

Only authorised and identified persons will be considered appropriate. If the nursery staff have any doubts about the adult coming to collect the child, they will be refused admission until the parent has been contacted.

In an emergency we will take instructions over the telephone from the main carer and ask for a 'password' to ensure the child's safety.

It is vital you keep us informed of any changes you wish to make to your authorisation form.

Only people over the age of 16years are able to collect from nursery.

Attendance / Time keeping

Although regular attendance is important we will rely on parents discretion to keep their child away from nursery if they are unwell and until fully recovered from any illness. We will refuse to accept any child into the nursery should we feel they are unfit to attend.

We do this to consider the welfare of the other children as well as the staff. For more information please refer to our 'Nursery Sickness Policy' within this information pack.

If your child is collected later than their prearranged time staff ratios are disrupted and more importantly, your child could become upset.

Please try not to be late - it is not fair to your child or the staff. If it is unavoidable please try to make alternative arrangements for your child to be collected by an authorised person. If you arrive late you will be charged a late fee as per our Terms and Conditions.

Absences and Holidays

Please notify the nursery as soon as possible before the start of your child's session that they are going to be absent and the reason why, e.g. visiting the zoo, tummy bug.

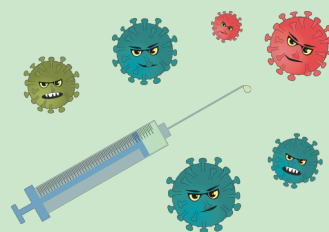
Please either email or message through the Blossom App or telephone the nursery. You will be contacted on the day by the Nursery Manager if no notification is given, in line with safeguarding legislation. Fees remain payable during absences including sickness and sessions can not be "made up"

Holiday's

Please notify us as soon as possible of any holiday. Any absence through sickness or holiday is payable in full as your child's place is secured throughout the year. It is not possible for your child to 'make up' time for missed attendance.



Sickness policy



The health and welfare of the children in our care is paramount.

The following information aims to protect the children and staff of Little Angels Day Nurseries by promoting a healthy environment. During the early years, as their immune system develops, children are vulnerable to infections.

If a child is unwell please do not give them medicines such as 'Calpol' and send them to nursery in the hope they will be 'all right'.

Little Angels Staff and Parents/Carers can work together to provide the best care for the children attending Little Angels Nurseries by agreeing to comply with the policies and procedures as follows :-

- Parents / Carers keep children and babies at home should they become unwell.
- Should there be any doubt about a child's health, expert medical attention and advice should be sought. (To reduce the risk of infection spreading throughout the nursery.)
- Parents will not give their children medicines before bringing them to Nursery.
- If the staff feel a child is unwell on arrival they will refuse to accept them into the nursery.
- If a child becomes ill whilst at nursery the staff will contact the parent / carer and request they collect their child as soon as practical.
- Children should not return to nursery until they are completely recovered.
- The minimum exclusion times recommended within our list of 'Common Childhood Ailments' are adhered to. You can find all the exclusion times from the government website -www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/children-and-young-people-settings-tools-and-resources
- Parents/Carers will not ask staff to administer medicines not prescribed by a Doctor.

Immunisations

We recognise, where possible that the children are vaccinated in accordance with their age. If children are not vaccinated, is the responsibility of the parents/carers to inform the nursery to ensure that children /staff/parents are not exposed to any unnecessary risks. The nursery Manager must be aware of any children who are not vaccinated within the nursery in accordance with their age.

Parents should be aware that some children may not be vaccinated in the nursery. This may be due to their age. Medical reasons or parental choice. Our Nurseries do not discriminate against children who have not received their immunisations and will not disclose individual details to other parent's/carers.

Medication

Occasionally it may be necessary for a child to take medicines during the day, i.e. to complete a course of antibiotics, long standing treatment for a permanent condition etc., but generally we ask that your child does not attend nursery if they require medication. Medicines prescribed by a Doctor may be given to a child after a 'Medication form giving authorisation, has been completed and signed by the parent and providing the staff are satisfied the child is well enough to attend nursery, without causing a risk of infection to the other children or to the staff.

Staff WILL NOT administer medicines such as 'Calpol' to children in the belief that if a child needs this type of medication they are not fit to attend nursery. However, if the staff feel a child is at risk of febrile convulsions, due to a very high temperature 'Calpol' may be given, with permission from the parent, who will be asked to collect their child as soon as possible. If your child has had medication before arriving at nursery please let us know.



Oral health

Our Nursery provides all of our children with nutritional and healthy meals throughout the day which limits sugary snacks, and we ensure that the children have access to fresh drinking water all day. We provided children with milk between mealtimes and encourage children to use open cups or free flow beakers from 6 months old, as prolonged bottle use can cause bottle tooth decay.

Around the nursery you will find oral health displays which helps us promote good oral hygiene habits. We have additional information sheets if needed to help guild parents.

The children will take part in fun activities that help to promote understanding of 'good oral health' such as healthy eating games, brushing the teddies teeth, role play dentist and many more

Here are some top tips for children 's oral health



Eating habits are shaped when children are very young and can last a lifetime
Eating healthy food that is low in sugar helps to prevent tooth decay and also encourages good general health

Eating chopped fruit and vegetables does not cause tooth decay. Bread, breadsticks, rice cakes,

→ cheese, natural yoghurt or fromage frais are all tooth friendly snacks

→ Dried fruit given as a snack (such as raisins) increases the risk of tooth decay

Dipping dummies into honey or sugary drinks can cause tooth decay

→ Water and milk are the best tooth-friendly drinks

Freshly prepared fruit juice and smoothies should be given only once a day and with a meal as they

→ contain a high concentration of sugar

→ Ask for sugar free medicines where possible

→ Introduce your child to a free-flowing beaker from 6 months of age and aim to discontinue the use

→ of bottles at 12 months

Children aged under 3 should use just a smear of toothpaste

Children aged 3 to 6 years of age should use a pea sized amount of toothpaste

Finding a Dentist- If you unsure of your local family dentist, you can use the NHS website to find your closest one: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist>

Pants

The Underwear Rule aims to help parents talk about the issue of sexual abuse with children, while educating youngsters. Our Nursery use the PANTS rule to help children developed their understanding and teach them to keep safe.

The underwear rule is a way to help keep children safe from abuse. It teaches children that their bodies belongs to them , they have a right to say no , and that they should tell an adult it they are upset or worried.

You can found more information on the following website

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/





Safeguarding and Welfare

At Little Angels Nursery we are committed to the safety and happiness of all our children and their families. At the nursery we have a designated safeguarding officer who will act as a source of support, advice and expertise within the nursery.

Ensuring that the Nursery's safeguarding policies and procedures are up to date with the most recent statutory guidance, and that everyone who has safeguarding duties are familiar with any updates.

Information for Parents

Being a Parent or Carer is not always easy. There are many challenges and demands and knowing that you are not alone can often help.

If you are concerned that a child or young person is being harmed, neglected or is at risk you should contact Thurrock Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.

thurrockmash@thurrock.gov.uk

To assist we have provided some information and [useful links](#) to different organisations that you may find helpful.

Reporting Concerns and links to further information

Worried about a child?

Contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) 01375 652802

Thurrock Council Emergency Duty Team (for out of hours) 01375 372468

Police Child Abuse Investigation Team **CALL 101**

Childline 0800 11 11
www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC 0808 800 5000
nspcc.org.uk

Accidents/incidents

All accidents are recorded on an accident/incident form showing as much detail as possible. Parents are made aware of any bumps, grazes etc. by staff and asked to read and sign the 'accident form' before returning it to the staff. All completed forms are kept on file. Parents will be notified of any head injuries, by telephone.

We also record any Accidents from home, you will need to fill out an form, this is to ensure that staff are aware of any injury's that your child may have sustained or if we need to complete an risk assessment.



British Values



Our Values Including Fundamental British Values

Promoting British Values

The Department of Education have recently reinforced the need "to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all school and nurseries to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs"



The Government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy

At Little Angels we believe that the EYFS curriculum already provides a solid foundation to encourage the children's understanding and acceptance that we live in diverse communities with many different cultures and lifestyles. We are an inclusive setting and our ethos and curriculum enables children to be independent learners, to make choices and to build strong relationships with their peers and adults. We know that children learn best when their personal, social and emotional needs are met and where there are clear and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour.

The Rule of Law

We use "Our Golden Rules "which the children helped to create. We use positive strategies to handle conflict and praise and acknowledge desirable behaviours. The children are given responsibilities and are expected to make a fair contribution to activities such as helping to tidy away at the end of a session. Children are involved in discussions about rules and are expected to contribute and cooperate with them.

Individual Liberty

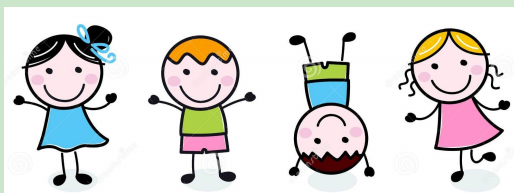
Within nursery the children are encouraged to make good choices. As a nursery we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely through our provision of a safe enabling environment and effective teaching. Children are encouraged to be assertive and expect others to listen to them and to understand their own rights and are given opportunities to resolve conflicts effectively.

Mutual Respect

Children are encouraged to develop their respect of others through caring, sharing and listening to others. Staff help the children to understand how their actions and words can affect others. The children are expected to be polite and kind towards each other through respectful relationships and their developing skills of empathy and understanding

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We aim to enhance children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations throughout the year. The children learn about different faiths through the celebration of different cultural festivals and our wide range of resources such as songs from around the world, dual language books and cooking utensils from different countries. Children have opportunity to dress - up in clothes and try different foods from other cultures and we encourage parents and carers to participate and support our multi-cultural activities. Children use the 'Around the world treasure baskets' to discuss similarities and difference between themselves, their families and those of other children.





Promoting positive behaviour

Little Angels believe that children flourish best when their personal, social and emotional needs are understood, supported and met and where there are clear, fair and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour.

As children develop, they learn about boundaries, the difference between right and wrong, and to consider the views, feelings, and needs and rights, of others and the impact that their behaviour has on people, places and objects. The development of these skills requires adult guidance to help encourage and model appropriate behaviours and to offer intervention and support when children struggle with conflict and emotional situations. In these types of situations key staff can help identify and address triggers for the behaviour and help children reflect, regulate and manage their actions. We appoint a member of staff as behaviour coordinator to oversee and advise on the team's responses to challenging behaviour. At nursery we have our Superhero Golden Rules which all the children follow- They are



Sharing Sam—likes to make sure we share our toys with each other.

Kind Kate—she likes to be kind to her friends



Listening Lizzy- likes to make sure we use our listening ears

Quiet Quinn- likes to make sure we use our quiet voices inside



Walking Wendy—likes to make sure we use our walking feet indoors



Mental health and Wellbeing

Little Angels Day Nursery Promote a mentally healthy environment through a positive and caring ethos and promoting our values and encouraging a sense of belonging. We make sure all staff are able to recognise the signs and triggers to look out for regarding emotional difficulties or mental health problems.

Having a key person helps by, co-ordinating work and providing guidance on emotional wellbeing and ensure that all are able to support the needs of children who may be experiencing emotional difficulties

Teaching skills including social skills, resilience, recognising emotions and developing growth mindsets throughout the curriculum and have daily opportunities to reflect on this.

Providing mentoring opportunities for individuals, groups or key cohorts of children to build positive relationships and give children someone they can go to in need.

In the nursery we have calm corners to help the children reflect and regulate their emotions with the help and support from the staff. The areas are equipped with age appropriate resources that allow the children time to regulate and explore their emotions.

We use the colour Monster story and this is imbedded in our daily practice in all our rooms.

The colour Monster is a fun story that help children to understand each emotion with the use of colour representation.



Yellow—Happy

Red-Angry

Blue- Sad

Green- calm

Black- scared/worried

Pink- Love

These colours are used throughout the rooms when the staff and children talk about how we feel.



Yoga Time

The benefits of yoga for young children are well documented , not only does it support physical development but also enhances emotional wellbeing through focusing on breathing, visualisation techniques and their bodies through the posture work.

Using the different Yoga poses we use our bodies to tell a story, using well loved books or exciting new stories we can act out the different characters and actions. We vary the pace so that there are plenty of opportunities for hopping, stretching, balancing and sitting quietly, help maintain children's natural flexibility.

We love the way that this physical activity can also foster the children 's love for literacy and reading so keeping the body and mind fit and healthy.



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