

# PROSPECTUS



[www.thelodgenurseryschool.co.uk](http://www.thelodgenurseryschool.co.uk)

**The Lodge Nursery School**

Sevenoaks United Reformed Church

St. John's Road | Sevenoaks | Kent | TN13 3LW

Office: 07973 967 776 | Onsite: 07858 775 011 or 07724 156 765





# Who we are

The Lodge Nursery School is a well established privately run Nursery School. We moved to our present premises in 1992, having been in the area since 1978. Many past pupils/families keep in touch and those still in the area are now sending their own children to The Lodge for us to nurture and cherish.

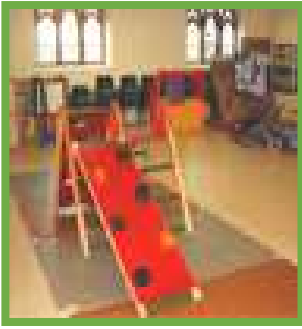
The Lodge is a truly unique preschool with an emphasis on education, learning and development delivered through an experienced, nurturing and enthusiastic team.

We welcome children from 2 years old and are equipped to support children with additional needs. We are dedicated to preparing children for full-time schooling in accordance with the Government's Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum in a supportive, nurturing and happy environment.

We are able to offer government funded places for 3 – 4 year olds accessing Early Education (15 hours) and have spaces for children accessing 'Free for Two'.

The spacious light and modern hall provides a warm and safe environment for the children in our care. We have a very pleasant and well-used secure garden.





Our intention is to provide a happy and stimulating environment, and to foster within each child in our care the desire to discover, to learn and to apply the knowledge acquired.

We aim to help each child to develop physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually as an individual, whilst considering the rights and needs of others.

Our highly motivated and well qualified staff are sure that by fostering friendship and respect to other members of the group we will help the children in our care begin a useful and constructive role in society.

We offer the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014) curriculum (EYFS) which conforms to Government requirements. Whilst allowing freedom to play and socialize our structured programme enriches children's learning and prepares them for full-time school.

We aim to work in partnership with parents and encourage parents/carers to be involved in their children's early education and care.

# Our aims





# Early Years Foundation Stage

There are 3 prime areas of learning in the EYFS:

1.

## Communication and Language

In both small and large groups, children are encouraged to extend their vocabulary and fluency by talking and listening and by hearing and responding to stories, songs and rhymes. Children learn to recognize letter shapes and sounds.

2.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Supporting children to develop in confidence and self-respect, sharing and co-operating with other children and adults. Learning good behaviour, good manners and independence and improving well being and happiness.

3.

## Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills - painting, drawing, model building, jigsaw puzzles and table top games, whilst enjoyable for their own sake, encourage manipulative skills and prepare for writing and reading.

Gross Motor Skills - climbing frame, bikes and scooters, hoops, balls and hopscotch, not only provide exercise but also help to develop co-ordination and balance.

# Early Years Foundation Stage

In addition there are 4 Specific Areas in the EYFS:

1.

## Literacy

Our well stocked book corner and library, together with children's "All about Me" books give every child the opportunity and encouragement to handle books and become aware of their uses for pleasure, reference and as a source of stories and pictures. Children are helped to understand that written symbols carry meaning, become aware of the purposes of writing and draw symbols themselves.

2.

## Understanding the World

Through activities and discussion children are allowed to discover and experiment with a range of natural and manufactured materials. They are assisted to explore and understand their environment, and by using simple tools and techniques, to extend their technological understanding. With thoughtful activities children gain an awareness of cultures and beliefs of others.

3.

## Mathematical Development

Through a variety of activities we aim to foster in children a positive attitude to mathematics. Through songs and picture books children become aware of numerals. Shape and size sorting, comparing and counting, sequencing and ordering help to develop their understanding and ability to solve practical problems.

4.

## Expressive Arts & Design

By using a wide range of art equipment the children explore colour, shape and texture, and develop skills in drawing, painting and collage. We have regular music and movement sessions and the children enjoy singing and playing on our wide range of percussion instruments. There are many opportunities for imaginative role play.

# Our team

Our teaching team are what makes The Lodge truly unique and truly special. The nine teachers and two relief teachers are all experienced, extremely dedicated and passionate.

All of our teachers are qualified with one having a level 2 and the remaining being Level 2 qualified. All of our staff have certificates in Pediatric First Aid and Child Protection.

In addition to this, we have staff with certificates in Food Hygiene, Makaton and training plus experience in Special Educational Needs.

Our teachers are dedicated to their role at The Lodge, which is proved by our very low staff turnover with the teachers having worked at The Lodge for between 3 and 15 years.

**Mrs Shellard** is a PGCE Qualified Teacher with an Early Years Specialism.

**Mrs Nokes** is our Setting Manager. With over 15 years at The Lodge Mrs Nokes is also one of the Setting's Designated Safeguarding Leads and our Fire Safety Officer. Mrs Nokes is fantastic at liaising with parents, agencies and professionals and she leads our dedicated team overseeing curriculum planning, health and safety and our dedicated pastoral care.

**Mrs Oiser** is our Setting's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and she attends regular training, updates and multi-agency meetings. She is supported by our knowledgeable team who have a range of experience working with children who need additional support.



# ADMISSIONS

We welcome boys and girls from rising 2½ to 5 years of age. Our hours are 9.00am - 12.30pm each week day, term time only. The Lodge admits children for a minimum of 2 sessions. The Government provides funding for 15 hours per week for children for the terms following their 3rd birthday. Funding is for 3 hours of each session. At The Lodge our sessions are 3½ hours in length and we therefore charge for the additional half hour. Full fees must be paid for children under 3 years of age. Fees on application and on the website.

In our experience children settle much better and benefit from our routines and curriculum if they attend a minimum of 3 mornings in their first year and 5 mornings in their second year. However, our minimum admission criteria is two sessions per week on the blue tables and 3 sessions per week on the yellow tables. We reserve the right to not offer places to families requesting less than our minimum admissions criteria for their child's particular age range.

Our waiting list is arranged in order of enrolling, but gives preference to siblings. We will also give preference to children already over the age of 3 years if places in that age group are available and a prior offer of a place has not been declined.

A full set of our Policies are available on our website.

# POLICIES



The screenshot shows the homepage of The Lodge Nursery website. The header includes the nursery's name and a navigation menu with links to Home, Term Dates, Contact, About us, The Team, Curriculum, Daily Timetable, Policies, Fees/How to register, Gallery, Testimonials, For parents, and Out of school care. The main content area features a large image of children playing under a sun, a 'Welcome to The Lodge' message, and a 'Parents' section with a notice about the new noticeboard. The footer contains the nursery's address: Sevenoaks URC · St. John's Road · Sevenoaks · Kent · TN13 3LW.



Our environment balances a routine that encourages children to flourish, daily age-appropriate adult-initiated lessons and activities delivering our EYFS curriculum, with a well-planned play environment.

Every child starts every day with their Key Person, giving parents and the Key Person the opportunity to discuss each child and children to enjoy focused time with their Key Person. Our children and parents love the balance we strike between adult-led activities and learning and child-initiated play and activities.

## Arrival

09:20/09:25

Parents/cares settle children in with their Key Person for table-top activities with Key Person monitoring activities.

Children self-register, learning to recognise their own name.

Yellow table (children who start school the following academic year) and Blue Table (younger children) have a lesson / session in their Yellow / Blue group. During this session songs, action rhymes and other resources and tools are used to explore a topic and we use this time to learn about phonics, numbers, seasons, the weather, the world around us etc. This session may be indoors or outdoors.

09:45

Children are involved in an adult-initiated activity relating to the previous session, modelled and supported by Key Person. Activities are designed to reinforce our learning and practice key skills for example mark making, grip, finger and hand strength, cutting skills etc.

10:15

Child-initiated play time in a well-designed play environment which is set up differently every day with a range of activities and equipment to choose from.

## Snack time

Toileting and hand-washing routines precede snack time. Children are offered a variety of fruit and are encouraged to help share out snack and pour their own milk or water.

## After snack time

Table top toys and out play equipment and activities continue to be on offer. We will get out in the garden, weather permitting. A range of activities from physical play games, obstacle courses, slides, trampolines, climbing, ride-ons, push-alongs, planting, watering and caring for plans and vegetables, mark-making and messy play will be available.

11:40

Tidy up time. Children are encouraged to help sort toys and other play equipment into boxes, using songs to support this process.

## Farewell

After tidy up time, children enjoy a Farewell Session which might be a game, parachute play, dancing or a puppet show! We then enjoy a song and music session where children learn and practice topical songs and use musical instruments, music and movement. Various equipment is used during this session including the parachutes, obstacle course equipment, balance beam, audio games and puppets. We also use this time for Yellow Table children to share with Blue Table Children what they have done in their lesson / session and vice versa.

12:10

Story time.

12:30

Home time. Door is opened at 12:30 and children are collected one-by-one.





# Parental involvement

---

We consider our parents to be an invaluable asset being the first educators of their children. Parent representatives liaise with staff and other parents, and provide a valuable support link.

Through our Parents Help Rota, parents are invited to assist in the school on a regular or occasional basis. Regular consultation with children's key person is welcomed, and parents are encouraged to voice any worries, concerns or information on the well-being of their child to us at any time.

We regularly seek honest and open feedback from parents and our latest parental survey results can be found on our website, together with our responses to the findings: <http://www.thelodgenurseryschool.co.uk/for-parents>.

## Tapestry

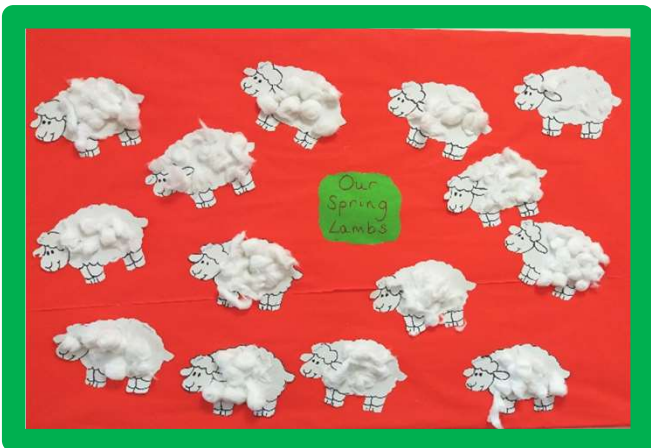
---



From September 2017 we will be using Tapestry which is an Online Learning Journal, further enhancing how we share information about children's experiences and progress with parents. Each week we share on our Facebook page what we are learning and the songs and rhymes we are practicing, as well as snapshots of what we have done.







# CONTACT

We welcome visitors and prospective parents, and if you would like to visit us please contact:



Mrs Amelia Clark

07999 893465

[info@thelodgenurseryschool.co.uk](mailto:info@thelodgenurseryschool.co.uk)

