

Little Hands Nursery Schools

Prospectus

**The Village Hall
Bourn**

**The Station House
Linton**

**The Moor
Melbourn**

**Newton Hall
Newton**

**"Learning Through Play"
is
Learning For Life**

Our aim is to provide a happy, safe, caring and stimulating environment which promotes the all round development of the individual child. At "Little Hands" we feel able to do this as we can give more individual attention to all of our children because we operate with a very high adult to child ratio.

This prospectus details what "Little Hands" can offer you and your child.

Philosophy

Little hands quickly grow and every parent hopes that their child's first experience at nursery school will be both enjoyable and rewarding. At "Little Hands" nursery schools we aim to achieve this by providing a stimulating learning environment within small intimate groups and therefore provide one member of staff for every four children.



At "Little Hands" we believe that children learn through play and having fun and we plan each session to provide a wide variety of activities giving as many experiences as possible. There is time to play in groups and alone, indoors and out, supervised at all times. We place great importance on building social skills and language by using our high staffing ratio. Each session allows time for pre-reading, writing, numeracy and maths development, using a wide range of equipment, toys and games.

Our sessions are planned around themes or topics and in this way the children explore the world around them, from festivals to outer space! We develop creativity using craft, music, role play and dance. And from the tiniest pencil movement to the largest jump we ensure each child's physical development reaches its fullest potential.

In this way "Little Hands" strives to develop each child's confidence, social, physical and intellectual skills to better prepare him or her for entry into school.

"Little Hands" is registered by OFSTED and inspected by them annually. We also have OFSTED education inspections and are therefore able to accept the nursery grant for all four-year-old and older three-year-old children.



Starting at "Little Hands"

Children are accepted from 2 years of age and it is not essential that they are toilet trained.

"Little Hands" Nursery schools welcome all children and we have a flexible approach to admissions. Some Little Hands need extra help and we have the staff and expertise to welcome children with special needs.

You may book your child for as many or as few sessions per week as you think is most suitable, however we find that a minimum of two sessions works best to settle children into the nursery routine.

We do not ask for a booking fee or a deposit but we need 6 weeks notice in writing if sessions are to be reduced or the sessions will be charged for in full.

We advise that only children who do not regularly need a day time sleep attend the full day sessions. This enables the child to gain the greatest benefit from the learning experience. However rest facilities are always available if needed.



Parents at "Little Hands"

"Little Hands" does not demand any participation from parents in the running of the nursery school but staff always welcome suggestions or involvement from parents should they wish.

We aim to keep parents very well informed of the nursery's activities and their child's progress as it is essential for the child that the nursery and parent work closely together.

Before a child starts at nursery the parents receive an information booklet informing them what to expect and of the nursery policies. The settling of each child at nursery is designed to meet the child and family's individual needs.

Each child has a communication book for the staff and family to share information about the child's progress at nursery. There is a monthly newsletter to keep parents informed about nursery activities; and session planning, themes and topics are posted on the parents notice board.

Parents evenings are held at least twice a year and the staff's assessments of each child's progress are available to parents on request. But the main key to keeping parents informed about their child's time at nursery lies in the high staffing ratio which enables parents to talk to a member of staff whenever they need or want to.

The Nursery School Sessions

Both "Little Hands" nursery schools run to similar routines details of which are available at the nursery. Below is a brief description of each session.

Nursery Sessions

These are the main sessions and are open to all children 2-5 years. They are available mornings and afternoons five days per week. The sessions are planned around a theme or topic and the children will be involved in appropriately linked activities.

There is time for play both structured and free with constantly varied toys and equipment. There is a registration and newstime held in a large group and snack time where the children sit in small groups for a healthy snack and drink. The children have time for physical play with large scale equipment (outside weather permitting!) the session ends with a story songs and rhymes.

Preschool Sessions

These sessions are aimed at children the year before they start primary school and are an addition to nursery sessions.

"Little Feet" Sessions

A structured hour of physical games and story telling.

Music Session

A session using music and movement to develop the children's listening, participation and self awareness skills.

Lunch Session

The children sit in small groups with a member of staff to eat their packed lunch.

"Little Movers" (Melbourn) "Little Gym" (Newton)

Physical sessions aimed at building confidence and co-ordination.

Late Stay (Melbourn)

Can be offered should there be sufficient numbers.

What Next?

We hope that you will want to visit one of the nurseries armed with a list of questions to make your decision as to the best nursery school for your child. You do not need an appointment as we operate an open door policy, but if you choose to make an appointment we will ensure the Nursery manager is free to show you round and answer your questions and you are welcome to bring your child with you. At your visit you will be able to see our detailed policy folder and inspection reports. You can book your child into nursery or onto the waiting list at this visit if you wish. If you cannot visit just telephone the nursery and a booking form will be sent to you. Placing your child on the waiting list will guarantee you a place but not necessarily specific sessions.



Little Hands Nursery Schools

Little Hands Nursery School - Bourn

**The Village Hall
Short Street
Bourn
Cambridgeshire
CB3 7SG**

Tel : 07708 061575 (during school hours) 01223 503972 (at other times)

Little Hands Nursery School - Linton

**The Station House
Station Road
Linton
Cambridgeshire
CB1 6NW**

Tel : 01223 897945 (during school hours) 01223 503972 (at other times)

Little Hands Nursery School - Melbourn

**The Moor
Melbourn
Nr. Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 6ED**

Tel : 01763 260964 (during school hours) 01223 503972 (at other times)

Little Hands Nursery School - Newton

**Newton Hall
Town Street
Newton
Cambridgeshire
CB2 5PE**

Tel : 01223 872796 (during school hours) 01223 503972 (at other times)