



Prospectus





Our Story

Cliffe House Day Nursery was initially created in 1998 to provide the highest quality childcare for our own 3 young children – Liberty, Elliot and Phoebe.

As working parents, we wanted to create a nursery where our children would be cared for in a safe and stimulating environment. A place they could learn and progress through 'play' and where we had every confidence in a reliable, approachable and trusted team of staff.

These key priorities are still at the heart of all we do here at Cliffe House and you will find our settings sharing the same ethos.

Della & Adrian





Our Nurseries



Baildon

Our newest addition to the Cliffe House family, Baildon was opened in Spring 2014.

A Large stone former vicarage situated in the heart of Baildon village, which accommodates places for up to 70 children between the ages of 3 months to 5 years across three completely refurbished rooms.

There are two fully enclosed play areas, one which has been specially designed for young babies and one for the more adventurous over 3's.

We have a fully qualified cook who produces delicious and nutritious, homemade meals and snacks throughout the day.

Bramhope

First Steps is our long established true 'Pre School' setting, which is based on the grounds of Bramhope Primary School. Open Term Time only and offering funded Nursery Education Grant places up to full time attendance.

The Nursery offers a classroom environment with structured play and activities designed to assist the transition to Reception class, but with the benefit of a high staff : child ratio and a fully enclosed outside play area.

Food is prepared by the School kitchen or alternatively, children can bring a packed lunch.

Burley in Wharfedale

Based in a beautiful listed building in the picturesque village of Burley in Wharfedale. Registered for 70 children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years. The nursery utilises 4 very large and airy rooms that are well planned, carefully organised and fully equipped, designed to stimulate and encourage children's natural child development within 4 age groups.

Fully enclosed outdoor play area consisting of a soft play surface for younger children to explore safely, a wooden climbing frame with safety flooring to support children's physical development and Pre-School children also have the opportunity to visit the local park and surrounding community.

A qualified Cook is employed to produce nutritious, homemade, varied meals and snacks throughout the day.

Horsforth – Trinity

Set within the grounds of Leeds Trinity University College, Cliffe House Horsforth is based in a purpose built building which has been established for over twenty years. Registered for 62 children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years.

The Nursery is carefully organised into 3 age groups and is split across two buildings. Babies and Toddlers are housed in the main building and Pre-School enjoy the independence of a newly refurbished bungalow close by.

Alongside our own enclosed outdoor play areas, the university grounds offer acres of safe, secure space of which the children can explore under supervision both indoors and out, these include a sports hall, tennis courts and library.

The University restaurant provides nutritious, varied meals and snacks throughout the day and Contracts are offered for reduced attendance of 40 weeks if required.

Horsforth – Featherbank

Now open!

These wonderful victorian stone buildings formed the original infant school in the grounds of Featherbank Primary and will incorporate a Nursery for children aged 0 – 4 as well as an Out of School provision for 4 – 11 year olds.

The light and spacious rooms have expansive outdoor play areas too and all are on ground level.

An out of School facility for local children offers a Breakfast Club 7.30 am – 9.00 am and Homework Club 3.00 pm – 6.00 pm from September Term 2014 with plans for a Holiday Club thereafter.



Our Rooms

Yellow Room (Babies)

Housing only a small number of babies, this results in the Yellow Room feeling quiet, warm and inviting with a relaxed 'home from home' feel. With a staff ratio of 1:3, babies (and parents!) quickly settle with a close team of staff.

The room is carefully designed for the children's age and stage of development and toys, resources and equipment are placed at the child's height to allow them to freely explore their surroundings without restriction. As babies become mobile, soft furnishings and floor coverings ensure their safety.

With babies learning through their senses, an array of textured rugs, mats and wall displays mean their interests are held and challenged, along with adult-led sensory activities and free heuristic play. In addition, sand, water and creative tables are also provided to enable self-expression to develop a little further.



Red & Blue Rooms (Toddlers)

These larger rooms welcome the intermediate stage of 16-30 months, working on a staff ratio of 1:3 for children under the age of 2 and 1:4 for those children over 2 years.

As babies begin to take their first steps and are eager to toddle and explore further, the Blue Room offers space and a freedom to explore and gain confidence on foot, promoting their physical skills and satisfying their natural curiosity.

The room provides the opportunity to investigate different areas, including a book corner, sand and water areas, construction, home corner and sensory play as well as a dressing up area which enables children to mix and play imaginatively.

Themed treasure baskets and story sacks encourage the children's speech and language development, along with promoting interaction between their peers, learning basic turn taking and sharing skills whilst having lots of fun!



Our Rooms

Green Room (Pre School)

A more structured room caters for children aged over 2 1/2 and leaving for 'big' school.

The room is carefully divided into areas of provision (play!) to encourage children's concentration and focus. These include a technology workshop where children have the freedom to create 'junk' models, a construction area where they face the challenges of designing and building structures, a well equipped listening area where their independence is encouraged as the children explore media technology when selecting story tapes to enjoy along with a computer allowing them to practice developing ICT skills and much, much more!

Themes are developed through following the children's current interests and exciting activities are provided to challenge their natural ability and stretch their developing skills.

Children enjoy activities based on letter and number recognition and have access to resources and equipment which encourage early writing skills. Qualified, experienced staff support them in gaining the confidence that will give them the very best start as they prepare for 'big school'.

The largest of all our rooms, these light and spacious room caters for pre school children with a minimum staff ratio of 1:8.

An activity plan follows EYFS requirements and activities reflect upon children's current interests. This activity plan also includes introducing numbers and letters and continues working with shapes and colours as well as music, song and dance.

The room is geared to prepare our children for school and we provide a secure foundation for later learning with links to all local schools and help with transition when the time comes for "Big School".



Outdoors

Cliffe House are passionate that the experiences available to children indoors also extend to the outside. You will find our Outdoor Areas offer space for physical adventure, construction, growing and being creative. They promote literacy numeracy and science, have large sand and water play equipment with role play opportunities whatever the weather!!



Education & Early years outcomes

This new framework is made up essentially of seven 'Areas of Learning and Development'. The areas are divided into three Prime areas and four Specific areas. These together make up the skills, knowledge and experiences aim to support babies and children as they grow, learn and develop.

The Prime areas begin to develop very quickly in response to relationships and experiences and run through and support learning in all other areas. The prime areas are fundamental throughout the EYFS as they are aimed to support children in gaining confidence in the following:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Helping children to interact effectively and develop positive attitudes towards themselves and others.

We encourage children to share, take turns and have respect for each other regardless of culture and belief.

Communication and Language

Communication will be developed with experiences which naturally support children's interaction, both verbally and non-verbally. We plan activities carefully, building confidence with repetitive songs and rhymes, lots of speaking and listening from both children and carers.

Physical Development

Providing children with opportunities to be active and interactive. Developing their co-ordination, control and confidence. Children will be supported in understanding the importance of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

The Specific areas include essential skills and knowledge. They 'grow' out of the prime areas and provide important contexts for learning through the following:

Expressive Arts and Design

Enables children to explore senses, colour, texture, shape and form as well as develop creativity. We plan and play with a wide range of media and materials as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities.

Literacy

Encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to encourage mark making and early letter formation. Children access a wide range of reading materials (books, poems and other written text) to ignite their interests and quiet reading areas are always popular.



Understanding the World

We encourage children to explore their world, caring for plants and respecting all living things. They learn about wildlife and can plant, nurture and harvest their own vegetables in our garden plots.

Mathematics

Providing children with the opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems. Children will gain understanding of shape, space and measure.

From building sand castles to counting peas, everything is embraced as a time to nurture children's natural thirst for learning.



Food

Nutrition and mealtimes

Mealtime should be a happy, social occasion for children and staff alike. Positive interactions are shared and enjoyed at these times. Cliffe House Day Nursery is committed to offering children healthy, nutritious and balanced meals and snacks which meet individual needs and requirements.

We will ensure that:

- Menus reflect cultural diversity and variation. These will be displayed for children and parents to view. Menus will include at least five servings of fresh fruit and vegetables per day.
- Fresh drinking water will be constantly available and frequently offered to children and babies.
- Individual dietary requirements will be respected. We will gather information from parents regarding their children's dietary needs including any allergies. Where appropriate we will carry out a risk assessment in the case of allergies and work alongside parents to put into place an individual dietary plan for their child.

If you wish to view and download the day by day menu so you know what your child is eating during mealtimes please click the button below...

Communication

When welcoming a new child into our setting, we welcome a new family!

When first settling into their new environment, children often naturally gravitate to an individual member of staff and at Cliffe House this is embraced.

We operate a 'key worker' approach to ensure your child is supported throughout this important transition. Your child's key worker will be the first point of call should you have any questions, queries or needs relating to your child. Building this special bond gives a child the confidence and reassurance which will enable them to fully embrace 'Nursery life'.

We appreciate the demands of a busy family life and therefore go to extreme lengths to ensure you kept up to date with everything that is going on in Nursery along with the finer details of your child's busy day.

Verbal feedback is given at the end of each day where staff fill you in on what your little one has been up to, new skills they have achieved and what activities they have particularly enjoyed. In addition, a 'Daily Sheet' is provided with important details of meal times, sleep times and toileting all of which strengthens the link between your home routine and Nursery life.

We also provide termly Newsletters which celebrate everything from staff training to themes and topics the children have enjoyed. We also provide you with information of up and coming events along with dates for your diary!

We have always encouraged an open door policy and welcome your thoughts, suggestions and ideas. Taking these on board, you will see a section in each Newsletter called 'You said, We did!'.

An annual Parents Evening provides the opportunity for you to meet with your child's key worker and discuss their achievements, share their new skills and plan for their next exciting stages of development... all over a cup of tea and a biscuit!

Investing the time and commitment to building solid relationships with not only the children but their parents too, develops a huge respect for our 'wisdom' and experience. The knowledge we have about children and their development is often where parents start when they have questions about those key stages in their child's life.

We are often asked for advice or our opinion, both of which is valued and appreciated. In addition, we provide a selection of books available for any parent to borrow on a 'library' basis to further support parents in their child's continued milestones.





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