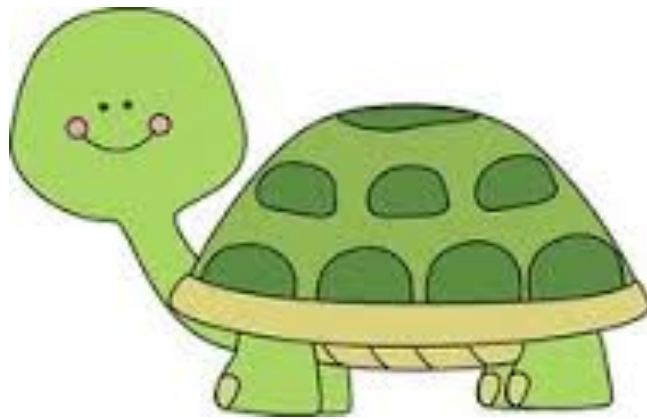


# Tortoise Nursery

7 Wrekin Professional Centre, Holyhead Road, Wellington, TF1 2EH

Email: [tortoisenursery@aol.com](mailto:tortoisenursery@aol.com)

Phone number: 01952 254040



## **Our Mission Statement**

To impart high quality childcare which enhances a learning adventure from birth to school and beyond.

## About us

- Privately owned by Councillor Joy Francis and opened in September 2000.
- We have an Ofsted rating of 'Good' (2017), a Food Hygiene rating of 5 (2017), we are breastfeeding friendly and have recently gained the 'Maths Champions' award from the NDNA.
- Managed by an experienced and innovative childcare practitioner with over 12 years' experience in Early Years.
- Tortoise Nursery is an adapted building on the Morris Care Home site and has disabled access.

## What makes us unique?

- The nursery is divided between only 2 age appropriate well-resourced rooms that promote a family feeling
- We visit our elderly friends at **Morris Care** regularly to support children's development and give back to our community.
- As often as possible, we walk down into Wellington, visit the market, **donate to the charity** shops or visit local attractions
- At least once a term we aim to take all children to the local library to foster a **love of books**.
- We enjoy using recycled, open-ended, **authentic** 'real life' resources to foster children's **curiosity**, awe, wonder, creativity and critical thinking skills!
- We do **'In the moment planning'** for all of our activities; this means we only do what the children enjoy and use their interests to extend and develop their learning.
- The staff have a limited amount of paperwork to complete monthly, so this ensures **the children receive 99.9% of our time!**

## Baby and Toddler room



- Registered for up to 12 children at any one time
- Age range: 3 months – 26/30 months
- Adult to child ratio 1 : 3 (under 24 months)
- Adult to child ratio 1 : 4 (over 24 months)
- Staff trained and experienced in working with 2-year-old children and babies.
- Children learn from each other through interactive, heuristic, sensory activities; indoor and outdoor.
- Routines and activities are all based around children's interests, schemas (behaviours!) and individual needs where required.

## Preschool



- Registered for up to 24 children at any one time
- Age range: 30 months – 60 months
- Adult to child ratio 1 : 4 (under 36 months)
- Adult to child ratio 1 : 8 (over 36 months)
- Experienced staff. Our school leavers group leader has a foundation degree.
- Children have access to Shropshire Tutor sessions for Math development or Letters and Sounds \*Small extra fee applies
- Children have access to a Music Minors class \*Small extra fee applies
- Activities are based on children's interests and our innovative style of 'teaching' provides children with the skills they need to feel ready for school.
- Authentic resources provide a magical experience in our 'real-life' home corner.... say 'yes please' to a cup of tea served from a real teapot in a china teacup!



- Outdoor learning, building independence and social skills are paramount to our Preschool ethos.

### **Outdoor Learning**

#### **‘There is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing’**

Our outdoor area is safe and secure; it offers a large mud kitchen, mark making materials and a ‘Reading house’.

Tyres, crates, planks and materials allow children’s imagination to go ‘wild’ and allow children to develop their risk-taking skills.

Experienced practitioner’s support outdoor learning by providing exciting and challenging opportunities to keep them healthy and build understanding of the importance of exercise.

There is also a music area, water and sand opportunities, small world area, and space.

Whenever possible, staff use the local green space and park to encourage climbing and gross motor skills.

We also have access to a small area to provide a ‘Forest School’ experience weekly where children become one with nature!

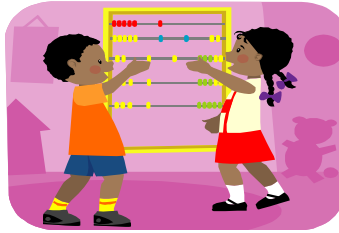


## **The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**

The EYFS is the curriculum and statutory framework our practice is moulded by. Every member of staff uses the 'Early learning outcomes' to provide tailored development support through activities and their relationships. You will see how the EYFS themes fit into our policies and procedures and how our planning structure and daily practices reflect the themes to meet government strategies in line with OFSTED.

### ***Learning and development***

- We are committed to the principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- The EYFS is central to our provision allowing children to learn through play, experience and opportunity both indoors and outdoors
- We believe that play strengthens all development and learning of young children
- Our environment supports every child's learning through planned experiences and activities that are challenging but achievable
- It is through this approach we believe that children develop intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally.
- Each child will have 'next steps' in varied areas dependent on their individual needs. We work together with our families to ensure these are accurate and amended accordingly when progress has been recorded.



## Policy and procedure

- Our policies and procedures support the high quality of our provision- all staff are bound to adhere to them at all times to ensure consistency and quality to our service as well as the safety of all children (and staff).
- We may refer to our policies within the nursery contract you receive with your first invoice
- It is advised you take some time to browse through all of our policies or ask questions regarding them during your first visit. They will give you an idea of our values and procedures.
- Having written policies and procedures fully in place is a statutory requirement as detailed in the EYFS and forms part of the Ofsted inspection.
- To complement our policies, we have additional protocols in order to support staff, assist in the smooth running of the nursery and to ensure children's safety remains paramount.

Policies and Additional protocols can be found in the: **Foyer**



### **Our staff!**

- We are a small, friendly and vibrant team with 5 out of 7 of us having over 4 years of service to the setting!
- All staff are qualified in Early Years from level 3 – 5 and are committed to the continuous development of our skills and training
- All staff have a first aid certificate, food hygiene and have undergone full DBS checks.
- Staff are trained in a variety of complementary areas i.e. Forest school, physical education, special educational needs, safer sleeping, nutrition, team leading, management and customer service.
- We are passionate about children's care, learning and development and use several theories to inspire our nurturing techniques to support the childhood of our unique little people.
- We are led by an inspirational manager who believes in maintaining a forward-thinking approach, using reflective practice and using the children's development, contentment and feedback as 'targets'.
- Having a small team ensures all children build relationships with every member- this enables a smooth transition within the setting and our staff consistency aids the settling in period.
- We prioritise staff interactions and child -initiated learning over paperwork; this is evident through our innovative and inspiring process to documenting children's progress and development.

- We only plan activities based on children's interests, their behaviours and parent/carer advice.... we plan in the moment which means anything can happen as the children are engaged in open ended opportunities with only their own objectives in mind!

## **Our Fees**

We offer three sessions all year around:

- Full day 07.30 - 6.00  
£ 42.75
- Short day 08.30-3.30  
£37.75
- AM session 07.30 – 1.00  
£30.75
- PM session 1.00 – 6.00  
£28.75



**FUNDING ONLY PLACES ARE AVAILABLE-PLEASE ASK FOR MORE DETAILS.**

## **Offers**

- A £15.00 per week discount is available when booking a full-time place
- 10% discount for siblings
- The above offers do not stand when a child is in receipt of funding.
- Term time only @ £46.25 per full day
- Please ask for other offers we may have at the time and check for availability on flexible bookings.

Other information:

- A refundable deposit of £50.00 is required
- A non-refundable admin fee of £5.00 is also required

- Terms and conditions must be signed and returned
- We invoice a month in advance
- We accept childcare vouchers, please ask for our pin number.
- Payment is preferred in cash or bank transfer by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.
- Weekly payments are accepted
- You are not charged for bank holidays but will be charged for children's sick days and your holiday days.
- We offer 2, 3 and 4-year-old funding only places and offer the 30 hours funding (7.5 hours per day only)

## **Testimonials from our families!**

Our son has been attending Tortoise since he was 12 months old. It has an intimate setting and he has gotten to know all the key workers really well, they all take time to invest in the children and learn about them. We are never worried about leaving him at nursery, he is so well cared for and he absolutely loves it. In the 8 months that he has been there he has come on leaps and bounds. They also really go out of their way to understand individuals interests and focus on those and incorporate them into their learning.

We are so happy that we found Tortoise and would not hesitate to recommend them to anyone.

Laura & John Bailey

**Leo loves attending Tortoise and I feel reassured and happy as a parent! He has grown in confidence, made new friends and learns new things daily. We love the home from home feeling and all the new activities and play areas created for the children!**

**Jess Johnson**

We would highly recommend Tortoise Nursery to anyone looking for somewhere professional yet friendly for their child! We know that when we drop our son off, that he is going to be offered the best care and education possible. I completely trust all of the staff and they are all so friendly. They provide you with all of the details about what your child has done that day and how we can work together to help them progress ready for school. We're so glad we chose Tortoise; our son is always so happy there!

Louise Park

**A family-based nursery, feels like 1-1 childcare. Fabulous nursery that I would recommend highly. Lovely, friendly staff and very supportive! 😊**

**Kim Hess**



*Both our sons always love their time at Tortoise! It is such a lovely, friendly setting. I cannot recommend it enough for families looking for a caring and nurturing nursery!*

*Katie and Billy Rivers*

### **What's next?**

- Contact Steph or Kath at Tortoise Nursery to arrange a visit, ask your questions and see how the setting runs. You can collect registration forms at your visit and check availability.
- To reserve your childcare place return completed forms with the required deposit.
- Arrange taster sessions- you may have two sessions at 2 hours\*; these can be taken how you wish- talking to the staff in the room and playing alongside your child or having a cup of tea in our staff room to see how they settle alone. \*If more sessions are required this can be arranged dependent on the needs of the child
- On your first day (or week!), we welcome 'check-up' phone calls and encourage any advice you can offer to ensure your child will settle well! Any comforters or own toys/books may be brought in for the settling in process. This can be lengthy, so please do not worry if your child takes some time- we are very used to settling transitions and pride ourselves on this usually being quite quick!

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting your little one!

The Tortoise Team

