



## **A Day in the Life of PlayStation Nursery**

Firstly, your child will be greeted by somebody at the door who will be there to find how they have been, whether they've slept ok, and any other relevant information. After this they will be settled into the baby room, where a staff member will help them to initiate some play with our lovely resources, or just simply have a cuddle if that is what your child needs. They can then explore and play for a little bit until it is time for breakfast time at 8.30am. Your child and the other children will sing our tidy up song and tidy up within the baby room before going into their own rooms for breakfast time.

For breakfast, we offer a range of cereals or toast and water or milk to drink, in which the children are encouraged and supported in serving themselves within the older groups. Breakfast finishes at 8.55am, we do not serve breakfast for children who come in at 9AM.

After breakfast each room will start their day, through exploring different activities and free play, either inside or outside, as staff support the children's interest and development. This could be anything from; gloop play, flour and rice/messy play, sand play, water play, painting, drawing and a range of other activities. Activities are not limited to different types of messy play, sometimes children will enjoy an activity where they will have fun exploring our lovely sensory resources, exploring the book corner, role playing in the home corner, building with different materials such as blocks, Duplo or stickle bricks or maybe testing their physical development on the soft play or climbing equipment. Activities are set and designed around children's individual and group interests, some are thought out and some are planned in the moment. Free play provides opportunities for children to enjoy some independent play, supported by adults who will offer a language rich environment and plenty of opportunities to develop their play while helping them to sustain and extend their interests. There are a range of toys and resources within each of the rooms to extend the children's interest and offer them the best opportunities to facilitate their learning. Once play time is finished, we sing the tidy up song before tidying the toys away in which staff members encourage children to help in this process as they are supported in finding the right place for the right toy.

As a Nursery we feel it is important to offer outside time no matter the weather, we have wet weather suits available, so the children are able to get fresh air and play outside every day. The children love the chance to put on their wellies and splash in some puddles and feel the rain on their skin. For days like this, we are always very thankful for a spare set of clothes in the children's bags in case anything gets a little wet from any activities or mealtimes through the day. During winter months, this may be for a shorter space of time, during which time the children will be given ample opportunities to investigate and play indoors. To promote and support the children's physical development we have a range of climbing and ride along toys. The children love the outside area and love to use this time to run around and ride the bikes. Whilst we recognise the importance in extending and developing children's interests, we also understand the importance of allowing children to have the freedom to explore and play without frequent adult interaction. In the garden the children have plenty of opportunities to play with their friends, get messy in the mud kitchen and much more. After garden time, we sing the tidy up song before staff supporting and encouraging the children in tidying the toys away. Sometimes, the children might go on a little adventure in the local area during this time, e.g. the local park, shops, or duck pond. There's lots to do in our area and we love getting out as much as we can so the children can make lovely memories and have lots to tell you when you get home.

There will always be experiences that are created specifically for your child that are documented on tapestry. Here we welcome you to find out what is planned for the week for your child, and whether you can contribute to it, or indeed re-in act/revisit it in the comfort of your own home. We find that this is a brilliant way of making the link between your home and nursery even better, and giving your child the chance to show you what they are learning and experiencing whilst in our care.

During the morning, we invite the children to all come and sit on the carpet for circle time. This is a time for the older children to sing the good morning song to all their friends and then sing songs for the days of the weeks, months of the year and the weather song. Within the younger groups we still offer circle time but will sing a variety of songs; developing children's sense of self, their language and understanding of music, words, sounds and rhythms. We enjoy using Makaton with our singing, it enables the children who are a little shy, who don't know the words or children who have English as an additional language to join in. We will also have stories or discussions in these circle times, as it gives the children to have conversations about their weekends, their feelings, or things they are interested in doing in the day.

Snack time is around 10/10:30am, which consists of a variety of fruit and milk or water. During this time the children are supported in using child safety knives and jugs to become more independent. We use this and many other opportunities to talk to the children about safety and hygiene, the children are also encouraged and supported in learning about maths; how many children are there, cutting in halves and quarters etc. This is also a lovely time for practicing skills within the younger groups; conversing and babbling, social play, cutting, and their growing ability to engage in a social situation. Children are all encouraged to wash their hands at every mealtime in each group.

Dinner time is at approximately 11.30am/12.00pm. The children will enjoy a hot cooked dinner made on site by our cook Angela. Children are supported in serving their own dinners and drinks and are encouraged to try all the food that is on offer. Children are always encouraged to feed themselves, even the really young children, we are always close by for support and safety, but the feeding is so much more enjoyable for children if they are independently able to explore the texture and tastes of the food. A copy of our menu is available on request.

Our morning routine is flexible to suit the needs of the children and at any point our routine adapts for the children and practitioner's, meaning a switch around of where and when we go outside, have activities, or lay down for a sleep. If at any point through the morning your child requires a sleep, there is a dedicated sleep room available which is supervised and checked every 10 minutes by a qualified member of staff, in addition to the use of a monitor.

After dinner, the younger children who are staying in the afternoon tend to go to sleep, this is not a set time, if children need to sleep earlier or later in the day or even twice this is completely supported. Staff support the children to fall asleep on sleep mats within the rooms or in cots in the sleep room, using comforters (if appropriate) and soothing white noise as they fall asleep. Children sleeping within the room are checked every 10 minutes by a staff member who will also stay within the room in case any children wake up. Children within the sleep room are monitored through an audio monitor and a camera monitor in the office and checked every 10 minutes. When the children wake up, they settle in the baby room for a little while to get their bearings, and then normally stay there playing and exploring with the support of their key adult for a little bit more until they may do another activity or go outside again.

After dinner, the children who don't sleep are supported in free play either inside or outside. Free play is a great opportunity for us to observe and learn about their growing interests. Activities are set out through this time for the children to explore, and these are supported by practitioners. This may be painting, play dough, mark making, shape matching or threading, for example.

At 2.00pm the children tidy up and wash their hands ready for snack. Snack consists of a sugar free homemade biscuit and milk or water. After snack, children are supported in different activities and free play, either inside or outside, to extend their interests and their development.

At 3.30pm the children have tea-time where they have a light tea ranging from sandwiches, crumpets, pitta bread, toast, carrots, cucumber, dips, sausages, ham, cheese, beans on toast and much more. Please see our menu for detailed information.

Upon collection of your child, you will receive a full handover about how they have slept, eaten, and an insight into the experiences they have had that day. We will endeavour to hand back any items of clothing/belongings that they had with them that day, or if not, you will find them in their bag. Please use this time to ask any questions about the day, or indeed to tell us anything that is relevant to our future provision. We also generally like to use this time to find out a bit more about you and make a good connection between parent and nursery to enhance our parent-setting relationships. We encourage and welcome parents and carers sharing their child's interests and achievements at home too.

There is a compliments and complaints file on the front reception, along with our folder of policies and procedures. We really do recommend that you have a browse through these to better understand our provision and for the opportunity to voice any feedback that you may offer.