



**hopscotch**  
day nurseries

**HOPSCOTCH DAY NURSERIES PROSPECTUS**



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If you would like your child to join us at Hopscotch, call us on **023 9255 9840** or email **[info@hopscotchdaynurseries.co.uk](mailto:info@hopscotchdaynurseries.co.uk)**

We'll be very happy to make an appointment for you to come and see how we could offer your child the best possible care when they are not at home with you.

# Welcome

**Thank you for considering Hopscotch for your childcare needs. I too am a working mother and, having been in your position, very much appreciate the dilemma of selecting childcare that meets the high expectations you have for your child and at the same time, helps you to juggle the complexities of busy family life.**

Only a parent can determine the level of care they require for their child and when I was unable to find a nursery that would provide the standards of staff and care I wanted for my children, Hopscotch was born. In 2005 we opened our first nursery and the philosophy that underpinned our ethos then, *'that only the best is good enough'* remains key to the way Hopscotch operates today.

Since 2005 we have expanded our senior management team to ensure we support the development of every child to their full potential in a safe, secure and stimulating environment. We do this by working to motivate, inspire and lead every childcare team member to enable them to provide the highest possible quality of early year's education and care.

We are committed to our team members' ongoing personal development and career aspirations from joining us as an Apprentice through to managing their own nursery within the group. We match their commitment to your child with our commitment to them from the day they join Hopscotch.

As we have been since day one, we are here to listen to the needs of all the parents and families that choose Hopscotch. Evidence of how we achieve our vision of supporting the development of each child as well as meeting the needs of local families can be seen within our Ofsted reports.

We encourage you to visit the nursery that you are interested in to meet our passionate and experienced teams, and to see first-hand all that Hopscotch has to offer. Each nursery is unique but common to all of them is our commitment to you and your child.

**Many thanks for considering Hopscotch.**



**Freya Derrick**, Founder and Managing Director.





## Our Values

All that we do at Hopscotch is guided by our vision and our values which filter through every aspect of the care that we provide to parents, children and staff. Each and every member of our team works tirelessly to achieve our vision for all the children at Hopscotch through making sure that every planned activity, resource and room design is in line with our vision to help them reach their full potential.

### Vision

To support the development of every child to their full potential in a safe, secure and stimulating environment. This vision is further underpinned by our five values:



# Quality Childcare

**Our vision is brought to life by each and every dedicated member of the Hopscotch team. We believe our expertise is paramount to the success of the delivery of exceptional childcare, led by the senior management team. We have a fully inclusive approach and our childcare team understand the importance of being sensitive to the individual needs of each child. From the start of your child's journey we will work in partnership with you to ensure that the transition into Hopscotch life is a smooth one, in which they develop positive relationships and feel confident, safe and secure.**

Your child will be allocated a key person who is responsible for meeting their individual needs and ensuring they continue to learn and develop. The relationship with the key person will be warm and loving and foster a sense of belonging. They will be sensitive and responsive to your child's needs, feelings and interests. The key person will also be available to support you from your child's first day at Hopscotch to the transition to the next age group. We offer a rich physical enabling environment with stimulating resources relevant to all the children's cultures and communities. By offering rich learning opportunities through play and playful teaching we are able to support your child to take risks and explore.





# Age Groups

Each of our nurseries provides home rooms for our Under Twos (Babies and Waddlers), Toddlers and Preschool children. Each room is carefully designed to meet the needs of the children of the age and stage of development in that room to maximise their care, learning and play opportunities. At Hopscotch we do everything we can to support you and your child in making the important transition into nursery as smooth as possible. It is with this in mind you will discover a home-from-home environment designed at children's height with accessible toys and activities for a good balance of quiet time and stimulating activities.

## Babies & Waddlers (Under 2's)

We welcome children from 3 months old. At such an early stage of their life, babies are constantly observing and responding to their carer as well as their environment. Our baby rooms are enriched with age-appropriate quality resources to ensure that your baby is stimulated, challenged and relaxed throughout their day with us. Research shows that sensory play builds nerve connections in the brain's pathways, which lead to the child's ability to complete more complex learning tasks, it also plays a huge role in supporting language development, cognitive growth, fine and gross motor skills, problem solving skills, and social interaction. Therefore, all our Under Twos are fully equipped with sensory play opportunities. As children begin to become mobile the focus, resources and activities become slightly more physical, providing the right amount of challenge, stimulation and independence they need to really explore and take in the world around them.

Before children move to Toddlers we will be encouraging them to gain further independent skills. We have low level sinks so they can wash their own hands, they enjoy eating in a family style experience where conversation is rich. Children will begin to self serve their own vegetables and

begin to drink from open cups. Before your child leaves the Under Twos room we carry out a 'Development Review' which is used to inform the Toddler Team of their current levels of development. This is also used to inform your Health Visitor of any development concerns.

## Toddlers (2-3 years)

As children have a desire to become more independent they are incredibly 'wilful' at this age. At this age friends start to become more important and they are learning how to consider other peoples' needs as well as their own. We want to foster this independence and natural love of learning and our environments and teaching is carefully planned to do so. Within this age group we support children with the growing need to express their emotions and challenge boundaries.

Within our toddler room we encourage them to freely explore both inside and outside areas giving them a larger more challenging environment. We continue to support and promote children's independence within this age group, we have a focus on increasing this through self-selection throughout the day. The children enjoy washing their hands, serving fruits and vegetables and pouring their own water.

You will notice that your child will be showing a wide variety of emotions around this age, we know children can find it difficult to express themselves and often show behaviours which are sometimes difficult to manage. This can sometimes be related to areas of learning like sharing with their friends, we ensure that throughout your toddler's day there are many chances to turn take. Our team are dedicated to supporting you and your child through this challenging time and giving you the time to discuss individual needs. Children around this age are really developing their language and communication skills, therefore, our rooms are designed to provide plenty of communication rich activities.

### **Pre-School (three-five)**

Children at this age are developing confidence through their learning and continue to develop social skills and strong relationships with friends. Our pre-school rooms offer stimulating and exciting activities that are freely available for children to explore, stretching their skills with staff enhancements and structured learning. Our pre-school team are there to guide them through their ongoing development using guidance from the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This supports children and prepares them for the next stage of learning.

All of our pre-schools have direct access to secure outdoor areas which are equipped with resources to enhance their play and provide opportunities to explore. The children continue to be independent learners wherever possible and they are encouraged to access their drink, food and toilet facilities.

Within pre-school we continue to provide opportunities for your child to learn through what interests them, by creating this environment children get a continuous sense of achievement and develop a passion for learning new and exciting skills as well as preparing them for the important transition into school. We work closely with schools and parents to ensure that your child has a smooth transition into Year R and continues to flourish once they have left us.





# Play, Create, Teach

**The opportunities available at Hopscotch give each child the chance to develop their experiences and learning skills at their own pace and to fulfil their ambitions.**

Each room offers interesting and varied experiences appropriate to the child's age and development incorporating indoor and outdoor opportunities. Children can work and play as individuals but also as a group with their friends; prompting and encouraging social interaction and developing self-confidence.

Children learn best when they are having fun and enjoying their activities so learning through play is fundamental to everything Hopscotch and our childcare team does.

## **Early Years Foundation Stage**

Hopscotch operates within the 'Early Years Foundation Stage', this is a framework which recognises the individual development and learning of each unique child. The emphasis is on learning through play opportunities, interaction with people and exploration of the world around them. The framework identifies the individual efforts and achievements of children and that learning and development takes place in all areas of a child's day. Our building designs, room layouts, furniture, resources and outdoor play areas ensure that children of all age groups and abilities have constant access and free choice to the many areas that support their learning and development. Activities are planned, evaluated and implemented to ensure a wide variety of experiences. Children at Hopscotch lead their play, choose the play and tell us what they would like to do next. Staff sensitively build upon children's

own interests, helping them to engage in activities. Our professional childcare team know how to support play at all ages and stages of your child's development.

## **Learning Journey**

During their time with us each child's progress is recorded on an online journal. Once an account has been created for your child you will receive regular updates via e-mail. These updates include activities that your child has taken part in. In addition we record your child's current age and stage of development on the observations. At three points in the year we assess your child's current level of development and track their progress throughout their time with us. This ensures that we are monitoring children's progress and that any concerns are raised so that early intervention can be put in place. In addition to us adding observations of your child you can also do the same to help us form a really accurate picture of your child's development and preferences.

We are fully inclusive settings and welcome children with Special Educational Needs as well as children who have English as an additional language. We will work closely alongside you as parents as well as any outside agencies to ensure that we provide the best possible care and learning opportunities for all children.

# Healthy Choices, Healthy Children

**At Hopscotch we are committed to promoting healthy lifestyle choices to our children to include balanced diets, physical activity and self-care.**

We know that the food children eat affects every aspect of their lives; their mood, behaviour, growth and ability to concentrate. With that in mind all our nurseries have a dedicated Nursery Cook. We carefully plan our menus to ensure they provide a balanced nutritional content using the guidelines laid down by the Children's Food Trust and the Food Standards Agency.

Mealtimes are an enjoyable, sociable part of each day where we encourage children to be independent in feeding themselves which can get a little messy! Research shows that children need to be offered new tastes and texture frequently before they develop their preferences.

Our teams are fully equipped to feed your baby with breast or formula milk to continue your feeding routine from home. When it is time for weaning we acknowledge that every child's journey is very individual and our teams are experienced at supporting you through this. The catering teams and nursery staff are experienced at catering for special diets and food allergies.

We provide opportunities for children to make those early self-care choices such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth developing independence from a very young age. Working in partnership with you, we are experienced in all aspects of toilet training. Staff will continue to change children in the dedicated nappy changing areas but also giving your child free access to bathroom areas to ensure their transition from nappies into pants is as smooth as possible. To support the well-being and physical development of your child our environments are carefully planned to ensure opportunities are available for them to take part in physical activity every day.





## Parents as Partners

**We have been in your shoes, we know how difficult it can be managing life, work and parenting! We want you to have confidence in us working in partnership together so you can leave your child at Hopscotch happy in the knowledge that your child is receiving the best possible care. We are here to listen to you and to meet the needs of you and your child.**

We actively encourage you to reflect on Hopscotch and the services we provide ensuring they meet both you and your child's needs. We keep you updated and informed through social media, newsletters, parent boards, online learning journals, texts and e-mails.

We recognise parents as the main carer for their child. Your child's key person will be your link between home life and life at Hopscotch. They are responsible for ensuring that as a team we meet the individual needs of your child and for supporting their learning and development, they will lead the care for your child. Your child's key person will also be responsible for making sure that when you come to collect your child you will learn all about their day, they will share with you what they have enjoyed doing and what they have achieved, it is a great time for us to let you know what activities your child has enjoyed throughout their time with us. We also encourage you to share with us experiences you have enjoyed with your child so we can share these activities at nursery wherever possible.

We hold parents evenings throughout the year and this gives you an opportunity to formally review your child's progress and development and for us to discuss their next move within the nursery giving you an opportunity to meet the team in the next room that your child will progress to.

Working in partnership together ensures we can provide the very best level of care that you expect for your child.

# Safe, Secure and Happy

**We want you to feel confident leaving your child with us. Their safety and well-being is of primary importance and part of our commitment to delivering high quality childcare.**

Safety starts as soon as you step into our nursery and continues throughout the setting. Our staff are trained in safeguarding and child protection and we are committed to the duty of care to each individual child.

Our recruitment processes are robust, and we carry out all necessary safety checks when we employ a new team member. Staff undergo training and key skills to ensure the children are nurtured in a safe, caring and stimulating environment where children can develop positively as individuals.

Our rooms and outdoor space are carefully designed to allow children to flow safely between activities and learning opportunities. We choose age appropriate resources and equipment and risk assess all areas of play.

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Hopscotch would like to thank all our parents, children and childcare team for taking part in the brochure photography all of which was taken at our nurseries.

*We very much feel we made the right choice in choosing Hopscotch for Evie – it was a bit like buying a house – we knew the minute we walked in the door!*

**The Stanton Family**

*You have a fab team of staff at Hopscotch and your passion for childcare is clear. Thank you for being there for us through all the wobbles and worries”*

**The Griffiths Family**

*Mohamed came into your care as a baby and he is coming out as a little man who can count and write his name. The kind of care you have provided is truly priceless.*

**The Sidamed Family**

*Thank you for providing such a welcoming and happy environment, all the fantastic activities and for mopping up occasional tears (including mine!)*

**The Ireland Family**



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