

WELCOME TO HEDGEHOGS



Hello and Welcome to Hedgehogs

We are so excited for you to join us! In our classroom, we provide a warm, safe and caring environment for all our children, focusing on their individual needs. As well as our classroom, we use the chalet to give older children within the group the opportunity to have more focussed play and allow them to complete more advanced learning.

We will be getting to know our children and our new families and will be spending our time settling the children into nursery, making them feel safe and happy, whilst getting to know individual routines. We will be working on gaining the children's trust and forming a bond so the children know we are here for reassurance and cuddles when needed. We will get to know the children's interests and what they like so we can have things ready in the room for them to enjoy and learn whilst in our care.

Communication: Our main communication with families will be conversations at pick up/drop off and through Tapestry. Tapestry is a good form of communication with parents. We use the messenger app throughout the day and we do a day book daily with pictures/videos and a little summary of what activities we have had on offer and what the children have been up to. When a child starts with us, we send out pictures/videos half way through the day to let you know how your child is getting on. We use the care diary app on tapestry to let you know about what lunch and tea is and how much they have eaten, also with sleeps and bottles.

Your child's key person will then provide individual observations on a regular basis to keep you informed of their progress, including activities that have been planned to meet their individual next steps. Every term we set out next steps for each individual child, by looking at the children's individual interest and making sure we are meeting the needs of each child using our own curriculum. Every half term we also do a summary to let you know how the children are getting on and will set new next steps if needed. We send these out to parents on Tapestry. If there is anything you would like to work on with your child, please so let us know. You can also find our curriculum in General Information on our Parent Zone of our website which can be accessed with the password: Caring4Kids

At a later point in the year, slightly more structured opportunities are provided to discuss your child's progress, such as Parent Consultations and Curriculum Evening. Please do not feel as if you need to wait until these occasions to discuss your child's development: if you would like to arrange a discussion then please contact us through Tapestry, email or phone and we will arrange a time.

What to Bring: A Small Bag - baby changing bags are too big • Coat (all in one suits) – hat, gloves etc. • Change of clothes x 2 – vest, t-shirt, trousers, jumper and socks • Inside & Outside Shoes (boots) • Nappy Cream, we have our own individual cream box which is placed by the nappy mat at all times. (We provide nappies and wipes for all non funded children and those opting in) • Milk Powder & Bottles (if needed) • Grow Bag for sleep time (if needed) (we provide blankets and sheets that always get washed weekly) • Comforters – Dummy, muzzy, teddy

Please name/label all for all of above items—thank you!

Do NOT bring Calpol/any medication. We provide Calpol and it can only be used if a child in our care has a temperature, other medication can only be accepted when handed to a member of staff and a medication form completed. Medication needs to be from a doctor, with a prescribed label with full name, the dose, medication in date.

Practical: Your child will have a labelled peg in the main hedgehog room for bags and coats. Your child will also have their own picture label for daily water cups and bed baskets so we can ensure the best standard hygiene is maintained. Your child will also have a drawer for putting any artwork or other items to take home. We always endeavour to use aprons etc where appropriate but we still strongly advise that children come to nursery in practical clothing that allows them to fully engage in their learning without worrying about anything becoming stained.

The care of your child is our priority so please don't hesitate to update us with any changes to their routine or ask us if you need assistance of advice.

If you have any queries about this or anything else, please do contact Shakira (Room Manager) or Gina.

Daily Routine

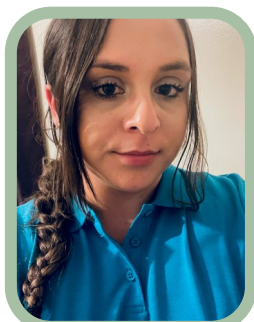
- 8.00 - Welcome/Free Play
- 8.30 - Older children transition to the Chalet
- 8.30 - Singing/Song Bag
- 9.30 - Morning Snack
- 10.00 - Planned Activities (sensory play, crafts, Observations, planned next steps)
- 11.00 - Outside Play/Walks
- 11.45 - Lunch
- 12.00 - Sleep Time/Quiet Time
- 2.30 - Children start waking up
- 3.00 - Afternoon Snack
- 3.30 - Free Play
- 4.00 - Chalet children return
- 4.15 - Tea
- 5.00 - Free Play/Home Time

Daily Routine: Our daily routine (above) gives you an idea of our day. After snack time, a group of the younger children will combine with some of our Hedgehog chalet group to go on a walk with their key person. The groups are organised, so all children participate in walks throughout the week and make sure our ratios are met as our younger babies go in a buggy for our walks. On our walks each child will have their own individual water bottles and activities planned. The remaining younger children will enjoy self-directed play and activities devised by their key person. The older children in the chalet, if they haven't all gone for a walk, will also enjoy self-directed play and activities to go with our monthly theme and planned observations. The children will then have some well needed outside fun in our outside classroom and gardens. We have a lot of free flow in keeping the door open so the children have their own independence of being able to come in and out when they want. After lunch, most children will sleep. Those children who has had a morning sleep will repeat what activities were done in the morning. After sleep, we have a snack altogether and do group time song bag which the children enjoy. The Hedgehog chalet group will then come and join us, as we merge together for tea and getting ready to go home.

Our older Hedgehog children go to our chalet so we can stretch their learning for more equipped and appropriate activities for their age. We have three staff members that are permanently in the chalet who will be their key person. We are still one room, joining together first thing in the mornings and again around 4 ish to have tea. We work very closely with each other and help each other when needed.



YOUR HEDGEHOGS CLASS TEAM



Shakira Harper
Room Manager



Sophie Solloway
Deputy Room Lead



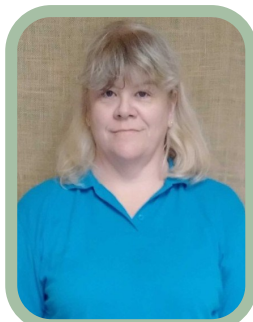
Katarina Harrison
Senior Practitioner
(Chalet)



Tracey Stinton
Senior Practitioner



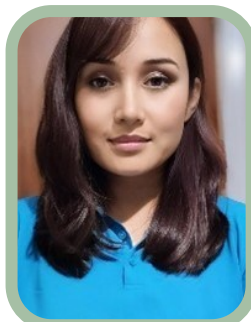
Fran Trinder
Practitioner



Trudy Meakins
Practitioner
(Chalet)



Emily Banthorpe
Practitioner



Sumi Tamang
Practitioner



Megan Lee
Practitioner



Sam Austin
Nursery Assistant
(Chalet)



Bea Swaine
Nursery Assistant



Helen Norris
Temp on Call/Practitioner