



*Where a skilled five year old grows from a busy four year old, a curious three year old, a cuddled two year old, an adventurous one year old and a communicative baby*



Early Days  
Nursery &  
Preschool



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*The enthusiastic and caring staff team ensures that children and their families feel welcomed and involved. Children are happy and settled, which effectively promotes their emotional well-being and welfare”*  
*Ofsted, April 2013*

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## About us

Early Days is privately owned 96 place day nursery and preschool centre founded by Stephen Hardman in 2008. Stephen has been continually improving the setting since he bought Early Days several years ago and we hope you are pleased with the well-equipped, bright, spacious areas for our children to learn, grow and develop.

Early Days is a graduate led setting managed by Vicki Morris who has been at the setting since 2008. Vicki holds a BA Honors Degree in Early Years Education. Vicki is supported by her Deputy Manager Natalie who has been at the setting since 2010. Natalie has a BA Honors Degree in Early Years Education and has Early Years Teacher Status.

Our academia is cascaded through the team ensuring that we are constantly raising the standards of care and education in our provision.

We have 5 rooms catering for children age 3months to 5 years:

### Babies

Our baby room holds 10 babies aged from 3months to approximately 12-15 months.

### Tiddlers

Our tiddler room is designed for children aged approximately 12 months to approximately 18-22 months. This room has capacity for 12 children

### Toddler Room

Our toddler room is situated upstairs and caters for children 18 months to 2 ½ years. This room holds 24 children.

### Preschool Centre

At Early Days we have two preschool classrooms, Play School and Preschool. These two classrooms are a new concept at our setting, the idea behind these rooms is to cater for the children going to school in what would be their academic class. The children are grouped dependent on their age with the academic year:

Playschool – children turning 3 from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 31<sup>st</sup> August

Preschool – children turning 4 from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 31<sup>st</sup> August

***Our staff team has one clear focus: your child's individual need***

## Our Aims

At Early days the emphasis is on learning through play with experienced, knowledgeable staff and the provision of relevant first hand experiences that will extend and enrich children's understanding of the world.

### We aim to:

- Provide a safe, caring, loving and stimulating environment in which children are able to develop confidence and self-esteem
- Enhance the quality of teaching and learning through planned staff development
- Create a home from home environment where children are happy, confident and content
- Enable children to develop relationships and co-operate with other children and adults
- Provide a rich and varied environment that promotes learning by motivating and challenging.
- Help children to collaborate, take turns, share and guide them with what is right and wrong
- Ensure learning through first hand experiences that enable children to play investigate and explore
- Provide opportunities for children to develop independence, to direct their own learning and make their own choices
- Work closely with our parents and carers to form effective partnerships
- Provide an inclusive environment where everyone is treated as an individual
- Extend children's learning further by using their current interest

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*Staff know how children learn and the teaching is rooted in following their interests to engage and sustain their attention*

*OFSTED REPORT, 2013*

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## Teaching and Learning

We believe that children learn best when they are engaged and interested in what they are doing, the emphasis is on learning through play, and the provision of relevant first hand experiences that extend and enrich children's understanding of the world, a child's play is their work!

We offer a rich and varied curriculum in a safe and inviting environment. Each child is an individual and comes to nursery with their own unique experiences and personalities; we recognize this and aim to work with children to develop their interests and skills as well as introducing them to new and different ideas and possibilities.

Staff plan learning experiences that build on children's existing experience to support the development of skills and attitudes enabling them to become independent and self-motivated learners.

### Early Years Foundation Stage

At Early Days we follow The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) which sets standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5 years old. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework supports an integrated approach to early learning and care. It gives all professionals a set of common principles and commitments to deliver quality early education and childcare experiences to all children.

As well as being the core document for all professionals working in the foundation years, the EYFS framework gives mums and dads confidence that regardless of where they choose for their child's early education, they can be assured that the same statutory commitments and principles will underpin their child's learning and development experience.

For further guidance please visit [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk)

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*'Staff demonstrate a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and this is effectively used to ensure that children make good progress in their learning and development'.*

OFSTED REPORT 2013

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## A Typical Day in Nursery

7.30am -9.00am

Breakfast and activities

9.00am, - 10.15am

Welcome song followed by children choosing from a wide range of experiences available throughout the nursery and garden, some led by adults and some that the children will explore and develop them selves

During this time children will have quality time with their key carer

10.15am and 10.30am

Children enjoy a healthy snack and engage with staff and peers

10.30-11.30/12.00pm

The children continue with morning activities

11.30am-12.30pm

Between these time children have their lunch (children have their lunch a different times dependant age)

12.30pm – 2.00pm

Many children engage in rest time.

Children who do not require a rest participate in more structured activities provided by their key worker.

2.00pm – 3.30pm

Welcome song followed by children choosing from a wide range of experiences available throughout the nursery and garden, some led by adults and some that the children will explore and develop them selves

During this time children will have quality time with their key carer

3.30pm -4.00pm

Tea time

4.00pm -6.00pm

A variety of activities both inside and outside

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*Children are motivated and eager to learn*

OFSTED REPORT 2013

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## What Others Think

Many of our parents tell us how happy they feel leaving their child with us because they know they are being well-cared for and loved. In fact, the children have such a nice time they sometimes don't want to go home!

Don't just take our word for it.....Many of our parents tell us how they feel about Early Days through the 'thank you' cards we receive, mainly from children leaving to go to 'big' school.

*" we are very grateful for the support you have provided and for the effort you have made towards Michaels development"*

Jane and Paul (AUG 2014)

*"Thank you to everyone who has played a part in taking care of Ollie, he has loved his time at Early Days. Thank you all"*

*Ps Pat and the chefs – Ollie will only eat your cooking and wont touch mine... do you provided meals on wheels?*

Kate (AUG 2014)

*"Thank you all so much...we are so sad that Eva is leaving, she has loved every minute!"*

Victoria (JULY 2014)

Here are just a few things Ofsted has said about us in their latest report...

*" staff embrace outdoor learning, in the knowledge that for some children this is the preferred learning area and provides opportunities to play in a different way"*

*"High priority is given to establishing partnership workings with parents"*

*"Staff skillfully respond to spontaneous situations to follow children's interest and extend their learning."*

*"The staff team are caring and supportive, which contributes to children feeling safe and gives them confidence to explore and learn."*

OFSTED REPORT (APRIL 2013)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q1. What will my child be doing at Early Days?

Our young babies enjoy a specially designed nursery area where the team provide them with individual attention and play in-between the child's feeding and sleep routine. The babies and toddlers have the luxury of their very own sensory room located in our garden

Our 18 month to 3 year olds enjoy a vibrant and fun-filled environment in which to explore, play and interact with both staff and their fellow playmates. Every activity is an opportunity to have fun and learn from eating together and toilet training to co-ordination and verbal tasks.

For our pre-school children, the focus is on preparing them for their transition to 'big' school but that's not to say they don't have fun doing it!

They follow a balanced and varied timetable covering subjects such as music, ICT, art, role play and construction to basic reading, writing and arithmetic. The preschool provision has a high emphasis on supporting independence and encouraging confidence.

The children work towards the 'Early Learning Goals' as their curriculum, being part of Ofsted's 'Foundation Stage'.

### Q2. What is the food like?

The plates are usually left spotless which is a great compliment to our cooks. The food is all freshly-prepared and cooked in-house, and follows a menu set over 5 weeks, so even if you child attends for just one day they will have a varied diet. We Endeavour to meet all dietary requirements and we ensure that children are engaging in well balanced, healthy, and nutritional meals

### Q3. My child always sleeps at a particular time during the day, how will this work with your routine?

Your child's routine at home will be mirrored at their nursery or pre-school. For example, if they are used to having a sleep after lunch then they will sleep after lunch at Early Days.

### Q4. What if I get the urge to ring up and find out what my child's up to? Can I call?

Yes, you are very welcome to call at any time and as many times as you wish and we can put you directly through to your child's key worker. We will also call you if they have a specific piece of news or to give you an update.

You can also text and email us throughout the day.... It can sometimes be difficult to call in working environment.

### Q5. How qualified are the staff? How often do you have to replace staff?

We are very fortunate to have such experienced and qualified staff. The team is a highly motivated group of individuals who are always wanting to further their knowledge and understanding of childcare and education

Many of our staff members have been with us for many years during which time they have seen babies arrive and then leave as young children well-prepared for 'big' school. This longevity of service provides a vital benefit for children and parents alike; for children it provides continuity which is invaluable in helping them to feel reassured and secure; for parents, it's equally reassuring to know their child is being looked after by a team of people whom their child knows and is happy to see each day.

What's more, our staff benefit too, by working with the same people each day, they get to know each other very well, which has an extremely positive effect on their performance as a team.