



September & October Newsletter 2023

A warm welcome back to all our parents, carers, and children, to start another busy year at Little Stars Day Nursery 2023-2024

We would also like to welcome all our new families and thank you, once again for staying another year or joining our nursery.

We hope you were all happy with your child's settling in arrangements. To the parents of the new children starting; this would have been a big step. We would like to assure you that here at Little Stars, we will work hard to make sure each child's needs and requirements are met. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or queries.

Settling in!

Please remember that transition is a process, not an event. The weeks over the month of September and October your child will express a range of emotions about being away from you and also for those children who are returning to a relatively familiar space. I can personally assure you that the staff are experienced with supporting children in settling in. Please speak to your child's key person if you have any concerns. The whole month of September has been challenging with emotions for everyone and a lot of hours being negotiated only to ease the child into the nursery to make them comfortable and happy. Patience is the word for everyone during this time, but it will all settle I assure everyone this. October is another month where we still see new children joining and settling in.

Dropping off / collecting your child

If a different adult is collecting your child, **please inform Management Team** or the person collecting your child from the front door on the day of drop off. Please provide a photo if possible and an email is good with their name and photo. **The adult collecting your child MUST have your child's password and a photo ID on them.**

Please wait outside for your child to be dropped off or picked up, **we do not allow parents** to come inside the nursery unless you are settling your child and invited inside.

Also **DO NOT allow your child to climb the railings outside**, if any accidents occur, we will not be liable at any cost and it will come down to lack of supervision and parental negligence.

Absences

If your child is unable to attend nursery for any reason, for example, if your child is unwell or simply staying home for the day, **call us by 9:30am**. If your child has a cough, cold, runny nose, fever, vomiting or diarrhoea, **PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM IN**. We will turn you back home as you are not being fair to staff and other children and again this is neglect. Please can you ensure that you call us **0208 894 2590** or send us an email to: manager@littlestars-daynursery.com

Please do not ask for compensating days if you are off on sickness or on holiday. It's all in the T&C's.

No Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not to be used whilst on or in the nursery, including taking photographs and having conversations. This is part of our Safeguarding policy. **Please put your phones away once you enter our premises - gate.** Our staff will politely remind you of this policy.

Lunchboxes

Please remember to keep the contents healthy, nutritious and well balanced and remember to include a drink. **NO Lollipops, sweets, crisps and chocolates are not appropriate for a lunchbox.** We will not give them to the children and retain them.

Nursery Meals

We are providing cooked meals at the nursery. Please ask for more details. If you are claiming 2 yrs. funding you are given a free lunch, with the kind generosity from the nursery.

NO Nuts

We ask that the children do not bring nuts into nursery within their packed lunch boxes (this includes peanut butter within sandwiches) as there are a number of children in school who suffer from severe allergies/intolerances that can be fatal for somebody. We appreciate your support with this matter.

No Parking on Neighbours Driveways

Please do not park on either side of the neighbours' drives, we have had many incidents and police involvements and tickets have been issued. All of this comes upon the nursery and we do not like to upset our neighbours or parents. Please kindly park around the side roads or walk to the nursery.

Take a look at our website

Our newsletters, relevant information is all on our website. Please take the time to regularly check this so that you remain informed on all aspects of life at our website link:

<https://www.littlestars-daynursery.com/>

Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, it is advisable to follow us as we regularly put updates on our page relating to activities and events that are taking place within the nursery.

Facebook link:

www.facebook.com/LittlestarsdaynurseryLTD

www.facebook.com/Little-Stars-in-Hanworth

Labelling

Please label your child's bag, lunchbox, shoes, coats and anything you bring in for them.

Medication

Please do not send you child to nursery if they are on medication for at least 48 hours. We only will give a dosage from Doctor's prescribed and labelled medicines and NO OVER THE COUNTER medicine. We only provide Calpol and Piriton if and when needed but only if we have parental permission, otherwise we will not give it.

Appropriate clothing/shoes

Please NO belts, laces, dungarees, or open toe sandals. We will now refuse entry as we have mentioned it many times.

Aggressive behaviour/False allegation against staff members

Anyone giving verbal abuse to members of staff, either in person, email or over the telephone, will be sent a letter/email from the Nursery Director/Manager advising that this behaviour will not be tolerated. Any future violation of this will result in the removal of your attendance to the nursery and if required reported to the police. There will be no appeal process. All matters of complaints are investigated and we take false and malicious allegations seriously.

Funding – a gentle reminders

When parents decide to leave the nursery, you sign a contract regarding your funding hours and notice of leave. You are required to give the nursery a one month notice of leave before any funding can be transferred. If we fail to have your notice, we will fill the required paperwork and submit it to AfC Richmond funding but we are able to keep the funding for a month before it can transfer anywhere thereafter.

Also, if you do not use up all your funded hours, you decide to drop your child late or pick them up early, that again is/was a parental choice, please do not ask to come back during holidays as you want childcare for those odd hours that remain.

30 hrs. funding codes need to have a starting date before the terms actual start date, please remember this.

Toilet Training

Potty training is a key developmental milestone. It's vital that parents and practitioners work together to give children consistent messages. We are able to achieve this only **when the child is ready and able to say and show signs of readiness**. Being toilet trained is a skill that children need to develop independence, self-esteem and confidence to thrive at school. Ofsted guidelines state that 'Every child should be able to go to the toilet independently by the age of five.'

We will help and support your child as long as they know and understand some common words, able to pull up and down their clothing or ask for the toilet. We remind them constantly and take them to the toilet but we have a lot of children here and everyone is busy whether they are staff or children playing. So please excuse the accidents that can happen occasionally.

Applying for Reception school only

Applications for September 2024 start

Use the [eAdmissions website](#) from 1 September 2024 to apply online for your child's primary (reception).

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 are due to start reception class at primary school in September 2024.

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/primary_school_admissions

You do not have to move your child to a school nursery. You can stay at our nursery until they are eligible to go full-time school reception, age of 5.

If you are eligible for 30 hrs, please apply in good time for the code before the term is about to start as there are certain cut off dates.

Important dates to remember for the diary

- Tuesday 17th October - National Nursery Practitioners Day - Recognition of their hard work in Early years.
- Thursday 19th October - Halloween dress up and Party – donations of food and drink
- Friday 20th October - Nursery is Closed INSET Day (staff training day)
- Tuesday 31st October - Halloween dress up and Party – donations of food and drink
- Mon- Fri 23rd – 27th October Half term - Nursery Closed for Holidays
- Monday 30th October - **nursery opens at 9am**

We have new staff members who have joined us over the months and just recently and some who have left. This doesn't impact our team or the learning for our children in anyway. Even though early years has 45 per cent of job vacancies in private and voluntary-run nurseries and pre-schools in England are currently unoccupied.

Please do have a look at our staff board once its all updated and ask our team for further information. We are always here to help and support you. The key persons are all working hard to provide the best for your child's learning and development.

Any questions please speak to Management team, call on 0208 894- 2590 or email manager@littlestars-daynursery.com

Kind regards

Reena Pharma

(Nursery Manager/Senco)