

Serendipity's

OFFERING HIGH QUALITY
CHILDCARE

WELCOME TO **SERENDIPITYS DAY NURSERY** NEWARK

Serendipitys Newark operates from a beautiful Victorian house on Appleton Gate, Newark. We are situated opposite Newark Northgate train station and less than ½ mile from the historic Newark town Centre. A private car park at the rear of the property provides ease of drop-off and collection. Children are cared for in 3 different room based on their age and level of ability: Babies (0-2's), Toddlers (2-3's) and Pre-School (3-5's). We also have an exceedingly popular soft-play room which all children access. Outdoors, we have 2 large play areas, one which is shared by the Under 3's rooms which includes a safety-surface area along with a mud-play area. Pre-School children have patio doors leading directly to their outdoor area which includes a mud-kitchen, planting and growing garden and large sand-pit. We also make use of the wider community with walks and outings to local parks and places of interest. Our care is based around the fact that every child is unique and cherished, and our warm and caring staff team offer high-quality childcare that is tailored to every child's individual needs. Routines and activities are planned to ensure that each child achieves their full potential.

Our aim is to give all children the best possible start to their early education. We do this by providing the highest level of care in a warm, loving environment so that they feel safe and secure to seize the opportunities provided for them. Our skilled and friendly staff team establish warm relationships with children and their families to ensure each child's learning is tailored to their individual needs and interests. Each room in nursery has been designed to create a warm homely feel with resources and play equipment which encourage children to explore and investigate and make their own little discoveries. We are guided by Ofsted regulations and the requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.



Features

- Home-from-home environment
- Top 20 small nursery chain Daynurseries.co.uk
- 3 separate rooms for Babies, Toddlers & Pre-School
- Purpose-built indoor soft-play room
- Separate outdoor play areas for younger and older children
- Children's vegetable garden
- Private car park which ensures ease of drop-off and collections.
- Home-made nutritious and delicious menu
- 5* Environmental Health rating
- Flexible 30-hour free childcare delivery models
- Flexible hours by arrangement
- Discounted places for "Know-How" employees
- French lessons

We work closely with the local schools to prepare children for their start in full time education.

Local Schools:-

- Lovers Lane Primary School
- Holy Trinity Catholic Primary & Nursery School
- Barnby Road Primary & Nursery School
- Coddington Primary School

We are open from Monday to Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm (7.15am early starts, before and after school and holiday care are available upon request). We are open 52 weeks of the year with the exception of all Public Holidays and the afternoon of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Fees are due for 52 weeks including bank holidays although where possible we will endeavour to offer an alternative session.

We operate an "always welcome" policy, so come and have a visit at any time, no appointment necessary.



ABOUT SERENDIPITYS

Serendipity/Seren'dipiti/noun

The faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries by accident

Kelly Alls started in the child-care industry in 1997 as a child minder working from home, as she couldn't find the high quality, affordable childcare that she wanted for her own children (all 5 of them). Her services were soon in demand and armed with a long waiting list, Kelly decided it was time to take the plunge and open her own Nursery.

In 1998 the first Serendipitys Day Nursery and Pre-School opened its doors in Bingham, Nottingham, with the ethos of providing the highest quality affordable childcare in a home from home environment.

Serendipitys now operate 5-day nurseries, based in Bingham, Balderton, Newark, Cotgrave and Grantham. All of the Serendipitys Day Nursery's run with that same ethos and passion as when the first one opened more than 20 years ago. At each Serendipitys Day Nursery we create a Home from Home environment so that all the children feel safe and secure to make their own little discoveries and develop to their full potential.

All nursery staff (regardless of experience or qualification) attend the Serendipitys Training Programme and have to pass a written exam in order to gain employment. The training programme ensures that all staff share the same Serendipitys passion and ethos as Kelly.

OUR AIMS AT SERENDIPITYS

We aim to offer the best childcare and education possible in a loving home from home environment.

- To provide stimulating activities encouraging learning through play
- To provide the tools for a child to learn and make their own discoveries
- To help prepare children for full time education
- To develop social skills
- To help children become independent, self-motivated and confident
- To work in partnership with parents and be flexible for working parents

We promise to care for your child with the same love and support they receive at home, to prepare your child for the years ahead by ensuring they make their own discoveries.

SETTLING IN AT SERENDIPITYS

Once you have received your confirmation of a nursery place for your child, settling in visits will be arranged at your convenience to ensure a smooth transition into nursery life.

We can offer as many visits as necessary for both parents and children to feel happy and secure. We understand how difficult it is leaving your child in someone else's care, so please remember you can call the nursery at any time to check on your child.

During your child's first visit, you will need to complete detailed information forms to ensure that we are aware of individual routines so that we can meet your child's needs.

The Serendipitys loving approach quickly settles even unsure little ones.

ALL ABOUT BABY ROOM

At Serendipitys, our Baby Room is designed to be warm, cosy and as much like home as possible. This helps to make the transition from home to nursery as easy as possible for our youngest children. Routines in Baby Room are organised around children's basic care needs and we will discuss your babies' routines with you to ensure that we provide care that is consistent with their individual needs.

Our key person system helps to ensure that babies settle into their new environment so that they feel secure, happy and ready to play. The key person will share information with parents on an ongoing basis to keep abreast of babies' changing needs so that we can meet these effectively at nursery.

Learning in Baby Room is through play. Once babies feel settled in their environment, they will develop the confidence to explore and investigate everything that is on offer. We know that a baby's brain grows most quickly in the first three years of life; this is the time when connections are being made, and missed opportunities, if not seized, can be gone forever. Therefore, we provide a wide range of resources and activities which encourage babies to explore and investigate using all of their senses.

Everything babies see, hear, touch, taste and smell helps them to begin to understand the world around them, so we aim to provide a wide and varied range of materials to support this. Many of our resources are natural or household objects which stimulates creativity, imagination and critical thinking.

Babies spend significant periods of time outdoors. We provide all-in-one waterproof suits so they can explore the natural environment and get as messy as they want whilst staying warm and dry. We pride ourselves that the majority of babies will leave the baby room toilet trained.



TODDLERS

In Toddler Room children are starting to become more self-confident and independent. We support this through our routines and encourage toddlers to have a go at doing things for themselves. This includes things like using a spoon and fork at meal times, putting on their own coats and wellies for outdoor play, getting dressed and undressed for their sleep and tidying their toys away. If Toddlers are not yet toilet trained, we will plan this with you.

In Toddler Room, children learn through play. Learning through play is one of the key principles of Early Years Education, which is supported by a wealth of research. Whilst playing, children learn to interact with others and be part of a community, to experience and manage feelings, and to be in control and confident about themselves and their abilities.

Play in the Toddler Room is mainly initiated by the children themselves. Children can freely choose what they want to play with from a wide selection of toys and resources, including natural and household objects.

Adults provide additional resources which offer new and exciting opportunities for exploration – such as water, mud, corn-flour, pasta and gloop. Adults then play with the children and help them to extend their language and follow up their ideas. Toddlers also enjoy adult-led group times where they learn to sit and listen for short periods of time. Group times include singing sessions, wake-and-shake and “talking-two’s” groups which focus on children’s speaking and listening skills as this is the basis for their developing early literacy skills.

Our daily routines include lots of opportunities for outdoor and physical play to promote children’s overall good health. We provide waterproof all-in-ones so that toddlers can fully enjoy exploring the natural environment whilst remaining warm and dry.



PRESCHOOL

In Pre-School, we are beginning to get children ready for starting school. This journey will continue when they leave us at nursery and move into their Reception year at school where they will continue to learn through play until they start their statutory schooling in Year 1.

Children in Pre-School are usually beginning to play in a more focussed way and enter the wonderful stage of 'make believe' and 'pretend' play. They have the ability to transform their environment into what they need for their world of play.

In nursery, we support this by providing toys and resources that they can transform as they play – pine cones, cotton-reels, pebbles, clothes pegs. A cardboard box can be a car one day and a robot-head the next. When children play with toys that can become something else as their play changes, they learn to work with and live in their environment.

In preparation for school, and in line with children's developing ability to concentrate for longer periods, the amount of adult-led activities in Pre-School begins to increase. These activities are carefully planned to support children's listening and attention skills and their early literacy in a way that is fun and exciting. These activities routinely include wake-and-shake, story times, circle time, singing times.

We support children's developing self-confidence and independence through routines where we encourage children to do things for themselves. This includes things like serving their own meals, using the toilet independently, being confident and able in relation to their personal hygiene, to dress and undress themselves and helping themselves to a drink when they need one.

Our goal is for children to leave us happy, confident, independent and ready to begin their adventure at school.



KEY PERSON

A key-person undertakes personal care routines for their key children and ensures that activities are planned to support children's continued learning and development. Key persons also establish effective partnerships with parents in order to help ensure that there is a smooth transition between home and nursery and that information is shared on an ongoing basis. Your child's key person will work with you to make sure we are supporting your child to make the best progress possible and preparing them for their future learning and successes.

The role of the key person is to:

- Provide a consistent, friendly, secure, homely atmosphere for all children in their care.
- Build a positive relationship with their individual key children and their families.
- Develop a good knowledge of children's needs and interests through observations and by sharing information with their parents & carers.
- Plan activities and resources that interest the children in their care and ensure that they are appropriately supported and challenged to make the best progress possible in their development.
- Keep up-to-date records on, and monitor the developmental progress of, their individual key children and talk to parents/carers about this on an ongoing basis.
- Ensure they remain fully up to date with current research and developments in Early Years practice and the legal framework.
- Work as part of a team, both within nursery and with other relevant professionals who are supporting their individual key children.

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

In order to ensure that there is a smooth transition for children between home and nursery, we encourage parents to become involved in all aspects of nursery life. During normal nursery hours, staff are always on hand for parents to talk to and discuss all areas of their children's care and development. We understand that communication can be difficult for working parents and therefore extend opportunities to include out-of-hours events.

PARENT EVENINGS

All parents are strongly encouraged to attend our termly parent evenings. These evenings provide opportunities for parents and key persons to jointly reflect upon children's progress and identify their next steps in learning. Parents and key persons also share ideas of how children's ongoing progress can be supported through fun activities at home and with their family.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We organise regular social events for parents. These are wide-ranging and organised in response to parental feedback regarding their needs and wishes. They include sessions within nursery hours, such as grand-parents tea parties; along with evening or week-end activities such as family fun days and community events.

PARENTAL QUESTIONNAIRES

As we are always striving for improvement, we send out regular parental questionnaires to assess parents' level of satisfaction about nursery and to seek ideas for improvement. We would ask that you take a few minutes to complete these when asked, and to be honest in your comments in order to help us continue to improve the experiences for all children who come to nursery.

We regularly ask parents to review us on daynurseries.co.uk
This is a great platform for you to see what our parents say about us.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE FRAMEWORK

The Government and Early Years professionals describe the time in your child's life between birth and statutory school age (the term after their 5th Birthday), as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Anyone caring for children in the Early Years age range, for over 2 hours a day, must register with OFSTED. OFSTED are then responsible for checking that everyone who is registered complies with legal requirements. The legal requirements are set out in the "Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage". This document sets the standards for learning, development and care for children who are in the Early Years age range. OFSTED also grade the quality of care and learning that settings are providing. All Serendipity's nurseries are currently graded as "Outstanding" or "Good".

About the EYFS Framework

The EYFS contains 3 sections.

- The Safeguarding and Welfare section covers the steps that providers must take to keep children safe and promote their welfare.
- The Assessment section describes the arrangements for measuring children's developmental progress.
- The Learning and Development section specifies the 7 areas of learning and development which must shape activities and experiences for children in all Early Years settings.

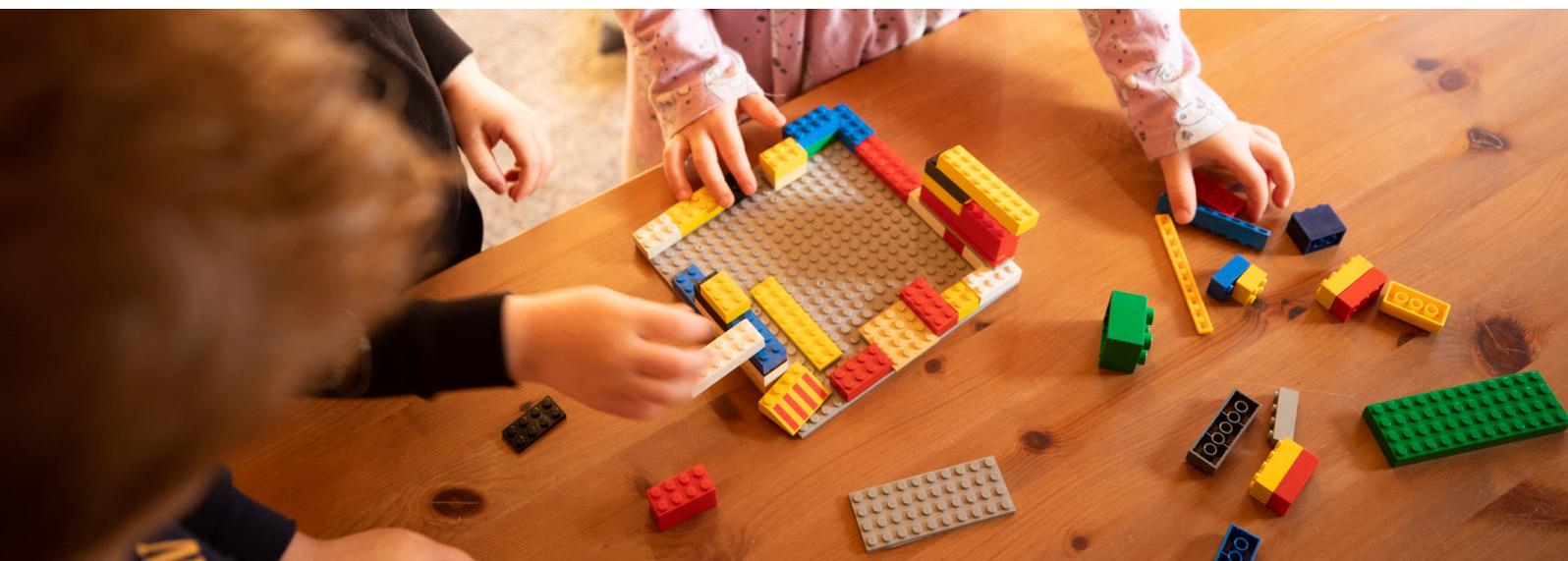
These 7 areas are:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

These 3 areas are classed as the Prime Areas, they are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. They are the basis for successful learning in the other 4 "Specific" areas, which are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

These 7 areas are considered to give children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and through life.



TWO YEAR FUNDING

We are registered with the local authority to access 2-Year-old Funding and provide Free childcare for eligible children. Two year funded Free childcare is provided as 15 hours per week term-time Free of Charge (15 hours x 38 weeks = 570 hours per year) or as 11 hours per week all year round (11 hours x 52 weeks = 570 hours per year) Free of Charge.

THREE AND FOUR YEAR FUNDING

Nursery Education Funding for children over the age of 3 is provided by Nottinghamshire County Council. Universal entitlement of 15 hours (570 hours per year) is stretched and offered as 11 hours per week over 52 weeks. The extended entitlement of 30 hours (1140 hours per year) is stretched and offered as 22 hours per week over 52 weeks. We offer a limited number of term-time only places. If your child attends term-time only, they will receive up to 15 or 30 hours per week (term-time), depending on what they attend.

Due to the flexibility of our delivery models, we can offer the full extended entitlement in as little as 2.5 days. There is a charge for consumables, such as resources for activities, meals and external services. An additional charge per hour will apply to any sessions which exceed the number of Free hours available.

FREE NURSERY

We also offer several options for Free funded sessions. Eligible children can attend from 9.00am - 3.00pm (bringing a packed lunch) using 6 hours of funding, or from 9.00am - 12 noon or 1.00pm - 4.00pm using 3 hours of funding. These sessions are subject to availability and may change on a term by term basis.

PAYMENT TERMS

We are open Monday to Friday for 52 weeks a year, with the exception of all Bank Holidays and the afternoon of Christmas Eve and New Years' Eve (if they fall on a weekday).

Fees are due on the 1st of the month in advance. It is the childcare place and not a child's attendance that is charged, fees are calculated over 52 weeks.

A late payment fee of 15% of the outstanding balance will be applied to fees not received by the 7th of the month. Non-payment or repeated late payment may affect your child's place.

We do not make any deductions for non-attendance due to Bank Holidays, sickness or holidays. However, we do offer an alternative session for Bank Holiday and Festive half day closures 2 weeks either side of the date (subject to availability).

See our website for current prices.

COVID 19

Due to the impact of Coronavirus, there are some things that are currently a little different to normal at Serendipity's.

- Child Handovers and collections are done at the door
- Show around visits are done safely, socially distanced and out of hours
- Our parents' evenings are now done virtually over Zoom or similar
- Swimming and visits to the local care homes are not possible at present

We will resume normal operation as soon as Government guidelines are reviewed.