

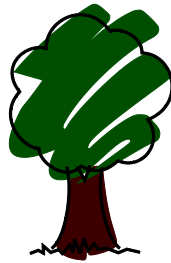
Oakmere Children's Nursery

Childcare Prospectus

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Oakmere Children's Nursery

About Us

Buildings and Facilities

Oakmere Children's Nursery is a well established, purpose built, day nursery that is privately owned and operated. Our aim is simple – to provide the best, high quality childcare in the area. We offer a caring, safe learning environment where your child will be happy, nurtured and encouraged to grow, develop and achieve their potential. We are OFSTED registered for up to 65 full time children's places aged from birth to 5 years old. We have two separate buildings, Nursery and Pre-School, joined by our secure outdoor areas.

Our unique location at Blakemere Village, in the heart of the Cheshire countryside, means we are able to provide a safe and stimulating environment for all children under our care. We have woodland footpaths on our doorstep and we make good use of them through nature walks, story times, picnics, minibeast and treasure hunts. There are no busy main roads to contend with, ample parking and easy access in and out of our site.

Our children's safety is paramount. We have CCTV in operation in all areas of the Nursery and Pre-School. There are two secure entrances before access is gained to children's rooms. We operate a password system for adults when picking up children at the end of their day. Our site is completely enclosed by a tall fence. Risk Assessments are carried out daily.

We offer funded places for 3 and 4 year olds, the universal 15 hours and the additional 15 hours for eligible parents. We also offer funded 2 year old places. We accept all major childcare vouchers.

We offer term-time only places in Nursery, when in receipt of 3-4 year old funding places are stretched over 52 weeks.

We were judged 'Outstanding in All Areas' in our most recent OFSTED inspection.

Staff

Our strongest asset is our staff team who are caring, dedicated and motivated. We plan stimulating activities in a rich environment that our children enjoy and learn from. Everyone has high expectations of the children in their care. All Oakmere staff are appropriately qualified and regularly attend courses as part of their continuing professional development. Most of our staff are qualified First Aiders. Before I took ownership of Oakmere I taught in Liverpool in Infant education for seventeen years, I am also an Early Years Professional. Our Deputy Manager has a Degree in Early Years and is an Early Years Teacher.

We have our own full time qualified Chef. All food is freshly prepared and cooked on the premises. We will always provide alternatives for special dietary requirements such as vegetarian, food allergies and cultural observances. The local council acknowledge our high standards in food preparation by awarding us a '5', the highest possible rating, in our Food Hygiene Inspection. Menus are on display in the Nursery foyer.

Oakmere operates a Key Worker system for all our children. Each child has a dedicated member of staff to ensure continuity of care and communication with Parents/Carers.

Annual Events

There are some special activities during the year that Parents/Carers can get involved with:

- Annual Sports Day
- Christmas Carols in Blakemere Courtyard
- Graduation Ceremony on leaving Oakmere

Community Partners

We work in partnership with other organisations in the community to ensure many varied experiences for our children. We work closely with the Local Authority who provide some of our training and assess our provision. We use some of the facilities at Blakemere Village such as the field, woods and play area, the pottery and the pet shop. We have visits from the local Fire Service, Police Force and Vets.

Oakmere Nursery is a happy, friendly place and has unique facilities to offer in the locality as a childcare provider. If you have any questions please feel free to give us a call or arrange a visit, we would be delighted to show you around.

Our Rooms

Introduction

Through topics and themes we plan broad and balanced experiences based on the learning objectives in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (relationships, confidence, feelings)
- Physical Development (movement, health, self-care)
- Communication and Language (listening, understanding, speaking)
- Literacy (reading, writing)
- Mathematics (numbers, shapes, space, measures)
- Understanding the World (people, the world, technology)
- Expressive Arts and Design (using media and materials, imagination)

We give children opportunities to develop their skills, knowledge and potential in a secure and encouraging environment both in and outdoors.

We teach and use 'Makaton' signs with all children as part of our daily practice, enabling our younger children to communicate both verbally and non-verbally.

As an aide to effective communication with our Parents/Carers your child's Key Worker will give you feedback on your child's day. For children in our 0-1 and 1-2 Rooms this takes the form of a 'Home Links Book' in which you can pass relevant messages back to us at your child's next session. For children in our 2-3 Room and in Pre-School this information will be given on a daily activity sheet.

Each child has an online Learning Journal in which photographs and notes of observations will be kept as a record of their progress and achievements through the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Fresh drinking water is available to children throughout the day.

0-1 Years Room

Our Baby Room is spacious and equipped with a separate sleeping area with baby monitors keeping a close check at sleep times. We also have a separate changing area. We have stimulating resources for playtimes to encourage your baby's sensory development and interaction with others. Babies enjoy fresh air and the great outdoors in our secure outdoor area and during pushchair walks around the Village and the surrounding woods.

1-2 Years Room

As your child develops and is able to walk unaided they will move into our 1-2 Room, which again is very spacious and has a separate 'wet/messy' play area. We have a separate sleep room and changing room.

Through free and structured play children have fun and continue to develop:

- Social skills, sharing and forming positive relationships
- Speech and language
- Colour and shape recognition
- Hand-eye coordination by doing jigsaws, modelling and sorting games
- Fine motor skills such as mark making and drawing
- Gross motor skills such as throwing and climbing
- Spatial awareness through outdoor play
- Independence through choosing what to play with

Our outdoor area has two sections. A soft surface area with slides, climbing equipment, chalkboards, sand, water and ride-on toys and a sensory garden with seating and planters for digging and growing. Children go out for walks around the Village and in the surrounding woodland.

2-3 Years Room

At 2 years of age your child will move into our 2-3 Years Room. Here a slightly more structured daily routine is used although there is still ample opportunity for free play. We provide activities and challenges to further develop your child's knowledge, skills, emotional, physical, social and intellectual potential. Future plans are informed by your child's achievements thus giving a more individualised learning experience.

Again we have a 'wet/messy' play area in this room. We have a separate bathroom area and separate sleep room.

As well as playing in our well-equipped outdoor area with soft surface, climbing and riding equipment, chalkboards, sand, water, seating and planters for digging and growing; we make use of the surrounding woodland walks for activities such as minibeast hunting and story times.

Pre-School

At 3 years of age your child will move to our separate Pre-School building with its own outdoor area. There is a tall gate between the Nursery and Pre-School outdoor areas that can be opened to allow occasional supervised access between age groups and siblings.

We plan through topics and themes in the Pre-School and assess your child's progress against objectives. Future plans are informed by your child's achievements thus giving a more individualised learning experience. There is an appropriate balance between free and structured play. Children are encouraged to become more independent in making their own choices in their play and learning.

The outdoor area has a den, playhouse, chalkboards, mud kitchen, planters for growing, a sandpit, water tray, crates for building, seating and is well equipped with toys, building blocks and wheeled toys. Children go to the adventure playground on site and for walks in the woods, hunt minibeast and have stories under the trees.

Playing outdoors offers significant benefits for children:

- They are engaged in vigorous physical activity
- They can explore and use different types of equipment
- They can develop their understanding of the natural outdoors
- It encourages spatial awareness

The learning areas and daily routine are similar to a Reception class in Primary School with register time, snack time and library; this is good preparation for when your child moves on in their school career. We have good links with many local Primary Schools and Reception class teachers are invited to come to Oakmere to discuss individual children's progress.

A typical day for your child in Pre-School might include the following activities:

- painting and drawing
- craft activities
- play dough and junk modelling
- number work
- shapes and colours
- mark making
- sand and water play
- story time
- singing and music
- Yoga
- Spanish
- parachute games
- bat and ball games
- climbing
- riding
- planting
- cooking
- role play
- big and small construction
- table top activities
- playing educational computer games
- running around on the field



Oakmere Children's Nursery

SAMPLE WEEKLY FOOD MENU

All food is freshly prepared on the premises by our qualified Chef.

We will provide suitable alternatives for dietary requirements such as vegetarian, food allergies and cultural observances.

	Breakfast	Lunch	Tea
MONDAY	Choice of cereal	Homemade meat and potato pie served with new potatoes and seasonal vegetables Fromage Frais	Vegetable risotto Fresh fruit salad
TUESDAY	Choice of cereal	Tuna pasta Apple strudel and custard	Homemade vegetable soup served with a crusty roll Homemade shortbread
WEDNESDAY	Choice of cereal	Roast beef dinner with Yorkshire pudding Poached pears	Jacket potatoes with ham and cheese Fresh fruit
THURSDAY	Choice of cereal	Fish in sauce served with mashed potato and peas Homemade mixed berry crumble	Chicken and vegetable cous cous Yoghurt
FRIDAY	Choice of cereal	Homemade lamb hotpot with potatoes and vegetables Fruit flan	Tomato and vegetable pasta Homemade Bakewell Tart

Main meals are served with sugar free juice or water; snacks are served with milk or water.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Children's fees are payable in advance on the first of the month.

To book a Nursery place a securing deposit is required upon submission of the application form. This amount shall be deducted from the first month's fees. The deposit is £50 for a full time place and £25 for a part time place.

Fees include all snacks, meals, nappies and wipes required during your child's stay in Nursery. When your child joins our Pre-School you will provide your own nappies/pullups and there will be an extra charge for meals when in receipt of a funded place (you may provide your own meals subject to conditions). Sudocrem and Calpol should be brought from home labelled with your child's name when required. We provide a gym bag for spare clothes etc. Formula or breast milk should be provided from home.

We offer the universal 570 hours of funded childcare which is available to parents of all children the term after their third birthday on a stretched basis over 52 weeks. We also offer the additional 570 hours to eligible parents, again stretched over 52 weeks. Places are available in sessions of 5 hours, 8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm or as days 8am-6pm. Days and sessions are subject to availability.

No refund will be given for periods when your child's place is unfilled due to illness or holidays.

No deduction is made for Bank Holidays.

Fees may be reviewed at any time.

Until in receipt of funding, discounts will be given for siblings, applied to the oldest child.

Unless in receipt of a completely funded place, a 50% retainer is payable for the 'holiday' weeks of a term-time place in Nursery.

If fees remain unpaid for a period of three weeks after the due date we reserve the right to terminate your child's place with one week's notice. A late payment fee may be charged.

The Nursery is open all year round excluding Bank Holidays. Standard opening hours are 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday. Morning sessions are 8am – 1pm. Afternoon sessions are 1pm – 6pm. We can provide childcare from 7am should this be required, charged at a separate rate.

Late collection of children without notice may incur an extra charge.

Termination of a child's place requires 4 weeks notice. Any alteration to sessions requires 2 weeks notice, subject to availability.

We reserve the right to exclude a child from Nursery/Pre-School with one weeks notice.

All early starts, from 7am, must be booked /cancelled at least one week in advance, any days cancelled without notice must be paid for. There is an extra charge for early starts.

Children may only be collected by the nominated adults on the enrolment form unless prior agreement is made with the Nursery. All persons collecting children must be 18 or over. We reserve the right to refuse anyone entry to Nursery or Pre-School.

The Nursery will not accept children who are suffering from sickness or diarrhoea in order to avoid cross infection. Children should be kept at home for 48 hours from the last episode of their illness.

Antibiotics will only be administered by the Nursery after the child has been taking them for at least 24 hours at home and then only with the written authorisation of parents.

We can only administer Calpol and/or prescribed medication.

After the MMR we ask parents to keep their child at home for 24 hours in case of any reaction to immunisation.

Should a child fall ill whilst at the nursery we will notify the parents or the alternative emergency contacts and make suitable arrangements.

In the event of a medical emergency we will take your child to hospital, your consent will be sought on enrolment.

Oakmere Children's Nursery cannot be held responsible for any damage to cars, injury or loss of belongings through usage of the Nursery car park.

We ask that a sunhat and sun cream, factor 50+, are provided by parents during the Summer.

APPLICATION FORM

CHILD'S NAME			
DATE of BIRTH			
ADDRESS			
PARENTS/CARERS INFORMATION			
NAME			
ADDRESS (if different from above)			
PLACE of WORK			
CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS	Home: Business: Mobile:	Home: Business: Mobile:	
Please indicate Sessions Required			
DAY	FULL DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON
MONDAY			
TUESDAY			
WEDNESDAY			
THURSDAY			
FRIDAY			
Preferred Start Date			
How did you hear about the Nursery?			
I acknowledge that I have read the terms and conditions of the Nursery and agree to be bound by them.			
Signature		
Date		