

Little Buds

Provision for two year olds

Admissions

We welcome children into our Little Bud's room as soon as they have turned two. Our provision for two year olds is currently over-subscribed and places will be allocated, in order, according to whether your child meets the following criteria:

- Your child has an older sibling who is currently a pupil of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School
- Your child meets criteria for a funded place.

Meeting these criteria does not guarantee an immediate space. Once forms have been handed to us, your child will go on to our waiting list until a place becomes available.

Fees:

A significant number of two year olds are now eligible for 15 hours free childcare. Our provision is registered to provide these funded places. Families must meet one of the following eligibility criteria:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit, providing the annual gross income is no more than £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
- If the child is looked after by the Local Authority If parents think that they may be eligible for free childcare we can help them apply for this or they can apply online at www.liverpool.gov.uk

Non-funded two year olds:

For two year olds who are not eligible for free childcare, our fees are as follows:

£15 per morning or afternoon session.

All fees are payable in full by lunchtime on the Friday of the week before. If fees have not been paid your child may not be permitted to attend their session and may risk losing their



place. All payments must be paid using the Agora online payment system as we are a cashless school and do not hold or accept cash payments on the premises.

If you experience difficulties paying your fees and need to keep the place to enable you to attend work please speak to us as soon as possible.

Sessions

Children who have funded places will have fixed sessions, either a morning or afternoon or a combination of both. This is to ensure that they receive their full entitlement and we will negotiate this with you. Parents who are paying for sessions, often have work commitments and have the flexibility to organise them to meet their individual needs. It is important that we are given as much notice as possible to ensure that a place is available.



Facilities

Our two year olds have their own room with age appropriate resources and furniture. They also have access to all the other areas of our unit including our fabulous outdoor area.

You will need to provide a suitable outdoor 'all-in-one' waterproof suit and ask that all children bring in a pair of wellies, clearly named, for when the children are accessing the outdoor provision. We ask that all children in our Little Bud's provision arrive at their session with a bag containing a full change of clothes

At this age, children are at different stages with their toilet training. We have excellent changing facilities for those still requiring them; access to potties and free access to their own toilets in the bathroom. Children are given plenty of verbal praise and encouragement to succeed.



If your child wears nappies, they will have their own storage compartment within our changing area where their nappies and wipes will be stored. We ask that you send these in ready for their first session. We will then inform you when we need these to be replenished.

Settling In

To ensure a smooth transition into our Little Bud's room, children will be offered a phased introduction of one hour sessions to allow them to meet and form relationships with their keyworker and become familiar with the setting.

Comforters

We discourage the use of dummies and other forms of comforter in our Early Years department. However, there is some flexibility for two year olds who depend upon these in times of upset and when needing a sleep. We will discuss this with you and agree a plan.



Daily Organisation

Session times:

Morning – 8:45am to 11:45am

Afternoon session – 12:30pm to 3:30pm

The focus of the day continues to be on learning through play, with a routine that incorporates adult led activities and builds on children's developing knowledge and curiosity. Our carefully chosen toys and activities promote physical coordination and manipulative skills, role-play and creativity. Children take part in focused and creative activities throughout the day. Children have a free choice of which activity they take part in, the room is well equipped with plenty of resources.

Children are provided with many different activities along with music and movement, song times, musical instrument sessions and outdoor play. Circle time every day is an opportunity to take part in group activities and listen to stories; staff use props and puppets during these times to hold children's attention and develop their concentration. Children spend a lot of their time outdoors and have access to a large outdoor area.



Dropping Off and Collecting

Children come into our Little Bud's room through the infant school entrance at the beginning and end of the day of the day and through the main school entrance at any other times. The children have their own cloakroom facilities within the Little Bud's room.

At the end of each session.

You will be required to complete an authorisation form stating which people have permission to collect your child from school and they must be at least 16 years old. We will not release your child unless they are collected from the classroom by an adult named on the form. It is not appropriate to have your child collected by an older child in the school.



Snack

Children are encouraged to share a healthy snack and drink of milk in a small friendly group where staff promote good table manners and encourage children to be independent in their feeding. This is at a cost of 50p per week for each child and can be paid using the Agora online payment system. Children will also be offered fresh water throughout their session. We appreciate that children will be at different developmental stages and can provide a range of drinking cups which we will discuss with parents.