

BABIES

HOW YOUR BABY WILL DEVELOP

Learning

Between 3-14 months of age your child's physical development is rapid. They gain increasing control of their muscles and develop skills - moving their hands, feet, limbs and head - quickly becoming mobile and able to handle and manipulate objects. They are learning from the moment they are born.

Babies learn first of all through their sense of touch and our room offers a wide range of experiences involving touch, and all the other senses.

Communication

Even before their first words they find out a lot about language by hearing people talking. We encourage children, no matter how young, to build on their communication skills and to develop a sense of self and to express their needs and feelings.

Alongside non-verbal communication we encourage children to learn a few simple words for everyday things and people. With encouragement and plenty of interaction your child's communication skills will grow and their vocabulary will expand very rapidly.

Education

Regular, though flexible, routines help your baby to gain a sense of order in the world and to anticipate events. The Baby room creates a safe and interesting, environment, with age-appropriate resources that help them develop curiosity, coordination and physical abilities as they become more mobile - all the while aided and encouraged by our staff.

Importantly, we encourage little ones to start to learn the beginnings of self-control and how to relate to other people, developing social and mental skills with people they have a positive attachment to.

TODDLERS

HOW YOUR TODDLER WILL DEVELOP

Development

In our toddler rooms your child will increase their interest in joint play such as make-believe, construction and games to learn the important social skills of sharing and cooperating. They will also learn more about helping adults in everyday activities and finding a balance between independence and complying with the wishes of others!

Learning

Children learn through doing! Hats, bags and boxes are just some of the objects we use to encourage imagination and creativity during playtimes. Also music, picture books and finger rhymes help to develop listening skills, rhythm and sound recognition.

Literacy and numeracy will develop rapidly with our support and a wide range of interesting materials and activities. We will encourage your child's language to become more complex, and to become more adept at using longer sentences.

Environment

The staff at Olive Tree understand that your child still needs the comfort and security of special people and that close, warm relationships form the basis for much learning.

HOW YOUR PRESCHOOLER DEVELOPS

Environment

As a childcare provider, we are fully committed to working towards the Early Years Foundation Stage learning outcomes, reinforced by OFSTED.

Learning

Our pre-school rooms provide your child with an opportunity to build a stronger sense of their own identity and their place in a wider world. The main focus remains on learning through creativity and play. We also teach and emphasise the value of care and concern for others, respect for cultural diversity and ourselves.

Literacy, problem solving, reasoning and numeracy skills will continue to develop. as well as an understanding of cause and effect.

Exploration

At Olive Tree pre-school children will learn to recognise the importance of social rules and customs, to show understanding and tolerance of others, and to learn how to be more controlled in their own behaviour.

Playing

They will play in small groups to help develop social skills. Your child will become better able to plan and undertake more challenging activities with a wider range of materials. They will learn through shared activities with peers and adults.

PARENTS

WORKING WITH PARENTS

We work extremely hard to develop an effective partnership with parents in order to enhance the learning and development of each child within Olive Tree. We value parent's input into the setting and know how beneficial this is to the child's learning and well-being.

We work together with parents to encourage them to be involved in their child's learning and development both within nursery and at home. Two-way communication is essential. It allows us to work together, share ideas and value and respect each other's views, which, in turn, provides the best outcomes for children.

Keeping Parents Informed

At Olive Tree we make this two-way communication effective by having home-nursery book which we write in each day to inform the parent about their child's day. We put things in such as photo's or observations informing parent's about their child's learning and add in ideas to extend this learning at home.

Parents are encouraged to write in anything they feel is appropriate to their child's learning and development that they feel we should know. Parents are encouraged to share this book with any other providers the child may attend for their additional comments and to share in the Olive Trees experience. In this way we are working in collaboration and consistently to promote the child's learning and development.

Development Profile

Each child has their own developmental profile which records the child's progress and experiences throughout their time at Olive Tree. Parents are encouraged to look through and contribute to their child's profile as often as they like.

We also have parents' evenings and information nights that inform parents about the different stages and areas of children's learning and development, what experiences we provide for the children in order for them to learn and develop and also to inform parents how their child is progressing within the setting.

Working to EYFS Guidelines

'Parents are children's first educators. When parents and practitioners work together in early years settings, the results have a positive impact on children's development and learning.' (EYFS 2008)

This statement is taken from the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and forms part of our ethos, our policies and our procedures here at Olive Tree.