

Fakenham Children's Daycare Centre

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Welcome!

To all of our new children and their families who have become a part of our setting within the last few months, we look forward to the many enriched adventures and playful experiences we will be sharing with you.

We are proud to offer full daycare services where skillful and qualified Early Years Educators draw on their experience, training and knowledge to finely balance a package of care and education. We pride ourselves in forming secure relationships with the children to effectively support them in a nurturing and safe environment so that they can play and explore in their own time. These learning experiences along with checkpoints that your child has accomplished are reflected upon within their learning stories, which you can request to see at any time.

A very big thank you...

To Joe Hart and his team for completing a full renovation to our kitchen within the Centre. Everyone at the setting is so pleased to have a beautiful updated kitchen.

Recent Staff Training

At Fakenham Children's Daycare Centre, we continue to offer a wide range of training and continuous professional development to all of our practitioners in order to keep ourselves up-to-date and relevant, as well as ongoing improvements to our practice. The training the practitioners undergo ensures that we, as a Centre, provide the very best care and education to the children.

Amazing achievement from Jamie-Leigh! We are pleased to announce that she has gained her Level 6 qualification as well as her Early Years Teachers Status, congratulations! Jamie and Kayla have completed Norfolk Graded Care Plan Profile training. Kayla has undergone some 'Changes to Ofsted Inspection' training. Paige, Laura and Louise have all done a refresher on Prevent training. Jemma and Louise are in the process of completing Curiosity Approach training. Abbie M, Kim, Jemma and Laura have completed their Food Hygiene. Amanda and Megan have completed Allergy Awareness Training, and Amanda has completed Early Years Nutrition training too. Megan has been awarded a Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health. Abbie M, Niamh, George, Paige, Louise, Billie and Jamie have refreshed their First Aid Training. And Louise is undergoing a Level 3 SENCO qualification as well as core communication training. Congratulations to all staff for continuing to improve their practice and personal development.

Practitioner News

We are ecstatic to welcome Amanda back into the setting, after being diagnosed with cancer a year ago she has gone on to smash her chemo and radiotherapy and given the news that we were all waiting for. Amanda is taking on a new role as Head of Curriculum.

We also welcome Toni to our Butterfly Team. As well as two student apprentices Emma and Ruby, and Paige our student from college, who will be working across all rooms in the Centre as they study for their Early Years qualifications.

Sadly, we said good bye to Ella last month, a member of our Sunflower team, and Tasha in July, our Cook. We wish them good luck as they move onto new adventures!

Claire and Megan have now taken on new roles, sharing the kitchen and cooking duties between them. The Butterfly Room welcome Jamie-Leigh who has moved from the Caterpillar room. Billie is now working across all three rooms as she approaches the home stretch of completing her Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification.

Charlie will be going on maternity leave at the end of October as she welcomes baby number 3 in late November, congratulations to Charlie and her partner, Marley!

We are pleased to say that Kayla and Jemma have accepted new positions as Assistant Managers of the Centre, congratulations girls!



Upcoming Events & Dates:

October Half Term:

For those of you who use our Holiday Club, the Centre will be open 8:00am–6:00pm half term week (27th-31st). Please get in contact to book your sessions. We would love to see your spooky costumes during this week! If your child would like to dress up then please do.

Christmas Holidays:

For those of you who use our Holiday Club, the Centre will be open 8:00am–6:00pm during the Christmas Holidays. Please get in touch to book your sessions. Christmas Eve opening hours are 8:00am–2:00pm and as there will be no funded hours on this day, all sessions will be charged according to our private fee structure.

New Years:

We reopen on the 5th of January at 8:00am for all year round children/ For term time only children starting on the 6th January.

Allergies/Intolerances

We have a number of allergies and intolerances that we manage within the Centre including a range of severities of reactions to milk, oats, fish etc. We have a number of different procedures in place to ensure that we do everything we can to keep children with allergies and/or intolerances safe. This includes all menu ingredients being checked by 2 individual practitioners from different rooms for such allergens before consumption. Please help us to keep every one safe by ensuring that your child does not attend the Centre with snacks or food in their bags; please do not be offended if we remove such items from their bags, this is to protect others' health.

If your child develops an allergy or intolerance, please do not hesitate to contact the Centre so we can put new procedures specific to your child in place.



Funding Information

Nurseries are a step closer to being able to roll out the largest ever expansion of funded education and childcare.

In April 2024, we expanded 15 hours funded childcare to include all 2 year olds who meet the eligibility criteria.

In September 2024, this funding also applies to childcare for babies aged 9 months to 2 years, who meet the criteria.

By September 2025, it has been proposed that working parents will be entitled to 30 hours funded childcare from 9 months old until they start school. Twice as much as we are seeing our current two year olds receiving.

With this in mind, if you would like to extend your hours or add extra days, then please get in touch ASAP so that we can add you to our waiting lists.

What have we been up to?

The Sunflower children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the topic of Growing, where they have grown their own tomatoes and cucumbers in the garden, and have enjoyed eating them too, yummy! The babies have also enjoyed lots of sand and water play over the Summer, sensory painting, enjoying the outdoor mud kitchen where they can smell and play with fresh herbs as well as the topic of "Things That Spin". This topic will continue alongside learning all about the farm. The babies will be drawing pumpkins alongside growing their own pumpkins too, wow! The Sunflower team have loved welcoming and getting to know the new babies into the room too.



The Caterpillar children's topic of "Growing" has included learning about how plants, animals and how humans grow. The Caterpillars have also been learning about the topic of "Dear Zoo", where they have thrown themselves into different kinds of sensory play in builders trays, reading the story with puppets, mark marking, making various animals in different forms of art and reenacting the story in the garden. The Caterpillar team have also enjoyed welcoming some of the Sunflower babies who have transitioned to the Caterpillar room, as well as some new children into the setting too!

The Butterfly children have been learning about "Growing", "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and "School Readiness" as our beloved butterflies got ready to head to big school. The children have planted their own seeds, continued to practice their phonics and sounds, building and stamping flowers, lots of sensory play and learning about the life cycles of a variety of animals/insects. We have welcomed lots of children from the Caterpillar room as they transition over and greeted lots of new faces too! Over the last few weeks the new Butterfly children have been getting to know each other in the topic of "All About Me", as we have learnt about what each other love as they bring in belongings/photos from home and talk about them, drawing self portraits, talking about who lives in our houses, going on Autumn walks and getting creative with cooking and crafting! We look forward to our next topics of learning about the community of Fakenham, Halloween, Fireworks and then dare we say...Christmas!

Congratulations to our current beloved Butterfly children who have transitioned really well to their chosen schools at the beginning of the academic year in September.

Transitions...

As a Centre, we are very pleased with how smoothly transitions occur across the setting and believe that the children are adapting very well to their rooms and routines. The staff at the Centre are working tirelessly to ensure that they feel comfortable and confident during this new and potentially uneasy time. If you have any concerns or worries about how your child is settling within their new/current room, then please do not hesitate to speak to one of the practitioners at the setting.

Polite reminders and messages...

We can still expect the weather to be a bit unpredictable from week to week. We politely ask that your child arrives to the Centre with everything they may need for the day ranging from: rain coats, wellie boots, sun cream etc. for different types of days as we love to explore and play in the outdoors in all weathers. As we are always encouraging your child to embrace their creative sides, we also politely ask for spare changes of clothes for your child as they engage in lots of messy play with sand and water, for painting, clay modeling and baking etc. It would also be very helpful if your child's clothes and belongings are **labelled** as this makes it much easier for staff to send them to the correct home, thank you.

As we get busier and welcome more children into our setting, could we please kindly ask that parents/carers stick to their **allocated drop off and collection times** on the days your child/children are in attendance, this is to ensure that staff ratios are kept at the legal requirement at all times and to ensure the smooth running of our Centre.

We would like to kindly remind parents/carers again that the Centre grounds are a **5 mph** zone and with young children walking across the car park, it is important to abide to this speed limit **at all times** to ensure that we maintain a high level of safety and security.

Thank you in advance.

