



New Moon 
nursery



Welcome

In 2010 my Mum and I took the opportunity to open New Moon Nursery, which we developed as a family business venture. Our main priority for the nursery was 'what would we want for our own children?' My mum was an Early Years teacher of 16 years and I was a Speech and Language therapist working in a range of private day nurseries supporting pre-school children.

We had a good understanding of how we wanted our nursery to feel, and the type of care that we wanted to provide for the children. Both of my children have attended our nursery and are developing into confident, kind and fabulous little personalities. I am proud to say that part of their development is attributed to the wonderful environment that New Moon Nursery has provided for them.

As a parent I understand that leaving your children in the care of 'strangers' at any age is an extremely emotional time. From tiny babies settling into nursery after a maternity or paternity leave, or 2 and 3 year old children experiencing nursery for the first time. Whatever the age of your child finding a nursery that shares the same understanding of your values and how you tick as a parent is key.

As an owner of the nursery I have a fundamental role in developing the ongoing vision of what high quality childcare we should provide for our little people. Our children are our future and they require a calm, loving and nurturing environment with opportunities to learn and as many varied experiences that we can provide for them in order to secure their foundations in their Early Years.

Anna Friend



A Home from Home

We chose our location for the nursery, a beautiful detached Victorian house based in Castleford. Our aim throughout the development of the nursery has always been to maintain the home like family feeling.

Our nursery ethos is to provide a warm loving, homely environment, and you will get this feeling when you visit New Moon Nursery. Our nursery is small, so like a family our Educators know and understand one another well and they also know each one of our children inside and out. All our children from our babies to our oldest children see each other regularly and are supported to develop an understanding and respect for one another's similarities and differences.

Our nursery is calm and nurturing and our educators genuinely love and know each little personality, understanding the unique little quirks that make each one super special. This is so important to ensure that children feel safe, secure and happy. When children are settled and happy they absolutely thrive within our environment.

Our management team and educators have extremely high expectations of our children in terms of their behaviour, learning to respect and tolerate one another, learning to be kind and considerate and learning to live and play alongside one another happily.

We also have extremely high expectations of what our children can achieve by providing them with meaningful narratives to their play, teaching them new vocabulary and providing varied experiences through trips out of nursery or special visitors coming to nursery in order to support our children to learn understand new information.



Extra Special Relationships

As your child settles into nursery life they will form strong relationships with all the educators, however there will be one person that they spark an extra special relationship with. That person will be your child's Key Person, they are extremely important in ensuring that your child is happy and settled and that you as a parent feel confident.

This person will grow to know your child in great depth, understanding their unique personality and how they like play, learn and interact within the nursery. Your child's Key Person will also develop a relationship with you as a parent and you will be able to share your experiences from home along with the developments or changes you have made to their routines and we can then adapt and change routines within nursery.

They will also be responsible for all the assessment and observation of your child within nursery. They will ensure that your child is continuing to develop within their learning and provide evidence through photographs and videos. You will receive feedback after each session, sharing the experiences they have had during the day and all the key information from the day.



Food, Glorious Food

All our food is home cooked within the nursery kitchen where the dining room is situated. This enables our children to enjoy a sociable mealtime experience with their peers, away from the environment where they play.

Our children learn how to behave at mealtimes and we also support their independence through helping them to serve their own meals. When we were developing the nursery, the sociable dining room was an important feature. Sharing mealtimes is extremely important in creating the opportunity to chat about our day. It is the time when children provide you with the most information about what they have been up to and it's comforting to hear their stories.

Nutrition is high on our agenda, ensuring that children have a healthy, balanced diet whilst at nursery is extremely important to us. We source our fruit, vegetables and meat locally through green grocers and butchers, therefore the ingredients for meals are of the highest quality. We offer a breakfast consisting of cereals, toast and fruit. A hot lunch and either a hot or cold tea, with a range of fruit and vegetable snacks throughout the day. We believe that our children's tummies should be filled with goodness, which will provide them with the energy to engage and learn within our wonderful environment.

Our cook is also extremely experienced in providing meals for children with allergies.

Water is available throughout the day whenever the children need it. We provide water and milk to drink in nursery to help reduce sugar intake through juice drinks, ensuring our children are fully hydrated.



New Moon Room (0-2 Years)

I have been there myself... twice! The day your maternity or paternity leave ends and you have to hand over your tiny little baby into the care of our educators within our New Moon Room, it is such an emotional time. But it's also amazing to watch how well they settle into our care. Babies that are fully settled and happy will progress and thrive, you will feel confident that they are content in our care.

The activities within the New Moon Room are carefully planned to enhance the development of play, language and learning. Our baby room educators are extremely experienced and fully understand how young babies grow, interact and develop. Our natural resources reflect the ages and stages of our babies' development, this is why we have two differing rooms for younger babies and toddlers. Our baby rooms are calm and we only provide care for 12 babies at a time across the 2 rooms ensuring that there is ample space for your young ones to move freely and explore.

Our baby room educators will spend time listening to your care routine, your child's interests, likes and dislikes in order for them to provide a care plan that is unique to you and your baby. They are skilled in interpreting the subtle communications babies make, developing a closeness that enables them to fully understand your baby's needs.





Half Moon Room

(2-3 Years)

Within our Half Moon Room our trained educators understand that different children require varied activities that will enhance their skills as they grow and become more active. Our educators understand that whether children are starting nursery for the first time as a two year old or transitioning from our baby room, they need time to settle and get to know their environment.

Life as a two year old is full of new challenges and these need to be fun and engaging that sparks their interest and inquisitive nature. Your child's language skills will be beginning to flourish and, language and communication development is supported through interaction with attentive educators who help children to begin to understand the world through a range of stimulating learning experiences.

Our two year olds absolutely love testing the boundaries and, our carefully planned routines support them to predict what happens during the nursery day. This enables them to understand our educators' expectations of them. We absolutely love getting to know our two year olds as they continue to develop their personalities. Each one is unique and the educators know exactly how to support each one individually, to ensure they are getting the absolute most out of the nursery environment.

We have high expectations for all our children; our two year olds are encouraged to develop their independence and to take responsibility for developing friendships and being kind and considerate to their peers with the support of the educators.

You will continue to receive the same feedback from your child's key person and you will be able to share the experiences they have had at home, and we can adapt and change any routines or special interests your child has developed, ensuring these are fully incorporated into your child's nursery day.



Full Moon Room

(3-5 Years)

Our focus with our pre-school children in the Full Moon Room is providing a range of exciting and engaging play activities, alongside developing children's readiness for school. The educators working with our pre-school children are extremely skilled in incorporating literacy and numeracy into everyday activities. We believe that it is so important to provide meaningful and varied experiences and we are able to do this through our planned activities, talking about seasons, celebrations and our families. We may have special visitors in nursery to help consolidate our learning or go on trips out of nursery to continue our learning in a completely different environment. We are also extremely passionate about language development and enriching your child's vocabulary and, truly believe that providing varied and exciting learning opportunities is the best way to develop these vital life skills.

We understand the importance of ensuring that your child is fully equipped for their big school adventure. We have developed a wonderful balance of providing a nursery environment that continues to maintain our loving, nurturing qualities but also is able to provide more structure to the routine and more focused activities that begin to develop the children's skills in order to prepare them for the new and exciting challenges that they will face when they begin school.

By this age your child will be really flourishing in their ability to share their ideas with their friends and join in play independently. Our three year olds are now confident, charismatic, unique individuals, all bringing their own little personalities into the mix.

As with the other age groups, our feedback from the educators is just as in-depth and your child's Key Person will continue to share their nursery experiences, just as you will be able to continue to share your experiences from home.



The Great Outdoors

Our outdoor learning environment has always been a key part of our children's learning. As parents we all know the benefits for children when it comes to playing outside. Our children go out to play in all weathers as there is always a new learning experience to be explored. We believe that our garden is an extension of our indoor area and our activities are as carefully planned and diverse as our indoor activities. Your child is still learning and exploring but on a much bigger scale.

As our nursery is a beautiful house, we have one garden space which is large enough for children of all ages to enjoy. All our children benefit from outdoor play and we stagger playtimes to ensure that your child can safely explore the environment in a way that suits their development.

Our practitioners will guide your child through interactions, supporting their exploratory and imaginative play development. Our educators are fantastic at understanding when children are ready to engage in play outdoors and when they just need to have a good run around and burn some energy.



Parentzone

Nursery is not just about our children, we also know that our Parents need support, especially when their child is just starting out with us. We have a wonderful resource that we use so that you can enjoy daily updates of your child's experiences whilst in nursery. Parent zone is an app that you can download directly onto your smart phone. All nursery information is recorded here and our educators log information about nappies, sleeps and meals. They also upload photographs and videos so that you have a wonderful electronic story of your child's journey through our nursery.

All our observations and assessments are logged here and linked up to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) document, so you can easily track your child's development and progression. As parents you can contribute to this story by adding pictures and comments of experiences you and your child have enjoyed at home. We can link these experiences into the EYFS.

We will support you to get started with the app when your child registers with us so that you can begin to share your child's nursery experiences from day one.

Staff Training

We are extremely passionate about recruiting educators that have an ongoing thirst to learn and develop new skills. We have an extremely dynamic team providing about high quality care and education for our children. We ensure that all our educators are Paediatric First Aid trained and, have training in Safeguarding and Food Hygiene, so that you can be confident that your child is completely safe in our care.

We have a robust recruitment policy in order to ensure we are employing educators that share our passion and vision. We have a truly wonderful team at New Moon Nursery and I am extremely proud of each individual Educator, they all bring their own ideas and experience into the mix which enables the nursery to continue to develop. They have a real passion for childcare and each one has the special skills required to ensure that your child feels safe, loved and respected whilst they journey through our nursery.



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