

Welcome to SPRING NURSERIES

Whether you are choosing your child's first nursery or looking for a new nursery, we understand it is a big decision for parents and carers – after all, the early years are the most important for learning. We are delighted you would like to learn more about Spring Nurseries. We pride ourselves on providing bright and engaging environments with professional and nurturing teams who inspire and enable children to discover their individuality and creativity, supporting them to unleash their full potential.

In this welcome guide you will find some useful information about starting nursery and what you can expect while your child is in our care. We look forward to welcoming you to the Spring family.



OUR CORE VALUES

-  Nurture
-  Passion
-  Inclusion
-  Ambition
-  Collaboration





Introduction



Children's early years are the most important years of their lives, and we are passionate about being a springboard for healthy first steps.

Our approach focuses on the individual needs and interests of every child, reflected through child-led learning and play at all our settings.

We have a large focus on health and wellbeing, incorporating nutrition, physical activity, and positive attitudes into the children's experiences at Spring. Child and parent wellbeing is our key priority.

We maintain high standards in care and safety and provide high-quality early years education. Children greatly benefit from high-quality care, demonstrated through inspection reports, parent reviews, and our internal quality assurance programme '**Quality Matters**'.



Leap, Learn & Grow



In Spring, we have a curriculum to make sure every child gets the best possible start, no matter their background. In simple terms, it provides purpose, consistency and quality to what we do every day.

Our curriculum ensures learning is intentional, inclusive and developmentally appropriate, giving children strong foundations for lifelong learning. Our pedagogy sets out how and why children learn best in the early years. It is rooted in our understanding that young children learn through secure relationships, purposeful play, exploration and high-quality interactions.

Skilled practitioners use their knowledge of child development to plan and respond intentionally, ensuring learning experiences are rich, inclusive and developmentally appropriate.

Our approach ensures that teaching is consistent, reflective and child-centred, responding to individual needs, interests and starting points. Through this shared pedagogy, we create environments and interactions that support children to develop confidence, curiosity, independence and the foundations for lifelong learning.

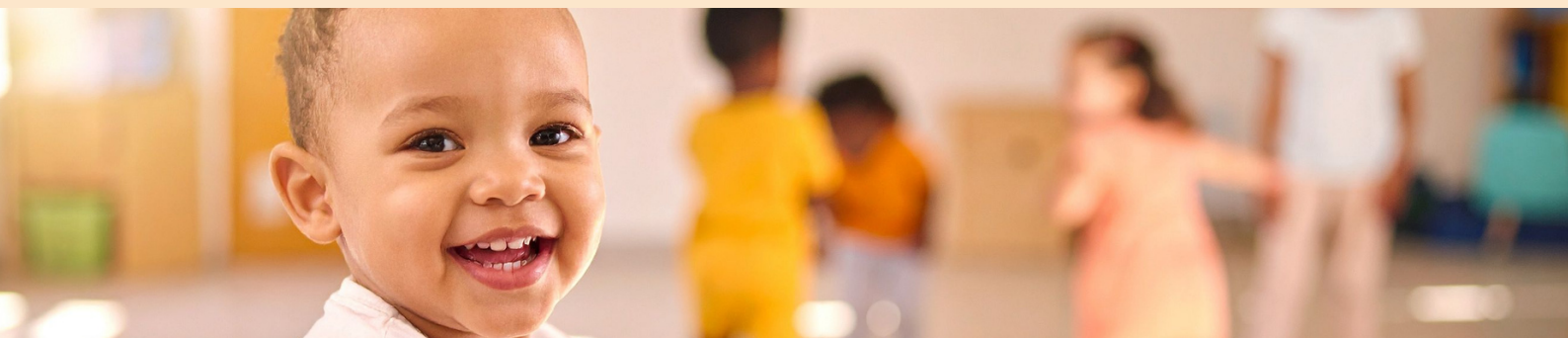


Ready to Learn, Ready to Thrive Approach

Being ready to learn, ready to thrive at Spring is defined as ensuring that all children, regardless of background, are emotionally secure, confident communicators, physically capable, increasingly independent and curious learners, ready to transition successfully into their next stage of education.

A child who is ready to learn, ready to thrive is one who can:

- ✓ Communicate needs, thoughts and ideas with increasing clarity and confidence
- ✓ Manage emotions, build relationships and engage positively with peers and adults
- ✓ Demonstrate physical control, coordination and stamina to access learning
- ✓ Show independence in self-care, routines and problem-solving
- ✓ Engage with books, numbers and early learning with curiosity and enjoyment
- ✓ Feel safe, valued and able to belong in a larger learning community



Healthy Lifestyles



At Spring by Action for Children, we focus on health and well-being. Nutrition and physical activity are part of each day to give all children a healthy start. Our health and wellbeing approach feeds into the children's learning, educating them on looking after themselves and one another.



Our aim is to make eating a happy, social occasion. All food served is healthy and well-balanced, aiming to introduce children to a variety of tastes reflecting a variety of cultures. Vegetarian alternatives and all diets are catered for, subject to medical approval. At snack time, children can choose water or milk, and select from fruit, vegetables, and other healthy snacks. Water is available throughout the day.



Outdoor play is a large focus at all Spring Nurseries and Spring Oscars settings. We use outdoor spaces to explore, create, and investigate, and some settings have Forest Schools. Children also go on walks to learn about the world around them, such as to the beach, post box, park, etc., learning about road safety and appropriate behaviour in different environments.

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition guidance, and our menus are reviewed by nutritionists to support high-quality, nutritious food for all children. Some settings use external food providers, who follow our menus and help ensure children receive the nutrients and energy they need to thrive.



A vertical image on the left side of the page shows a wooden shelf with several yellow plastic storage bins. On top of the shelf, there are colorful blocks with numbers 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9.

Why Spring Nurseries?



High Quality Parent Partnerships

We pride ourselves on the partnerships we build with parents and involve them in each step of their child's care and learning journey. Parents love our Famly app for keeping them informed throughout each nursery day. We use modern technology to log each child's observations, learning journey, invoicing, and information through a secure and reliable app.

Progress reports are carried out every half term and shared with parents, with longer reports shared via Famly.

Opportunities for Children

Spring by Action for Children provides children with fun and unique learning opportunities to grow their confidence and development. Some of our settings offer Forest Schools with natural, large outdoor environments to explore in some of our settings. We also partner with Boogie Mites for musical sessions that support early communication and language development.

need to be clear this is only in some settings not all

Staff and Training

Our teams are inspired and motivated through career progression pathways and ongoing training opportunities. We have experienced leadership in place across our nurseries, with a Senior Nursery Manager overseeing every nursery. Staff across our settings are Paediatric first aid trained, and we ensure there is always at least one trained member of staff on site.

Team members can also train in additional qualifications such as Early Years and Forest School Leaders and Senior Nursery Managers.

We have Boogie Mites Champions across our settings. Boogie Mites is an early years music programme that uses singing, movement, rhythm games and simple percussion instruments to support young children's development in a fun and engaging way. It is designed to help children build key skills needed for learning and supports our Ready to Learn, Ready to Thrive Approach.

Bringing your child to Nursery



Clothing

Children will explore paint, water, sand, and more!

Please bring your child in clothes that can be cleaned and washed at home.

Children play outside every day, so dress them appropriately for the weather (coat, hat, scarf, wellies, sunblock, sun hat). For health and safety reasons, please also make sure your child wears safe, secure footwear that is suitable for active play; open-toed shoes or flip-flops should not be worn at nursery.

Prepare your child's bag with wipes, nappies, formula, spare underwear (if toilet training), and spare clothes.



Settling in

Each child is allocated a key person who will get to know you and your child through taster sessions, learning about likes, dislikes, learning styles, development, and medical/dietary needs. Sessions are arranged prior to the start date to help your child settle. We also allocate a secondary key person to act in the primary key person's absence.

First Day

The first day is like any other nursery day. Parents are welcome to call throughout the day to check on their child. You will have access to the Famly app for real-time updates and images.

Hand Over

Wherever possible, your child's key person will welcome you on arrival and share any important updates. If they are not available, a familiar member of the team will be there to greet you and help with handover. You will also receive updates about your child's day through the Famly app.



Registration and Funding



All children must be registered to access their place. You will need to provide documents to evidence your child's date of birth for eligibility for free entitlements.

Government funding covers 15 or 30 hours a week of free, high-quality, flexible childcare. It does not cover meals, consumables, additional hours, or additional services. Additional hours/services are charged at current rates.

No session longer than 10 hours per day. No minimum session length (subject to Ofsted requirements). Not before 6am or after 8pm. Maximum two sites in one day.

Early Education Government funding is offered within national parameters. Children who attract additional funding (Early Years Pupil Premium, SEND inclusion funding, etc.) are supported to fully achieve potential.



Early Years Funding

Funding for children from 9 months old is available for eligible working families. Children aged 9 months to 4 years may be entitled to up to 30 hours of funded childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year, subject to eligibility criteria. You must apply for a childcare code through the Government website and provide this to us as your child's childcare provider.

Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds Funding offers up to 570 hours of funded early education and childcare per year, equivalent to 15 hours per week for 38 weeks during term time. This funding is available to eligible families receiving certain forms of support, and eligibility criteria apply.

All parents of 3 and 4-year-old children are entitled to 15 hours of funded early education per week (570 hours per year). Some families may also be eligible for an additional 15 funded hours, giving a total of 30 hours per week. More information and eligibility details can be found at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk.

Tax-free childcare scheme:

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

We can work with your employer for salary sacrifice schemes or help students with childcare fees.

Spring Nurseries offers a military discount.



Sickness and Medicine



We promote the good health of all children and take positive steps to help prevent the spread of infection. Children's welfare and health are our primary consideration, so we believe it is in a child's best interests to be at home if they are unwell.



All staff have responsibility for regularly assessing children's wellbeing and health through ongoing monitoring and observation. If your child becomes unwell at nursery, staff will assess and monitor them and will contact you if we feel they need to be at home.

We follow guidance published by the UK Health Security Agency for managing specific infectious diseases and exclusion periods, including illnesses such as sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to help protect other children in the nursery. You will be informed of any confirmed cases, including the signs and symptoms to be aware of and any exclusion periods that apply.

Staff will only administer prescription medicines where they have written or printed instructions from a medical practitioner, such as a pharmacist, doctor or dentist, and written permission from a parent or carer.



If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, please keep them at home for 48 hours after the last bout. If your child is showing signs of being unwell and has a raised temperature of 38°C or above, you will be advised to take them home and/or seek medical advice.

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Safeguarding your Children



Safeguarding children is of utmost importance. Providers must have and implement a policy and procedures to safeguard children, in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance.



A practitioner is designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding in every setting. You may hear them being referred to as the DSL. All staff are trained in safeguarding policy and procedures.

If we are concerned about a child's safety or welfare, staff must discuss it with the designated safeguarding lead immediately. Concerns are kept confidential and only shared with those who need to know.

If necessary, action is taken in line with Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and concerns are discussed with parents if it does not put the child at risk.

Listening to Children

We will show that we have heard what they are saying and take their account seriously. We will encourage the child to talk, but we do not prompt or ask leading questions. We will not interrupt or make a child repeat their account. We will explain actions to be taken in an age-appropriate way. Our staff will write down what was said, noting time, date, place, and people present. They will report concerns immediately to the appropriate person and if required Children's Social Care.



Behaviour



We aim to:

- Help children develop caring and respect for one another
- Encourage cooperation and respect
- Develop social skills and acceptable behaviour
- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Foster self-discipline and mutual respect



Feedback

We welcome suggestions, feedback, and complaints. We carry out yearly parent surveys however parents are always welcome to leave reviews on DayNurseries.

If you have a complaint:

Talk to the key person/room leader.

If unresolved, contact the Nursery Manager (acknowledged within 3 working days, response within 10 working days).

If unresolved, escalate to the Locality Services Manager:
spring@actionforchildren.org.uk.

If still unresolved, escalate in writing to Head of Spring & Oscars:
spring@actionforchildren.org.uk or by post:

Spring by Action for Children
3 The Boulevard
Ascot Road
Watford
WD188AG.

You can also complain to OFSTED: 03001 23 4666 or in writing to enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk



Keep in Touch



We pride ourselves on our parent communication and useful social media channels where you can access a variety of child related content, advice and updates.



Send us an email
Spring@actionforchildren.org.uk



Visit our website
www.springchildcare.co.uk



Find us on Facebook and like our page to see updates
[@SpringbyActionforChildren](https://www.facebook.com/SpringbyActionforChildren)



Follow us on Instagram
[@Springnurseries](https://www.instagram.com/Springnurseries)



Like our LinkedIn page
[Spring by Action for Children](https://www.linkedin.com/company/SpringbyActionforChildren)



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[Spring by Action for Children.](#)



Famly app enables you to participate in your child's journey. With your permission, you receive login details for booking, invoicing, and information.