



Kiddies' Cabin Day Nursery



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

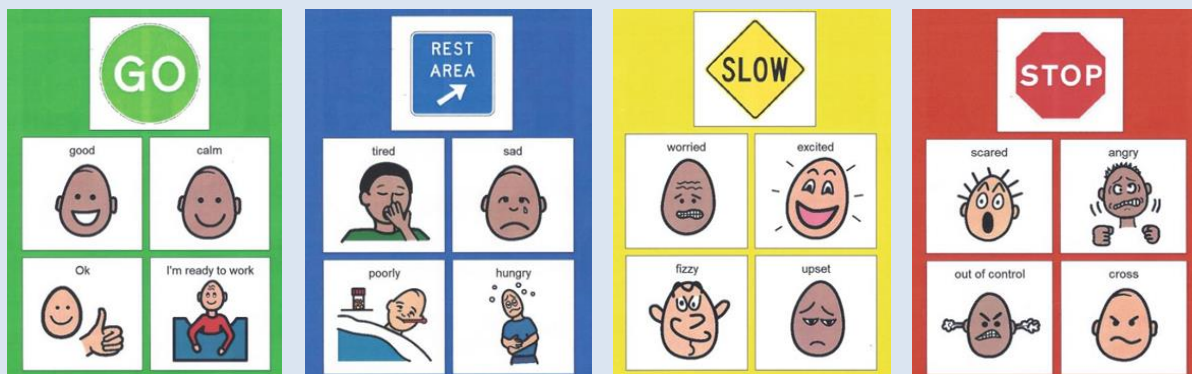
Newsletter – September 2026

Welcome

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our new families that have started Kiddies Cabin Day Nursery. The nursery practitioners and children have been talking about visiting their new playrooms. Children have moved into and settled throughout the nursery forming good bonds with their key carers as well as forming new friendships with their peers. We would like to say a warm welcome to new families joining Kiddies Cabin. We look forward to getting to know you and your child and aid them in their learning journey. Should you have any questions regarding our policies, procedures or general nursery day, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff in your child's playroom or a member of the management team in the office. More details regarding what has been happening within the nursery is sent out in my weekly email to you, however please read the brief information from me below as well as a section from the Team Leaders in their playrooms

For new parents who may not be aware, we use the 'Zones of Regulation' emotion words and colours at Kiddies' Cabin to support the children's emotional development. We use the words and colours to encourage the children to describe how they are feeling and use the emotion toolkit to help them to self-regulate. Every day, each playroom takes part in a well-being activity. These are age appropriate in each room however include: looking at emotion books, yoga, breathing exercises, bubble blowing, physical exercises, counting slowly up to 10 and back again, playing sleeping lions or colouring. These activities allow the children to take a moment to themselves and enables them to build their own emotional toolkit activities for times where they may need to manage their emotions during the day. We reinforce to the children that it is ok to feel all emotions and experience feelings within all zones of regulation. If you would like a copy of the toolkit to use at home, please request one from the Team Leader in your child's playroom.



In July, we held our Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the children's journey at Kiddies' Cabin. Many of the children joined us as babies and have grown and developed through each of our playrooms. Throughout July and August, we said some emotional goodbyes to the children and their families as they prepared to take their next steps and start school. Although it was sad to see them leave, it has been wonderful to receive visits, photos of the children proudly wearing their school uniforms, and updates on how they are settling into school. We are delighted to hear

that they have all made such a positive start so far.

We have had an exciting six weeks of the summer holidays; each playroom has taken part in exciting activities linked to the weekly theme which have helped support the children's learning and development. The routines were adapted to allow us to make the most of the beautiful weather with activities being based both inside and outside the nursery.

If you would like to submit a review regarding our nursery, please use this link:

<https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/daynursery.cfm/searchazref/50001023KIDB#reviews>

We would love to see our score increase to a 10!

Kind regards,

Leigh Kelly

Nursery Manager

Under Two's News

We hope you have recently enjoyed the warm weather and your summer holidays and activities. It has been lovely receiving the photographs of your time outside of nursery.

Over the past couple of months, we have been busy celebrating festivals such as Kiddies' Cabin's 20th Anniversary and Father's Day. The babies enjoyed participating in the nursery party by dancing to the music with the entertainers, playing with the new soft play in the Poppy Room and trying new foods for their tea party. It was lovely to see some of the under 2's parents come along and join in with the fun. Leading up to Father's Day, the children participated in a variety of craft activities and made different cards with support.

During free play in the Under 2's room, the children have been developing their communication skills and are becoming more confident in expressing their needs to the adults around them. They are also beginning to show clear preferences, demonstrating their likes and dislikes and making choices about the activities and toys they would like to explore and play with.

We recently took part in a fire evacuation at the nursery. The babies responded well during the evacuation, sitting calmly in the evacuation trolley or walking safely alongside their carers. The children adjusted very well with the change of routine and finished off the warm day eating their fruit lollies they had made the day before.

The children have settled positively with the Team Leader changes at the end of July and have enjoyed spending time with their key carers while forming good bonds. We have had children visiting Buttercup room ready for their transition in September. They are growing more confident with each visit and have spent time exploring their new room with their new peers. In September, we will be welcoming new children into the under 2's and we are excited to help them settle and begin their journey at Kiddies' Cabin. The younger children within the room have been doing well with finding their own coats and shoes and trying to put these on independently.

Over the summer, we have covered lots of fun weekly themes, including The Gruffalo, under the sea, bears, space and planets, travel and nature. We encouraged the children's imagination throughout, allowing them to explore areas of interest along with new opportunities to extend their learning and development. With the lovely weather we have experienced this summer, we have provided plenty of outdoor activities including water play, sand play, mark making and physical play with the use of our climbing frame, walkers, mini obstacle courses and trikes. Our

activities have provided a variety of outcomes for the children including exploring textures with mud, playdoh, shaving foam, and cereal play. We have encouraged fine motor skills through gluing and sticking, finger painting, colouring using pencils and using dabbers and sponges. We have supported the children's engagement by providing activities they enjoy while incorporating their favourite characters, including Paddington Bear and The Gruffalo. We have utilised our Poppy Room for soft play and dancing activities. The children also love our sensory music time which includes bubbles and instruments, giving them a chance to explore rhythm and sound in their own way.

As we enter September, we will begin working towards new next steps for learning with the children. If there are any skills or areas of development you would like us to support your child with, please let us know. We look forward to seeing what the next few months have in store for the under 2's.

If you have any photos from your summer holidays, please feel free to email them to the management team. We enjoy sharing these with the children as it also helps them to recognise familiar people and encourages their communication skills.

Thank you.

Alice, Lucie, Chloe, Khadijah

Buttercup Room News

We hope you are enjoying the lovely weather! We have enjoyed listening to the children tell us about their holidays and adventures!

Over the last couple of months, we started off with our Big 20th Nursery Anniversary celebration. The children enjoyed all the activities leading up to this, including making banners and decorating their own flags. On the day of the celebration, children enjoyed a party tea, games, a mini disco and of course the visit from the party bus. The children enjoy looking back on the photos from this day and still remember how much fun they had.

We also celebrated Father's Day. We hope you enjoyed looking at the cards and gifts that were made for you. Celebrating these special days encourage the children to talk about who is important to them and we love hearing all their fun stories!

We spent time teaching the children through play, including our week focussed on recycling and reusing. The children had fun building crafts from lots of recycled materials. We also investigated the importance of healthy eating; the children tried different tastes and textures of fruits that they do not often have at nursery. We encouraged the children to communicate their interests to allow us to incorporate this into their play and extend their learning further to promote different areas of their development. In particular, they highlighted their interests in dinosaurs and animals therefore we provided activities to learn about habitats and weather changes. Children enjoyed bringing in their favourite books to share with their peers. This was lovely as some books were new to the children and they showed such fantastic engagement during story time.

Just before the summer holidays began, Buttercup's team leader changed to Chloe L. All the children have adapted well to the staff change and like telling everyone who is now in their room. Within the Buttercup Room, we have now enhanced the different areas, as well as outside on the decking area. As a room, we initiated a

game of 'find the toys'. The children have shown great interest in this game and have been helping each other by telling peers where the toys have moved to. They have now adapted well to the room and are exploring different areas.



Over the last 6 weeks, the children have explored the different themes, including around the world, travel and holidays, superheroes, The Gruffalo, under the sea/water week, space and planets, bear week and nature week. We have provided different activities to support these themes and the children have shown great interest in developing in their learning throughout. Each child has a photo page showing what they have been up to each week in their learning profiles. If you would like to view their profile at any time, please speak to a member of the Buttercup team to arrange a suitable time for you to take a look.

Each week, we send Mickey home with one of the children as a reward for their amazing achievements at nursery, alongside their certificate. It has been lovely to see what the children have been up to outside of nursery with Mickey. When we receive photos from parents, we then sit down as a group to see what adventures they have been on over the weekend.

We have had some of the under 2's children coming into Buttercups for visits over the summer holidays. The Buttercup children have welcomed them, showing them around the room. The children who have moved/are moving to the Bluebell Room have also been doing visits over the holidays, making new friends and building bonds with their new carers. We warmly welcome new children joining us from the Under 2's, while also supporting and celebrating our Buttercup children as they take the next step in their journey and transition into the Bluebell Room.

A few reminders from the Buttercups team:

- Please ensure your child has a sunhat in the hotter weather - the children like showing independence when getting out and putting away their own hat in their draw before and after garden time.
- Please ensure all children's bags are full of clothing in case of accidents/dirty clothing.

Many thanks.

Buttercup Team

Chloe.L, Maddy, Jeffnie & Preet

Bluebell Room News

Here in the Bluebell room, we have adapted and are beginning to embrace the hotter weather that we have been experiencing over the last few months. We have particularly enjoyed water and ice play.

Back in April, we planted flower, tomato, cucumber and bean seeds. They were progressing nicely until we were hit with the first May bank holiday heat. Bluebells are not easily defeated, and we have successfully grown some wildflowers from seed, alongside our sunflowers. To our amazement, we discovered that a sweet pea and some tomato plants had seeded themselves from last year, so we have been nurturing them and our newly planted tomato, cucumber, bean and pumpkin seeds. The children have been brilliant with the constant watering of them all, going backwards and forwards with their watering cans. Over the weekend, we use recycled water bottles with some holes in the lid to drip feed the water into the plants.

April also saw the whole nursery come together to celebrate 20 years of Kiddies' Cabin. The children in Bluebells enjoyed an energetic dance session with Shelene in the morning before having a turn on the soft play party bus. After a party tea in the afternoon, the whole nursery came together to celebrate in the under 2's garden. We dressed up in leg warmers, funny hats and tutus and danced around to 'Baby Shark', 'The Flamingo Song', 'Superman' and many others. I am sure everyone slept well that night!

Over the months, we have been enjoying a variety of different themes. We have been reading different books, watching short videos and learning Makaton to support the children's learning. Alongside the themes, we have been discussing places we have been or are going to, learning about bees, butterflies, the solar eclipse, the dentist, including how many teeth we have and how to care for them, and the weather, especially the sun and rain. We performed a short rain dance when we saw a grey cloud and were rewarded with a very light shower of rain.

In July, we held our yearly Graduation. This year, we said goodbye to 16 children. We had a lovely day; the children all enjoyed the celebration and it was so lovely to hear what they want to be when they grow up. Even though the weather was very hot, we managed to get in the garden for some photographs. We wish all our school leavers the best as they embark on this new chapter in their lives. They will be greatly missed. Some of the children from Buttercup room have now begun their settles in Bluebells. Chloe, Mollie, Saira and I look forward to them joining us over

the coming months and getting to know their individual personalities. We look forward to making positive relationships with the new children.

Michelle, Saira, Chloe and Mollie.

Current Staffing Information

Daisy room (under 2's)

Alice - Team Leader
Lucie
Chloe W
Khadijah

Buttercup room (2-3 year olds)

Chloe. L - Team Leader
Jeffnie
Maddy
Preet

Bluebell room (3-5 year old)

Michelle - Team Leader
Chloe. A
Saira
Mollie

Float or bank staff that support in all rooms

Sarwo
Lek
Farhat
Azal

General Reminders

Nursery Closure Day

As you are aware, the BHFT Nurseries initiated a change in our operational schedule which started in 2026. This involved the nursery closing for two days annually to allow our staff to complete essential Statutory and Mandatory training. These training days are vital to ensure our team remains fully equipped to provide the highest standards of care, safety, and education for your children. We truly appreciate your cooperation as we invest in the ongoing professional development of our team and nursery as a whole.

The next date for the staff training day for Kiddies' Cabin will take place on **Tuesday 13th October 2026**. The nursery will be closed on this day.

Clothing

As the weather is changing, please can we ask all parents to ensure that children are wearing appropriate clothing for the cold weather, including a hat, gloves and scarfs, coats and layers that can be added or taken off during the day. Please ensure these are all named so we can return these to the correct child.

Please can we also ask that there are appropriate spare clothes in your child's bag, ensuring items of clothing, coats and bags are labelled inside with your child's name. Spare clothes are required when children become messy in the day due to exciting activities.

Family photos

Please can we remind all parents to send us in a family photo via email to either Leigh or Lorna if you have not already done so. This is to complete our family

display in each room as a discussion point with the children, as well as to be used in each child's learning profile. This encourages the children's language and knowledge of themselves as an individual.

Nursery Closing Time

Please can I remind all parents that the nursery closes at 6pm sharp. After this time, or if you are collecting your child after their agreed session ends, parents will be charged £1 per minute. Please can we ask parents to arrive at 5.55pm to collect your child to allow staff to give sufficient feedback regarding your child's day. If you are going to be late, please telephone the nursery to make us aware or to let us know somebody else will be collecting your child. Please be reminded that children are not permitted to attend the nursery for more than 10 hours. We are particularly busy with parents collecting their children from 5.00pm – 6.00pm, therefore we may ask you to wait to gain feedback for your child. Please arrive at the nursery in plenty of time to receive feedback. You are also welcome to call the nursery for your feedback if you are in a rush in the evening and are unable to wait.

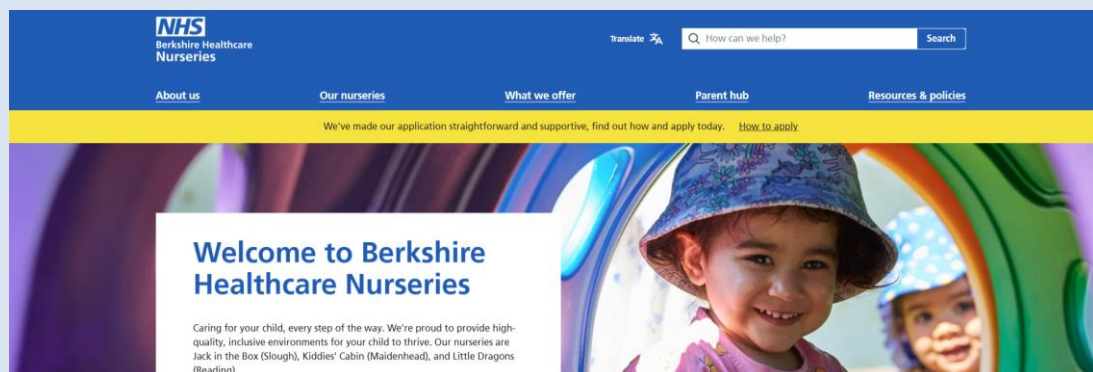
Fees and funding

If you have any queries regarding fees, the 15 and 30 hours funding for all age groups or Tax Free Childcare please contact Katie Baker who is the Nursery Business Administrator for our three nurseries and is always happy to help parents.

katie.baker@berkshire.nhs.uk 07789 374217.

Website Information

Have you seen our [new website](#)? It contains plenty of information about the three BHFT nurseries and we hope you like it as much as we do. You'll find most of the information you may need in the [parent hub](#). Please have a look and let us know what you think.



NURSERY CONTACT INFORMATION

Leigh Kelly - Nursery Manager
leigh.kelly@berkshire.nhs.uk

Lorna LePetit - Deputy Manager
lorna.lepetit@berkshire.nhs.uk

Nursery telephone number 0118 904 4637

Lee Owen-Macleod - Nursery Area Manager 07557 207429
lee.owenmacleod@berkshire.nhs.uk

Thank you for your continued support for Kiddies' Cabin

Leigh Kelly