



QUALITY CHILDCARE AND EDUCATION  
FROM BIRTH – 5 YEARS

# Welcome to Buoys and Gulls Nursery

## Our Nursery

Based in Boddam, Peterhead, we provide a caring and family-oriented environment to encourage your child's development. We place children at the heart of everything we do and we are committed to providing a learning environment where children feel valued and have great fun with a range of activities each week. We have a fantastic staff team who nurture close relationships with the families and children in our care.



Our nursery has spacious, bright areas dedicated to each stage of development from birth to 5 years of age. We provide childcare from 7am – 6pm and are open all year round except for Christmas. We offer full time and part time sessions and we also work in partnership with Aberdeenshire Council to provide fee funded places for eligible 2 year olds and pre-school children.

## Our Childcare Approach

Buoys & Gulls Nursery provides stimulating and inspiring childcare aiming to encourage the development of children through play, interaction, creativity, physical activity and through a warm and nurturing environment.

We are passionate about quality Early Years Care and Education and recognise the importance of each child's self-development. We believe that children learn through play, example, interaction and teaching. These four concepts form the core of our ethos and we strive to expand your child's development through these methods.

We support every child in every aspect of their growth and achieve this through praise, guidance and encouragement. Children are encouraged to develop manners, learn to be kind, share, and respect others, as well as being stimulated creatively and mentally through our child led activities. Our child led activities allow our children to flourish into independent and confident individuals. Above all, we strive to provide a secure and friendly environment which will make you completely relaxed and at ease when leaving your child in our care.

# Our Aims & Objectives



To provide a safe and stimulating atmosphere to encourage each child's development.



To develop every child's healthy self-image through play, guidance, support and encouragement.



To encourage children to develop respect, learn to share, learn to be kind to others and develop good manners.



To encourage children's interest in learning through promoting their desire to learn and experiment in an active learning environment.



To work in partnership with parents. To update parents regularly with information about their child's development and the nursery, through newsletters, parents evenings, focus groups and E-Learning Journals.



To constantly train our staff through our in-house training company, BNG Training, and through local authority courses, aiming to increase and extend the skills and knowledge our staff currently possess.



To continue to liaise with local schools and members of the local community, allowing us to share good practice.



To continue to monitor, self-evaluate and improve our service to ensure our children and parents are getting the highest quality standard of care.

## Starting at nursery

We provide complimentary settling in sessions which gives you and your child time to get familiar with our nursery. Once your child starts with us, they will be assigned a designated key worker. Your child's key worker will be responsible for monitoring your child's development and will be your first point of contact at nursery. Your child's key worker will always be available to discuss your child's progress.



## Settling in Sessions

Your child will be settled into our nursery gradually. Firstly spending one hour, building up to a half-day session and then staying for lunch. This phasing in allows your child to become familiar with our nursery surroundings and staff. These settling in sessions usually last a week, but this is dependent on each individual child. We understand that every child's different and our aim is to make these sessions as flexible and comforting as possible to guarantee that both you and your child are well adjusted to our surroundings. Parent visits are encouraged whilst your child is gradually settled into nursery so please feel free to do drop in any time to see how your child is doing, even if they are no longer in their settling in phase.

“My children love coming to Buoys and Gulls. They have great fun, have good friends and are also learning at the same time. Their experiences are mostly all positive and they have positive relationships with most staff! My daughter is always talking about the fun activities she has been taking part in and her confidence has grown so much during her time at nursery. Feels great to see them so settles and going into nursery without any hesitation. So happy that there are now choices for lunches, my kids don't come home hungry anymore! Even better that it is really great home made food!”

-Buoys & Gulls Parent



## Our Rooms

Our playrooms are generously proportioned, carefully planned and extensively resourced to create inspiring learning environments in which children can grow and learn with confidence. Each playroom has access to outdoor play areas, offering the opportunity for regular outdoor learning opportunities across all areas of the curriculum. A set of development records are held for each child in the nursery and on our E-Learning Journals. These are available for viewing at all times and are continuously updated with pictures and observations made on your child's progress. Access to your child's records are available 24 hours a day so you don't miss out on anything and strict confidentiality is maintained at all times.

### Baby Room (0-2 years)

Within our Baby Room our highly experienced staff care for a maximum of 11 children and work to follow the home routine of each baby as closely as possible. We provide age appropriate resources for our babies which include soft building blocks to encourage climbing and physical play, musical toys and instruments, sensory materials, bouncer chairs and our very popular activity centre. We have baby walkers and push along toys to aid our babies who are beginning to pull themselves up or take their first steps. We also provide a variety of activities for our babies to participate in, from singing songs to story time, messy play to sensory activities. We provide treasure baskets full of natural materials for all babies to explore.

Cots are provided to allow our babies time to rest and sleep in a quiet sleeping area. We make great use of our garden where we have a section dedicated to our babies, providing opportunities for them to experience the natural world. Babies can play on our age appropriate resources including a slide, trampoline and shelter pods. As well as time in our garden, we regularly take our babies on outings in the local community.

We would encourage your child to advance to our Toddler Room when they are around 2 years of age and once they have found their feet.

## Room Ratios

Age	0-2 years	2-3 years	3-5 years
Staff Ratio	1:3	1:5	1:8

\*Minimum number of staff to children – in accordance with current Care Inspectorate regulations.

## Toddler Room (2-3 years)

Our Toddler Room cares for up to 10 children from 2 to 3 years of age. Within our Toddler Room we provide a structured day with a great choice of learning opportunities including arts and crafts, messy play, construction activities, sensory trays, role play, baking activities, home corners and holistic play baskets for children to explore and develop their imagination further. Areas are created for our children to rest and sleep using mats and room dividers.

Each day our children spend time outside in our garden or local community. Our garden offers a wide variety of outdoor learning opportunities where we have a mud kitchen, willow area, bikes and much more! When in our local community we offer opportunities for our children to visit the Local Park and beach. We believe there is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing, so we ask that parents provide their children with appropriate clothing for all types of weather.

We would encourage your child to advance to our Preschool Room when they are around 3 years of age.

## Preschool Room (3-5 years)

Our Preschool Room is divided in two sections and cares for up to 16 children. We are recognised as a preschool centre by the Education Department. In our preschool 3-5s Room we provide a variety of learning opportunities; mathematical, early writing and early reading activities; interest trays and investigative tables; arts and crafts to name a few.

We have a dedicated area for indoor physical games promoting physical play and a listening centre for children to listen to taped stories in small groups using the CD player and headphones followed by group discussions. We have a role play area which we change on a regular basis, providing props and dressing up clothes and musical instruments and small world figures for expressive play.

We have a large outdoor area where children have direct access from our 3-5s Room. This area includes a concrete area for physical games, a grass area for active play, a mud kitchen for exploring, large climbing apparatus, a bug hotel, natural materials for construction and exploring, a vegetable/ flower garden where the children plant, observe and help grow vegetables and flowers.

We pride ourselves on ensuring that when children leave our nursery to move onto school they do so confidently and independently, taking with them the enjoyment of learning and pride in their achievements.



## Outdoor Play

We love to get outside at Buoy's and Gulls nursery! We make great use of our gardens, each of which are dedicated to different stages of development. For our babies we have a special section to allow for safe outdoor play. Babies can use a range of age-appropriate resources including a slide, trampoline and shelter pods. Our Toddlers love playing in our messy mud kitchen and willow area, zooming about on bikes and much more!



We also have a large outdoor area which our pre-schoolers can access directly. This area includes a concrete area for physical games, a grass area for active play, a mud kitchen for exploring, large climbing apparatus, a bug hotel, natural materials for construction and exploring, and a vegetable and flower garden where the children plant, observe and help grow vegetables and flowers.

We regularly take children out in our local community and offer opportunities for our children to visit the Local Park and beach. We believe there is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing, so we ask that parents provide their children with appropriate clothing for all types of weather.

## Our Team

Our staff team comprises of a blend of mature, experienced and professionally qualified nursery practitioners and trainees working towards their qualifications. All staff are skilled in expertly guiding your child through the wonders of learning whilst playing. Our staff are dedicated to treating your child with patience, affection, enthusiasm and understanding. All staff participate in ongoing training to constantly progress their own skills and abilities.

### Our Manager – Linda Adamson

"I have over 30 years of experience in working with children of all ages. As the nursery's manager I ensure we are able to provide a secure family environment where you can feel relaxed and confident in the knowledge that your child is being cared for by a dedicated staff team in a safe environment."



## Our Menu



Our wholesome and nourishing meals and snacks are expertly designed to give your little one the very best start in life.

The meals we provide are all home-cooked within our nursery by our experienced, on site nursery chef. Our chef has carefully created a 4 week rolling menu which ensures a healthy well balanced diet for all children. Whenever possible we try to source all our food locally and organically, including seasonal vegetables and fruit. We believe that by providing our children with nutritional food, bursting with fresh fruit and vegetables, is a necessity in each child's physical and mental well-being.

Above all, we believe that meal times should be a happy, relaxed time where children learn social skills, manners, good hygiene practise and healthy eating habits to last them a lifetime.

**All of our delicious food is included within our fees! We offer hot lunches and 2 snacks everyday!**

## Dietary Requirements

Our menus change every 4 weeks, in line with the availability of seasonal produce. We have a flexible approach and are happy to cater for a range of special dietary, medical, religious or cultural requirements.

We ask our parents to bring in formula milk for babies, in accordance with current guidelines. These will be made up as required and stored safely in accordance with manufacturer's suggestions.

**To receive a sample of our 4 week rolling menu, please contact us and we will be happy to send you a copy of our delicious menu.**



## Environmental Commitment

We are committed to being an environmentally friendly nursery, making changes wherever we can in order to make the world a cleaner place! We are currently working towards becoming an ECO-Nursery and are committed to teach our



children about their environment and the effect we have on it in our day to day lives. Our children are passionate recyclers and love nothing more than an afternoon caring for their garden. We always consider environmental implication when planning activities for our children. We will continue in our green approach to develop strong environmental awareness within our children, helping their little green fingers to care for the world for many years!

## Awards & Accolades

Our passionate commitment to being a leading independent provider of Early Years Care and Education, providing quality standards has led us to being the proud recipients of many impressive awards, including:

- NMT Nursery Group Award 2018
- Day Nurseries Top 20 Recommended Nursery in Scotland 2018
- Day Nurseries Recommended
- Recognised Investors in Young People Organisation
- NDNA Member (National Day Nurseries Association)
- Nursery Chain of the Year 2013 – Nursery World Awards
- Children's Interest Association Committee
- Member of Back Up Care Advantage



## Sessions & Fees

Our nursery is open from 7am - 6pm and cares for children from birth to 5 years of age. Full/Part time sessions are available. We offer funded hours for 3-5 year olds as well as eligible 2 year olds - we now offer extended funded hours, up to 22.5 hours per week. We are open all year round with the exception of one week over Christmas.

## What's Included?

- Quality Early Years Care and Education
- Quality resources and equipment
- Freshly made, healthy meals and snacks
- Cow's milk
- Celebration of festivals throughout the year
- Regular outings in the local area
- Graduation Ceremony when ready to move on to primary school
- E-Learning Journals & Tablets
- Nursery Animals

## Extras & Discounts

- Sibling discount 5%\*
- Children's nursery uniform (optional)

*\*Terms & Conditions apply*

*“Buoy and Gulls is a great nursery, its got a real family feel to it. The staff are all very friendly and helpful with any questions you may have whether its related to your child or the paperwork side of things. All of the activities are good fun and the children seem to learn from them. My child always has positive things to say about her day.”*

**- Buoy & Gulls parent**


## Keeping in touch

In recognition that education begins in the home, we are fully committed to a partnership approach with parents. The needs of each child are discussed in full, prior to admission and on an ongoing basis.

We are keen to keep parents as involved as possible during their child's time in nursery. Each day's activities are tracked to ensure that parents are encouraged to discuss their child's day with their key worker and individual records are available at all times for parents to view. We also hold regular Parent Focus Groups and issue a monthly Newsletter to keep our parents in the loop!

## Social Media

We use social media to keep our parents up to date with upcoming events and offers available. We also believe it is a great and convenient way for us to receive your feedback and suggestions.

-  Facebook.com/Buoysandgullsnursery
-  @BertramNG
-  @thebertramnurserygroup

## The Care Inspectorate

We are regulated by The Care Inspectorate and by Environmental Health Services to help us maintain the highest possible standards within our nursery. Should you wish for any further information please do not hesitate to contact them on 0845 600 9527.



We are proud of our regulatory reports and these are available for you to view within our nursery and on our website.

## Visit Us!

If you haven't already done so, we recommend you come for a unique viewing of our nursery to see all of our fantastic facilities for yourself! We can arrange a personal showround during any weekday, and will be as flexible as we can to fit around your family's needs.

If you would like to book your nursery visit or require more information please contact us on 01779 476888 or email [enquiries@bertramuk.com](mailto:enquiries@bertramuk.com)



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