



Portland Nurseries
quality care and education for children



PORTLAND
EST. 1991
NURSERIES



A natural environment
for nurturing children

www.portlandnurseries.co.uk





"The first five years of life are pivotal in a child's development. Our nurseries provide the highest standard of quality care and education, led by highly qualified early year's teachers, ensuring that every child will achieve their full potential."

Rosemary Murphy OBE FRSA
Portland Nurseries Founder



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Portland Nurseries is a family owned group of day nurseries established in 1991. We provide the highest standard of early years care and education and we are proud to be acknowledged as leaders in child care. We have an experienced and dedicated team of qualified early years teachers with over 25 years of experience ensuring your child receives the very best start in life.

Each nursery has its own individual character and we feel confident you will find a nursery that meets the needs of you and your child. Please call us anytime to arrange a visit.



Starting Nursery

When your child is ready to start nursery, we will arrange a number of settling in visits to help you and your child become familiar with our nursery routine, the staff team, the new surroundings and most importantly to feel confident and safe in our care.

At these visits you will be introduced to your child's key person, you will have the opportunity to discuss their daily routine, such as sleeps, current stage of development, favourite activities and specific needs.

The key person will nurture and support your child's learning throughout their time at nursery and will observe, monitor, track and record their development onto your secure digital journal 'Parent Zone'.

Your child's journal will include observations, photographs, videos, 'WOW' moments and examples of your child's creativity and you can add your own comments and feedback too. We love to see your photos, videos and moments from home especially any milestones your child may reach outside of nursery.



Outdoor Learning

Children play outside every day in all weathers, giving them direct contact with the wonders of nature and the changing seasons. We take a **Forest School** approach to outdoor learning by using the natural resources found in our gardens and our woodland environments to enhance every child's learning and development.

The children spend their days exploring and investigating the natural habitat around them, looking under logs and leaves, climbing trees, making dens, creating art out of natural objects. There are raised vegetable and flower beds for the children to plant in, mud kitchens, willow dens, log piles to attract insects, oak tunnels, tree houses, sheltered spots for storytelling, large sand pits and many sustainable, natural timber climbing areas.

Health and happiness are fundamental values of Portland Nurseries and outdoor play provides safe and supervised opportunities for physical activity as well as promoting a sense of confidence and well-being. Our focused approach to outdoor play will allow your child to experience new challenges and adventures, investigate and explore, encourage problem solving and creative skills, evaluate risk, be part of a team and increase motivation and concentration.





Healthy Eating

Every child at Portland Nurseries enjoys a well-balanced, healthy diet to build a strong body and mind. We provide nutritious and wholesome meals and snacks in carefully designed menus, freshly prepared by experienced chefs. We follow nutritional guidelines and include suggestions from parents in our planning. Vegetarian and vegan options are always available at every meal and we can cater for all allergies and special dietary requirements.

The meals are prepared in the nursery kitchens from locally sourced, fresh ingredients and the menu is changed frequently to reflect the seasons of the year and the diverse culture we live in. We use a variety of beans, pulses, lentils, wholemeal and organic options throughout our dishes allowing children to experience a wide variety of tastes.

Mealtimes are valuable for encouraging social and personal skills and provide opportunities to learn about healthy eating. Children help set the table and are encouraged to serve themselves. All our staff eat alongside the children and snack and teatimes often take place in the fresh air.

In recognition of our commitment to quality nutrition and food preparation the nurseries have been awarded the **Soil Association's Food For Life Award**. Our nurseries also hold the top award **5 Stars for Food Hygiene**.

Babies

The baby room is a warm, homely place where your baby will be cared and nurtured in small groups by dedicated team members specifically skilled in caring for the very young. We will work closely with you to ensure that sleeping and feeding habits echo those at home and we provide a daily diary to record meals, sleeps, nappy changes and your baby's activities and achievements.

Babies play outside every day in our nursery gardens and stay warm and dry whatever the weather in our nursery all-in-one waterproof suits. Play is inspired by the natural world around them your baby will be playing in mud, watering flowers, looking for insects, birds and bugs, playing in willow dens, climbing on logs, exploring and much more. With a rich and varied range of multi-sensory activities, your baby will be introduced and encouraged to explore new textures and sounds, rhymes, songs and stories.

Babies sleep in sustainable natural wooden coracles, cots, pushchairs and prams to meet each child's individual preferences. They can also sleep outdoors in our Silver Cross prams in the fresh air.



Toddlers

The toddler room is a fun, sociable place where your child will have the space to become confident and independent. Activities and resources are chosen to stimulate curiosity and language skills as well as supporting social skills and physical development.

Children are encouraged to investigate and experiment with new materials, sounds and movement. Indoors there are exciting areas for all activities ranging from painting, water play, role play, reading and quiet, cosy corners. Outdoors, toddlers can climb and explore, play in the mud kitchen, sandpits, search for insects and bugs and make dens. Toddlers often take trips to the local parks and duck ponds.

Many of the toddler children have a sleep after lunchtime in their own individual soft, warm sleeping bag. The children sleep together in quiet, calm areas monitored by the staff team and on warm days you can often find our toddlers napping outside in the fresh air.



Pre-school

By this stage your child will have grown in confidence and ability. Your child will be encouraged to be creative, explore and experiment, and activities are planned through observing individual needs. These experiences are important for developing and sustaining children's interests and for learning how to play and co-operate with others while building self-esteem.

Pre-school children access the outdoors every day; exploring with their friendship groups, climbing trees, making dens, investigating the wildlife around them and being creative in the mud kitchen. Your child will learn phonics, numbers and language and will develop all the skills needed to be a confident learner, ready for the new challenge of school. They will have opportunities to access foreign language classes, yoga, tennis, woodwork, world play, cooking, gymnastics and Forest School sessions.

All our nurseries have strong and well-established links with all the local schools in the area to ensure a smooth transition when the time comes for your child to move on to Reception.



Fun Club

We offer after school and holiday care for children between the ages of 4-10 years at our **Fun Club** which is based at **Portland House Nursery**, Lindley. The Fun Club has specially resourced rooms with plenty of space for playing and learning with daily outdoor play in the nursery garden.

Activities range from arts and crafts, drama, board games, gardening, baking, dancing and sport sessions with qualified instructors. There are also quiet corners if your child wishes to do homework.

During the holidays we offer outings and trips to local attractions such as parks, museums, local workshops, the theatre, cinema trips and many more. We also run our own tailor-made Forest School Sessions for the children in the holidays at Oakwood House Nursery and Forest School.

- Open after school during term-time
- Open all day during the holidays
- Walking bus collection from Lindley and Reinwood Schools
- Morning healthy snack, lunch and afternoon tea provided (pack lunch optional)

**For more information please contact
Portland House on 01484 538880**



Partnership

A strong relationship with children and their families are key to the learning and development of each child. There are plenty of opportunities to be involved in your child's progress at nursery, to meet with staff, network with other parents and become a part of our nursery community. Here are some of the ways that you can do this.

- Stay & Play's
- Charity events
- Joining us on outings
- Helping the children in their vegetable patches
- Parents evenings
- Special performances and celebrations
- Workshops for parents

Nursery policies are always readily available and we welcome feedback and suggestions to continually enrich the quality of the care we provide.



Our Team

We pride ourselves on our highly skilled and qualified staff team. Qualifications and commitment are all part of our robust recruitment policy and the carefully selected staff are passionate, dedicated, caring and sensitive to the needs and progress of all children.

We offer all our team a wealth of training opportunities through national accredited training programmes and our own in-house training schemes led by our managers. All our staff members are supported by the leadership team on a regular basis to reflect on their practice and we continue to enrich staff's professional development throughout their career with us.

- Long serving management team with over 25 years of experience
- Over 85% of our staff team are qualified to Level 3, 4, 5 and above
- Graduate and Post-Graduate degree holders in Childcare & Teaching
- Forest School Leaders & Practitioners Level 2 & 3
- Qualified in Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding



Inclusion

All children are unique and Portland Nurseries are committed to the inclusion of every child in our care. We promote positive attitudes and provide the best possible support for children with additional needs through careful observations of children, their starting points, needs and interests, planning and differentiating activities accordingly.

Since 1991 we have cared for many children with a range of special needs. We have trained Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) who plan, implement, monitor, review and evaluate their daily learning and work closely with parents and staff to make sure your child develops alongside their friends.



Going Green

Children are educated to understand the environment around them and how they can be responsible at nursery and at home to care for the world they live in. Recycling, composting, using sustainable materials, conserving water and being kind to our wildlife and the natural environment are just some of the ways we teach the children.

We work with the children, staff and parents to take responsibility for the effects of our nurseries on the environment by reducing our waste and conserving energy. Where possible we use sustainable, natural, reclaimed or recycled materials.

All our settings hold the National Eco Green Flag Award



Affordability

At Portland Nurseries parents can access the following types of funding and help towards the cost of childcare.

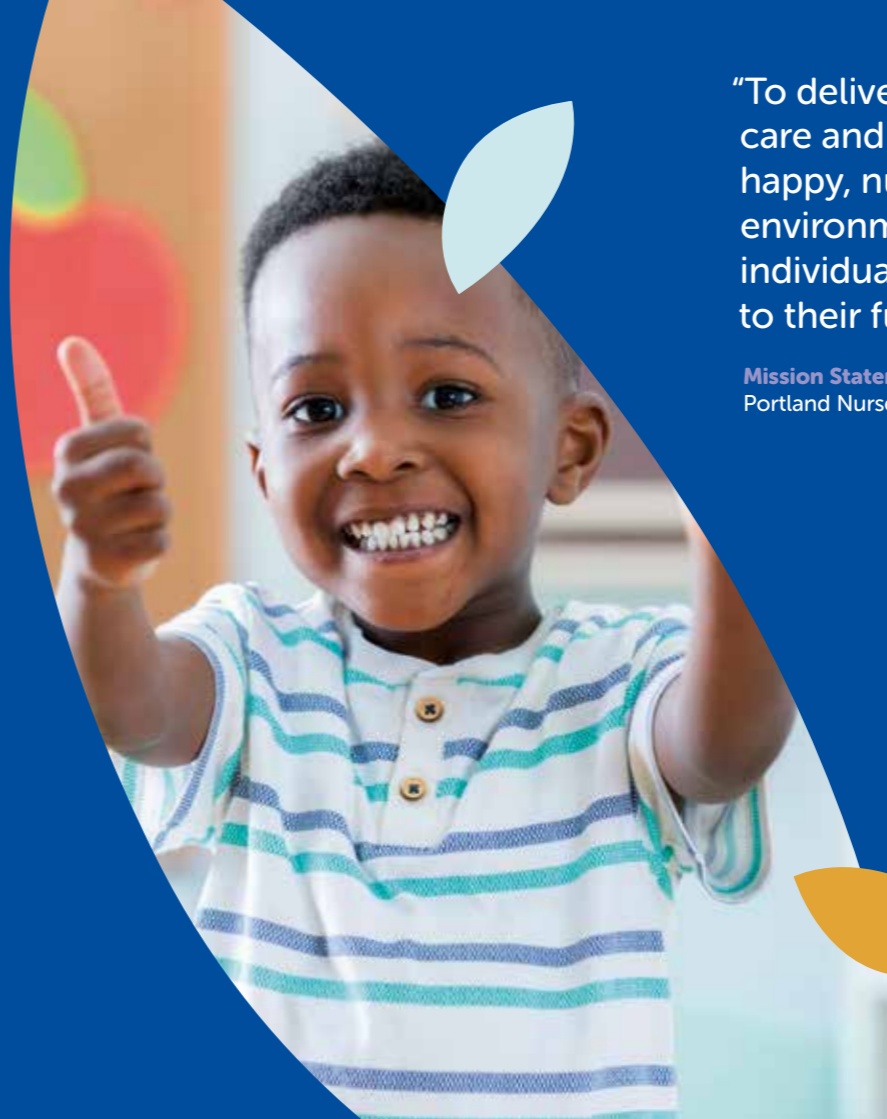
15 hours free childcare - for eligible **2-year old's** that meet the Government's criteria

15 hours free childcare - for **3 and 4-year old's** from the term after a child reaches their third birthday for 38 weeks spread over the year.

30 hours free childcare - for families of **3 and 4-year old's** that meet the Government's eligibility criteria.

Tax Free Childcare - if you are eligible the government will pay £2 for every £8 you pay your childcare provider via an online account.

For more information please visit our nursery website. www.portlandnurseries.co.uk or www.childcarechoices.co.uk



“To deliver the highest quality and care and education by providing a happy, nurturing and stimulating environment, where each child is individually supported to develop to their full potential.”

Mission Statement
Portland Nurseries





Harlequin Nursery

Halifax Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield HD3 3AS

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Holly Bank

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Oakwood House

2 Hungerford Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield, HD3 3AL

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Portland House

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