

Jelly Tots (age 2-3)

The Jelly Tots room is situated in an upstairs room at the Daycare. It is registered for up to 20 children aged from two to three years. Transitions from the Jelly Tots Room to the Jelly Beans Room begin between the age of 34 and 36 months, dependent on the individual child.

The ratio of staff to toddler is 1:4.

Description

By the time they reach two, most children are ready to be introduced to a more structured daily routine. They will be starting to partake in group activities rather than just playing alongside other children. Every opportunity will be given for your child to make their own decisions and choices, which will help to develop their own personality.

At this stage the children will be participating in activities that are designed to teach colour recognition, basic number skills and different shapes and sizes. The rooms are light and airy and the play equipment has been carefully considered to afford children the opportunity to discover and experiment independently, within a provision of structured activities. There will be a soft play area in this room with a large padded ball pit. The walls will be covered with bright colourful displays which the children will enjoy helping to create. The Jelly Tots room has its own children's bathroom which has two partitioned low-level toilets and low level sinks.

Use is also made of our large and secure, outside play area. The Toddlers benefit from the extensive and delightful grounds of Kids and Bibs Daycare where they can run and stretch their legs or zoom around on mini tricycles or trucks.

The day is structured around break-times and meal-times, with an organised rest period after lunch. The amount of rest and sleep varies from child to child at this age. Whatever their needs, we try to accommodate them. They settle on our 'mini camp beds', to the accompaniment of quiet music and gentle comforting from staff. Each child has their own individual rest bed with a set of blankets and sheets. All laundry is washed on a weekly basis and mats are cleaned with a Milton solution also on a weekly basis.

If a child chooses not to sleep they take part in a quiet activity with a member of staff. Children also need, from time to time, the opportunity to sit quietly, or rest during the day. One place which offers this is our book corner with our special kid cushions, where children can look at attractive books appropriate to their age and relax with staff. We also allow for quieter activities like jigsaw building or drawing.

The room has areas specifically designed for water, sand, messy activities and mealtimes. There is a home corner and dressing up area with low level mirrors. Imaginative play is an important part of a child's development. Throughout life we imitate the actions we see others taking – either independently, or as part of a group. At Kids and Bibs Daycare we have dressing-up clothes, a kitchen unit, dolls and blankets and a 'Wendy House' which can also be a shop, or a cafe or a hospital or anything a child's imagination wishes it to be. These allow the children to learn to care for others and to copy activities they see at home, or when out with Mum and Dad.

There will be a daily Sticky Kids rhyme time session in this room. Your child will sing and learn actions to familiar songs that we hope you will hear and see at home.

The Jelly Tot room has an 'art tray' for each individual child which parents and carers are requested to look through on collection of their child - allowing them to take home any art work or letters.

There is a Velcro photo board displaying all activities available that day with a visual timetable. This teaches recognition skills.

A 'planning board' with themes for the month will be situated outside the room. A monthly dinner menu will be displayed on this notice board as well.

Eating

The nursery provides your child with food and drink for the day. All food is cooked and prepared in our kitchen by our cook.

Rolling snack is offered to children throughout the morning and afternoon, during free flow play. Children are encouraged to independently access their own snack when they want it. Snack comprises of a healthy snack such as, fruit, vegetable sticks or breadsticks and a cup of milk or water. Fresh water is available in the Jelly Tots room at all times for children to help themselves.

At lunch time staff serves lunch to the children within the room. There is often enough for seconds for healthier appetites. Children can also choose to have fruit instead of dessert.

At tea time the whole nursery sit together in family groups. Tea is usually a larger snack. Water and milk is provided.

All menus are displayed on the notice board outside the room and copies are available from the office.

If your child has any dietary need please inform us in writing and our cook will be happy to prepare a suitable alternative

Clothing

Please dress your child in comfortable, easily removable, clothing. You will need to provide at least three complete changes of clothes. All clothing must be clearly named.

In the winter your child will require a coat and gloves for outdoor play. In the summer your child will need light cotton clothing, a sun hat and a named bottle/tube of sun block. Each child has their own peg to hang their belongings on.

Illness

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. If your child has an infectious disease then it is very important that you inform the Daycare and that the child is excluded according to Daycare policy. A child will only be re-admitted to the nursery after an illness at the discretion of the Daycare Manager. If your child becomes unwell during the day, one of the Parents/Carers will be contacted to arrange collection of the child as soon as possible. Gastroenteritis (sickness and/or diarrhoea) requires a full 48 hours clear of either sickness or diarrhoea before being accepted back into the nursery.

Medication

A qualified first aider is willing to administer medicine when necessary. You must complete a medicine authorisation form for each day your baby needs to be given medicine. These are available from the office and only a designated first aider will administer medicine.

Accidents

The Daycare records all accidents in an accident book. If your child is hurt or injured in any way during the day an entry will be made in the Accident Report Book and you will be asked to sign this book as a parent/carer acknowledging that you have been told about the accident.

If your child has had an accident at home we ask that you let the nursery Nurses know. They will ask you to complete a home accident/injury form.

Moving on

When we feel your child is ready to move up to the Jelly Beans room, visits will be arranged for him/her. This enables your child to settle happily into the Jelly Beans Room and become familiar with the routine, staff and peers.

Additional information

We maintain our own profiles on the children keeping an eye on developments and share our records with parents. We hope that you find these informative and beneficial – and in years to come, will look back on them with a good deal of pleasant memories of their early years and time at Kids and Bibs Daycare.

We hope you and your baby will have a happy time in the Jelly Tots Room. If you have any concerns or problems then please share them – we are here to help.

CCTV cameras will be monitored in the office for added security and peace of mind.