



Little Birds
Nursery



Little Birds Nursery Prospectus



Little Birds Nursery

is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.



Our Values

We care -

about our pupils and their families through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the world around us, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition -

to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together -

as one team because we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through global collaboration with partners in business and education.

We keep getting better -

using our 'can-do' attitude and research informed approach to continuous improvement and innovation.

For admission enquiries telephone: 01322 223751

Or email: info@dartford.latrust.org.uk

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Welcome

to Little Birds Nursery at Leigh Academy Dartford



At Leigh Academy Dartford, we recognise how important early education is for our youngest learners. Our qualified staff spend time building relationships with children and families to ensure everyone feels valued and secure, as we believe children learn best when they feel safe and happy in their environment.

Our classrooms have a range of learning opportunities and, following the IB Primary Years Programme alongside the Early Years Foundation Stage, we foster an inquisitive and engaging space that follows children's interests and encourages them to be curious about the world around them. We encourage our children to think, make choices and become independent learners, challenging them to extend their learning.

We believe that secure relationships are the key to unlocking potential and enabling our children to thrive - by offering a balance of adult directed and child initiated activity, we are able to scaffold learning and support children to challenge themselves within a familiar environment. Our learning spaces are planned and resourced to encourage early literacy, numeracy, creativity and physical development and we encourage collaborative play to support children in building positive relationships with their peers.

Emotional development and well-being are a priority at Leigh Academy Dartford and our learning environments encourage children to talk openly about feelings and relationships. The bonds that we make with the children enable us to support them in becoming confident, resilient and to persevere through challenges they may encounter along the way.

Outside play is vital for children's physical development and we are fortunate to have a large outdoor space where children are able to keep active, explore new possibilities and discover more about the world around them. Children are able to access this area multiple times through the school day and this space provides an abundance of opportunities such as; learning about nature, water play, large construction, physical development and imaginative play.

Our nursery offers a great start to your child's education and we have happy, confident children moving into our receptions classes. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Leigh Academy Dartford.

Declan Filsell
Vice Principal

Craig James
EYFS Lead Practitioner

A day in...

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

In our nursery, we have full time, qualified members of staff ready to start your child in their early education.



Arrival

Children arrive at the side gate in Colney Road and are met by the nursery staff. They are supported to put their belongings on their peg and sign themselves in by choosing their picture. Children are then able to choose from a range of activities set up to engage and invite them to play. Often, these activities will be based around the children's interests.



The Day

Throughout the day, nursery children are able to access our outdoor area for larger learning opportunities as well as participating in small group activities that are adult-led and help towards developing their skills in communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development. In all of our activities and routines we are working towards ensuring that our children are school ready by the end of the academic year.

Time to say goodbye!

At the end of a nursery session, the children are supported to gather their belongings and are safely returned to their adults, often with staff sharing a successful part of your child's day.

Play-based learning



Nursery and Reception staff work together to provide learning opportunities for the children in our Early Years Foundation Stage provision.

In Nursery, learning focuses on four themes throughout the year:

- 1 Who we are
- 2 Sharing the planet
- 3 How the world works
- 4 How we express ourselves

These themes allow our children to build connections and link their learning in the classroom to the world around them.



‘Children learn through play, by adults modelling, by observing each other, and through guided learning and direct teaching.’

Development Matters (2021)

What we teach

At Leigh Academy Dartford, we teach phonics using the Read, Write, Inc (RWI) scheme by Ruth Miskin.

In Nursery, children begin by listening and becoming aware of different sounds. They move on to learning set 1 sounds of RWI during the summer term in preparation for transition into Reception.

A love of reading is promoted by regular story times, opportunities to read and share books with each other and exposure to high quality texts. We highly recommend sharing a book each day at home with your child.



Nursery sessions

If your child is eligible for 15 hours you will be able to request either a morning or afternoon session.

If your child is eligible for 30 hours, your child will be able to attend both sessions between 8:30am - 2:30pm.

The morning session runs
8:30am - 11:30am

The afternoon session runs
11:30am - 2:30pm

IB Learner Profiles



Learning experiences focus on the development of IB Profile attributes such as; open mindedness and being risk takers, to ensure our children are prepared to make exceptional contributions in their school, home and community.

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Inquirers

Open-minded

Knowledgeable

Caring

Thinkers

Risk-taker

Communicators

Balanced

Principled

Reflective





Leigh Academy
Dartford



Connect with us...

Visit our School Website:

[Leigh Academy Dartford website](#)

Visit our Facebook Page:

[Leigh Academy Dartford Facebook page](#)

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