



kidsunlimited
naturally inspiring childcare

Welcome to **kidsunlimited**

For over twenty-five years we have been giving babies and young children unlimited opportunities to learn and develop through imagination, creativity and play. We believe our reputation, as one of the UK's largest, most innovative and progressive providers of private childcare, is one which we have earned.

We pride ourselves on providing a safe, supportive and engaging environment in which children can explore and discover the world.

Quality childcare is dependent on quality staff and we are committed to fostering happy, skilled and loyal nursery teams so that we maintain the highest standards of childcare provision.

Our commitment to each and every child in our care shows in many ways:

- In the warm, secure, friendly and happy environment we provide at each nursery, where every child is encouraged to reach their full potential through praise, sensitivity and mutual respect.
- In our desire to ensure that your child is given every opportunity to develop, we aim to work in close partnership with parents and carers.
- In our premises, many of which are purpose built and designed to meet the needs of babies, toddlers and pre-school children in their own special areas.
- In our handpicked, specially trained staff.
- In our tailored learning and activity programmes for all ages.
- In our emphasis on healthy, balanced nutrition and physical exercise.
- In our simple approach to fees – one flat monthly fee which includes all nappies, formula milk and healthy, balanced, nutritious meals and snacks.



What happens in our nurseries?

We look after children in an environment which is designed and equipped to meet the specific needs of the children and their areas of learning. We understand the importance of allowing children to choose where they learn and play, both inside and outside. Giving children the chance to explore the natural environment and to increase their confidence in their physical ability is an important part of every child's day.

Each of our qualified practitioners are trained and experienced in the age group of the children they are caring for. We know that babies and young children need a familiar and trusted adult who will support their personal, social and emotional development and this in turn enables your child to happily explore their environment and broaden their experiences.

We also recognise that every child is unique and has individual needs and their own style of learning. At **kids**unlimited we encourage learning through creativity and play, using natural materials and activities which foster the child's understanding and awareness of their surroundings. All of our activities encourage respect, co-operation and personal choice and are thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

We know that children learn best through play when they are fully engaged with ideas and activities that interest them. Our Early Years Practitioners offer planned adult initiated activities as well as ensuring that the nursery environment is stimulating and engaging thereby offering extensive learning opportunities that your child can also initiate. As we get to know your child we can build on their existing skills and knowledge and develop areas that are yet to be explored.

Our toys and resources are carefully selected by our Early Years team and every item is chosen for the potential learning outcomes, as well as quality and of course fun!



Who works in our nurseries?

We understand how important the people in our nurseries are to you and your child. Our Nursery Managers are skilled and experienced Early Years Practitioners, who make sure they are always available to meet with you. They are responsible for their nursery team, which depending on the size of the nursery will include a Deputy Manager, Room Supervisors and Early Years Practitioners as well as kitchen and housekeeping staff.

Our staff teams are supported by experienced central teams including Early Years, Human Resources, Parent Services, Facilities and Finance. This ensures that our practitioners can focus solely on looking after your children, whilst the specialist teams can take care of the smooth running of all other aspects of the nursery.

Our guiding principle at **kids**unlimited is to treat every child as an individual. We start to do this from the very moment you first introduce your child to the nursery setting. With your help we understand their likes, dislikes and forming character and we match them to a key person who will help them to settle in and make the most of their nursery days.

Your child's key person will be your main point of contact with the nursery. They will guide you through your child's day and will work with you through such milestones as weaning, potty training and preparing for the transition to school. A key person helps your child to become familiar with the nursery setting and to feel confident and safe within it. Your child's key person will also work in partnership with other child services and agencies to ensure consistency in care.



The six areas of Learning and Development

The EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) is the statutory framework for children from 0 – 5 years. It categorises children’s learning and development into six areas. **kids**unlimited implement the EYFS in the following ways:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We provide children with experiences and support which will help them to develop independence, respect for themselves and others, social skills and a positive disposition to learn.

Communication, Language and Literacy

We offer a wide range of experiences and activities to promote your child’s speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Our environments are print rich and we place a great focus on speaking and singing. Our **ku:sign** programme is designed to empower non verbal communicators.

Physical Development

We focus on all areas of physical development, from helping them to hold a pencil, to feeding themselves, to taking managed risks when climbing or using equipment. We encourage a healthy attitude towards their own bodies and help them to make sensible decisions about keeping safe. Our **ku:physical** programme helps to develop children’s fine and gross motor skills including balance and co-ordination.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

We offer opportunities to develop children’s skills in early numeracy such as counting, matching, sequencing and sorting, as well as mathematical language. Our **ku:cooking** programme involves weighing and measuring which also assists with development of these skills.

Creative Development

Children are the most exciting people to work with as they have an abundance of creativity and curiosity. We encourage them to explore the world through all their senses and support them as they learn to express and communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings. Look out for our **ku:art** and **ku:music** programmes which allow children to express themselves through multiple media.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

We take great pride in supporting the development of children’s knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world around them. We plan activities that encourage exploration, experimentation, prediction, problem solving, decision making and discussion, using our **ku:gardening** and **ku:cooking** programmes amongst others.

Our website has full details of the six areas of Learning and Development or you can ask any of the nursery team for more information.

Our key programmes, activities and nursery environments are designed to enhance these six areas to ensure that your child is given every opportunity to develop at a pace that is suitable for them. Within our newsletters, our website and around the nursery you will find additional ideas about how you can engage with your child to support their learning.

Your child will have a learning journey which is recorded in a folder containing staff observations and your child’s experiences in nursery including photographs and artwork. You are welcome to look at their learning journey at any time.

Programmes and Activities

To complement the six areas of Learning and Development, our professional team of Early Years experts have created programmes and activities to focus on developing different sets of skills and knowledge so that your child is stimulated, engaged and developed physically, socially and academically.

Individual and group activities vary from day to day with 'learning through play' being the underlying principle, whether this is exploring items in our treasure baskets for our younger children or growing plants and role play for our older children.

We have four guiding principles for the programmes and activities that our Early Years team have created which ensure that the children are given every opportunity to learn and develop through a wide range of experiences.

Engage has been built around the concept that all children are skilful communicators. **Active** is about children developing a positive sense of self and setting the principles for a future healthy lifestyle. **Create** aims to provide a stimulating environment in which creativity, originality and expressiveness are valued. **Learn** encourages children to question and understand how and why things work.

Engage

ku:sign

Being able to make sense of visual and verbal signs including facial expressions and hand gestures enables babies to become skilful communicators. We use **ku:sign** in our nurseries which starts with babies from eight months. **ku:sign** empowers non-verbal communicators, especially babies and younger toddlers, as they become able to control their physical movements. They can express their needs and make themselves understood.

ku:sign is based on British Sign language and it is used in our nurseries as it is very easy for babies, parents and other carers to learn.



Active

ku:physical

Through a wide range of physical activities including playing with balls, hoops, ropes, cones and skittles, children's gross and fine motor skills are developed. Our carers are trained to build children's confidence in physical activities, encouraging them to learn about safe risk taking and persisting in their play and activities.



ku:dance

ku:dance is a programme specifically designed to help children understand how their bodies move through responding to music and encouraging natural and spontaneous movement. Children learn to move with confidence and imagination, safely developing a sense of awareness of space, self and others.





Create

ku:art

Our **ku:art** programme recognises the vital importance of allowing children to explore different media, materials, textures, colours, space and shape to form independent opinions. From the early stages of mark making through to writing their own name and painting their own self portrait, **ku:art** empowers children through guided exploration to develop their creative abilities.



ku:music

ku:music recognises that singing is the best medium for teaching the language of music and our programme encourages all children to freely enjoy singing games and nursery rhymes as well as experiment with instruments and explore sound. By helping children to absorb the natural meter and word patterns as well as the form and structure of music inherent in rhyme we are aiding their speech, language and emotional development.

Learn

ku:gardening

ku:gardening aims to encourage children's natural interests and curiosity and helps them understand the world around them. The older children develop appropriate language for labelling and naming plants and seeds and the younger ones understand the different textures of natural materials. **ku:gardening** takes place all year round both inside and outside and is a vital way for children to understand the impact of nurturing and caring.



ku:cookery

Our **ku:cookery** programme is designed to help children understand different tastes and textures. The practical understanding of what happens when you bake food and change it from cold to hot or runny to solid helps children explore "what happens if ..." and the basic scientific concepts associated with it. Weighing, measuring, counting and following instructions all form part of **ku:cookery**.

Food and Nutrition

Our menu is carefully planned to meet nutritional guidelines and to provide a healthy and balanced diet for 0 – 5 year olds. It is prepared fresh each day by our own cooks with high quality ingredients.

Meal times at **kids**unlimited are about more than simply what our children eat. They are about understanding where food comes from and how we grow it. Our **ku:cookery** and **ku:gardening** programmes help to educate children on the benefits of healthy eating and support the development of good habits that will accompany them when they go to school. Developing the social aspect of meal times is also important in establishing good eating habits which is why our children and staff sit down together to have a ‘family-style’ meal and promote good table manners.

Children have up to three meals during their nursery day, depending upon the times they arrive and leave. Drinks and healthy snacks are also served and the older children are encouraged to help themselves from low level refreshment tables.



Parent Partnership

We recognise that parents are their children's first and most enduring educators and carers. Our aim is to work in close partnership with parents to complement their approach to childcare, particularly to assist children when learning new skills such as weaning, potty training, reading and writing. The closer the parent and nursery team work in partnership, the more rewarding the child's time in nursery will be.

The nursery door is always open to all parents and carers for informal drop-ins. You will also be invited to regular parents meetings to discuss your child's progress. At the end of each day parents with younger children will receive a 'Day in the Life' sheet which gives you a brief summary of what your child has eaten, how long they slept for and other relevant information. They will also capture any key moments of your child's day to share with you.

Childcare Vouchers

Many employers provide a childcare voucher scheme. This could save you up to £1,195 a year on your childcare costs. If you or your partner are working or returning to work ask the person responsible for your HR or employee benefits whether there is a scheme in place which you can take advantage of. If you would like more details about the **kids**unlimited voucher scheme please contact our Voucher Team on 0845 365 2999.





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