



PlayAway

Day Nursery
Part of Funcare Limited

Caring and fun for your children



Our vision is to provide the highest quality experiences for children, for carers and for parents.

- We believe in treating all people, little and large with care and respect.
- We believe that happy children should be able to explore their world freely, whilst remaining at all times healthy and safe.
- We believe that each individual child should be able to enjoy and achieve their potential in life through play and laughter.
- We believe that parents are the most important people in their child's life and we value & welcome their knowledge and involvement.
- We believe in open and honest relationships and strive to be positive and flexible in all that we do.

PlayAway Day Nursery is run by Josy & Ian Thompson (Funcare Ltd) together with Dee Sturges as Manager.

Josy & Ian are local parents who also run Woodlands Day Nursery, and before and after school Funclubs at Oatlands Infants, St Peters and Rossett Acre schools.

Dee Sturges is a qualified teacher with many years experience of pre-school childcare and education.



Ian Thompson



Josy Thompson

Our Lovely People



We are very proud to have a highly qualified and experienced team of child carers, a very low staff turnover and we are committed to treating our lovely people well and to on-going training. Over 85% of our team hold childcare qualifications and the rest are working towards them!

Our aim is to have every member of our team:

- Childcare qualified or in training
- First aid qualified
- Trained in basic food hygiene
- Trained in child protection

Carers will always be available at the beginning and end of your child's session to exchange information about your child.

"The staff team are very friendly, helpful, highly motivated and committed to

improvement. Staff interact skillfully with the children and support their learning well. High priority is given to promoting children's personal, social and emotional development and this is apparent in the calm and kind way the children behave."

OFSTED

All children have designated key people who will monitor your child's development and keep you updated with their progress at regular parent's evenings. We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum and records of your child's individual learning journey are kept which follow your child throughout the nursery and then onto their first school!

Baby Rooms:

Stability, cuddles and warmth
(3 months - 2 years)

Our Baby Rooms occupy the first floor of the nursery where the flexibility of different areas allows us to cater for each baby's individual needs.

A smaller quiet room is used for the younger and less mobile babies with stimulating toys and equipment. The larger rooms give more space for movement and finding their feet, for activities such as messy play which enables them to learn through their senses. A peaceful and relaxing sleep room is available for those babies who require a quiet area for sleep during the day. In addition we also offer a unique sensory room which provides different lighting effects, music and a range of textures and sounds to engage and stimulate our younger children.



"Babies' emotional needs are well met as they receive plenty of individual attention and cuddles."

OFSTED

We endeavour to work closely with you to ensure that we follow your baby's own routine with regards to sleep patterns, feeding times, comforters and any special requirements. Each baby has a daily diary with a description of their routine for that day which you are free to take home with you.

"Children develop a strong bond with their key person and staff ensure that children's needs are met by their allocated key person, for example, nappy changing and feeding"

OFSTED

Toddler Rooms:

Action, exploring and building relationships
(2 - 3 years)

The Toddler Rooms offer a smooth transition from our baby rooms, with children moving on when they are ready, at any stage from 18 months old. In these rooms, the children begin to explore a wider range of activities such as dressing up & role play, baking and an introduction to arts and crafts, whilst still giving the children the opportunity to follow their routines for eating and sleeping. The children can select and choose play, in rooms organized to offer choice with areas for different activities, such as our comfy reading area.

More independence is gradually encouraged for example sitting at the table for meals and access to drinks as and when they wish.

"The staff balance their time carefully to allow children to learn independently as well as giving them time to support and encourage. The staff are interested in the children and value what they say and do".

OFSTED



The toddler staff team will work closely alongside you and your child when you feel they are ready to start toilet training.



Pre-School Rooms:

Early Learning through play
and fun (3 - 4 years)



Our Pre-School Rooms are arranged in three areas. The larger room offers the base for the pre-school, providing daily access to their own computer, mark making, reading area and free access to a variety of toys. Each morning the children gather together for circle time to share their experiences & discuss aspects of their day's activities and their current interests.

Our open plan kitchen/dining room provides an area for meals and snacks which is also used throughout the day for messy and creative activities. The open plan design allows the children to interact with our cook, learning about health and nutrition, and even help her by preparing vegetables and herbs which they have grown themselves to add to meals. Our outside room allows more space for children to choose their own activities, with free-flow access to outdoor play, and plenty of room for music and movement.

Activities are planned according to each child's individual needs. We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and learning is strongly based through play.

15 hours per week free for 3 & 4 year olds

As a registered preschool, we are able to claim for up to 15 hours per week funding from the government for your child. These free hours are term time only and are available for children in the term AFTER they turn 3 years old.

Please contact us for further details as to how you can use your free hours at our nursery.

“Children have good opportunities to care for animals and plants as they grow their own vegetables and plants.” **OFSTED**



Fabulous Outdoors



We believe that children should be able to play freely outside whenever possible, giving them the opportunity to be more physically active. Whenever possible we operate a 'free-flow' system which allows children to play and learn either indoors or out. We have 3 outdoor areas which can be separated in order to allow all 3 sections to play safely outside at the same time.

Babies enjoy a grassed front garden with a canopied deck and wind chimes, and are taken out for walks as often as weather permits. Toddlers have a spacious area which includes a willow structure and space for varied play within the same session such as; climbing frame, slide, cars and bikes, as well as large activities such as parachute games and ring games. We also have lots of outdoor toys to use for enhancing the children's free-play or role play outside.

Pre-school enjoy their own deck which is used to take indoor activities outside, such as story times, drawing, painting and puzzles and for picnics during the summer. The pre-school playground provides space and opportunities for self-discovery and imaginative play. It also provides the older children the space and opportunity for more physical and challenging play.

“Children have regular opportunities to access the superb outdoor facilities. Staff ensure all areas of learning are developed outside and are suitable for their age and ability, for example, very young children enjoy the sensory garden as they touch and smell herbs and plants.”
“Children's motor skills are developing well as they use the large and small apparatus and climb in and out of the various dens” **OFSTED**

We also benefit greatly from our proximity to Harrogate's beautiful stray, which we use regularly for more boisterous ball games and exploration of our natural world!

Meals

All meals are freshly cooked on the premises by our nursery cook. We pride ourselves on ensuring all snacks and meals are well balanced and nutritious. We serve breakfast from 7am - 8am and then provide a hot two course main meal for lunch, a mid afternoon snack and a light tea. We provide babies with the equivalent baby food.

“Children enthusiastically sit down to a variety of home cooked meals including plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables”
OFSTED

We can cater for vegetarians and children with special dietary requirements but regretfully not for vegans.

Our menu changes weekly on a six week rotation, it is updated regularly and copies can be seen on each room's notice board.

Menus are planned with a strong emphasis on healthy eating and to ensure good eating habits are set from an early age. We aim to provide the majority of your child's recommended daily intake of fruit and vegetables.

Children have free access to water throughout the day and milk is provided at snack times.



Sample menu:

Chicken Stew, cous-cous, peas and carrots

Apple sponge and custard

Mackerel pate on toast

Fresh fruit

“The staff treat mealtimes as an opportunity to help children enjoy their food and become independent in feeding themselves.”

OFSTED



Equal Opportunities for all children

We are committed to providing appropriate care and education for all children, regardless of gender, colour, race, religion or any special needs they may have. Our aim is to integrate all children, treating them as equals and allowing them to share the same experiences and opportunities. Staff are committed to encourage, support and help our children in all areas of their development.

“Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are fully integrated into the setting and staff are skilful at meeting their specific needs”

“Staff are highly effective in ensuring that all children are well integrated and achieving as much as they can.”

OFSTED

Safeguarding Children

Please note that if we have any concerns about your child's development, welfare or safety, we will speak to you immediately. We are required to keep records of these concerns and when we feel it necessary, the advice of other professionals will be sought (in accordance with our policy). All matters will always be dealt with in consultation with parents/carers and in the strictest confidence.



Complaints Procedure

If you have any cause for concern you should in the first instance take it up with your child's Key Worker or the Nursery Manager. We would always hope that any concerns a parent/carer may have would be raised and dealt with by negotiation and discussion between parent/carer and the appropriate staff at the time of occurrence. However should the issue remain unresolved then the Nursery Manager should be contacted either verbally or in writing. The manager will then investigate the complaint and try to resolve the issue speedily and appropriately contacting and informing all those involved.

If the matter cannot be resolved to the parents/carers satisfaction then they have the right to raise the matter with OFSTED on

Tel: 0300 123 1231

Or at: National Business Unit, OFSTED
Royal Exchange Buildings, St Ann's Square,
Manchester M2 7LA.



PlayAway Day Nursery

34 Devonshire Place
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 4AD

Manager: Dee Sturges

Telephone: 01423 566696

Email: playaway@funcareltd.co.uk

Website: www.funcareltd.co.uk

