



The  
Wendy  
House



The Wendy House  
Day Nursery & Pre-School

*Where children flourish*

# The Wendy House

## Day Nursery & Pre-School

Caring for babies and children  
from 3 months to 5 years

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Our aim is to provide a home-from-home environment for all children in our care; a place where babies and children will feel loved and cared for in a stimulating and welcoming environment.



### A little bit about us

The Wendy House Nurseries are owned and run by Matt Darby and Jacquie Ellison.

Since opening their first nursery in 2003 they quickly established a reputation for having extremely high standards and both very much believe that smaller child-care settings can offer a more individual and personal level of care for children.

The Wendy House is not part of a large chain of nurseries, governed by a distant head office. Both Matt and Jacquie are on-site every day ensuring they can oversee the care of the children, offer support to their team of staff and have regular contact with parents to get feedback from them, which is vital in maintaining standards. They are both passionate about their nurseries and their belief that children in nursery settings can, and should, receive personal and top quality care.



## Our Ethos

Quite simply, we aim to provide the highest standards of childcare we possibly can. We understand completely that we are asking parents to leave their most precious person in the world in our care and, as such, take that responsibility with the seriousness it deserves.

Our success is based very much on our philosophy that 'small is beautiful'. Our nurseries are not large children's centres housing 100+ children, but concentrate on providing top quality care in smaller numbers, with very much a family-feel. We firmly believe that by keeping our numbers smaller than other nurseries we can provide a much more tailored package of care, focusing on a child's individual development and needs, and ensuring that each child's personality is allowed to flourish.

All our children are respected as individuals and are encouraged to develop their skills in a non-judgemental way, without prejudice or discrimination. They are also encouraged and expected not only to respect themselves but also each other. We place a very high emphasis on good manners and respecting others and the space around us. The children are encouraged to consider the feelings of others and to learn how to take care of the toys and books in the nursery. These are vital building blocks for a child's future development and will stand them in good stead later on in life.



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**Children are our most valuable natural resource.**

Herbert Hoover



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## Our Staff

To be able to work with children, coping with all the various challenges that presents, staff have to be special. We know that any nursery can have great premises and the latest toys and resources but without the right staff, all of that will count for nothing. We are regularly complimented on our staff's gentle and loving approach towards the children, along with their attention to detail and their overall knowledge of the children in their care.

Having highly qualified staff is vital in early years' childcare. Research has shown that the development of young children is directly linked to the qualifications held by the early years workers around them. The Wendy House is very proud that it leads the way in employing Early Years Professionals – a flagship qualification. Our levels of staff training and support are second to none and the reason we have built the excellent reputation we currently enjoy. All of our staff are thoroughly vetted, with CRB clearance. All of our staff are paediatric first-aid trained.



**Children require guidance and sympathy far more than instruction.**

Annie Sullivan



## Partnerships with Parents

Our 'small is beautiful' philosophy also enables us to build strong relationships with parents – a key factor in our overall care. We know that to be able to ensure a child's individual needs are being met, working with, and listening to, parents is vital.

We welcome comments and feedback and our parent emailing system ensures we keep an on-going stream of information and open dialogue.



“Parents and families are central to a child's well-being and we thoroughly support this important relationship by sharing information and offering support for extending learning in the home.”

The Early Years Foundation Stage DFES



## Our Nurseries

Our surroundings are important to us – both our nurseries are set in lovely rural locations, surrounded by beautiful countryside, yet both easily accessible to main commuter routes.

We took time searching for our premises and are confident that we have got it right.

Both buildings are bright and airy with wonderful views overlooking open fields and feel homely and inviting.

## The Wendy House - Shingay-cum-Wendy

This, our original nursery was established in 2003. Set in 4 acres of beautiful private park and farm land, the building is a converted stable block. Situated just off the A1198 it is just a ten minute drive from the town of Royston and convenient for many commuter routes. Registered for 59 children, the nursery has a team of 16 full-time staff and has built an excellent reputation since opening.



## The Wendy House - Impington

Our second nursery, The Wendy House, Impington, is based on the Chivers Farm Business Park. The building is converted from the original farm workers cottages and boasts a commanding position and fantastic views. Registered for 40 children, this is very much a home-from-home, cosy environment. The nursery is situated just a few minutes drive from the A14 and A10 (J32/J33) between Cambridge and Ely in the village of Impington, so is perfectly located for many commuter routes.



## Our Meals

Good nutrition is important for everyone but especially for those younger than five years, as these years are demanding for a developing child. Providing a varied and nutritious diet for all of the children in our care is very important.

All of our meals are prepared and cooked fresh every day by our full-time, on-site cooks, who use top-quality ingredients.

We place huge importance on what we call our 'family' meal times, which we see as an opportunity for everyone to be enjoying lovely food together. Our staff are also skilled at encouraging fussy eaters in a fun and encouraging way, and we cater to all dietary or religious requirements.

### A typical day's meals in one of our nurseries would be:

**Breakfast:** A selection of wholegrain cereals, toast and fruit

**Lunch:** Roasted Lemon Chicken with Rice and Seasonal Vegetables

**Pudding:** Apple Oat Crunch

**Tea:** Either a selection of sandwiches, crumpets, beans or spaghetti on toast, homemade pizza or crackers all served with a range of savoury snacks, cucumber, cheese batons, fresh fruit and freshly made homemade cakes

We appreciate that all children are different and all have different requirements and so we also operate a 'rolling snack' policy throughout the day, whereby the children always have access to fresh water and healthy snacks.

## Outdoor Play

Children need to run, jump and let off steam!

We place great importance on 'outdoor time'. Our nurseries have lovely gardens with lots to keep lively children occupied. Both of our nurseries are set in open countryside with lots of space to run around. At our nursery in Shingay we also have access to 4 acres of beautiful private parkland and at Impington we are surrounded by open countryside and, along with the garden, can also take the children on nature walks along the fields.

We also like to grow vegetables and herbs for the cook to use in the children's meals. All the children get involved in growing a variety of things like peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, aubergines and potatoes, along with a whole range of fresh herbs and also flowers. The children plant, water and tend to the plants and then enjoy helping to pick what has grown.





## Early Years Foundation Stage

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage as required by Ofsted and incorporate activities, both adult and child-led to facilitate each child's individual development throughout the 6 Early Learning Goals, which are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication, Language and Literacy
- Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development

Throughout these activities the children develop a strong sense of themselves, the world they live in, as well as appreciating other cultures and societies. We understand and appreciate that each child is seen as an individual and as such we tailor these goals to meet each child's physical, mental and emotional needs.

## Vouchers

Childcare vouchers are a flexible and cost-effective way for employers to contribute towards their employee's childcare costs and provide significant savings for both employees and employers.

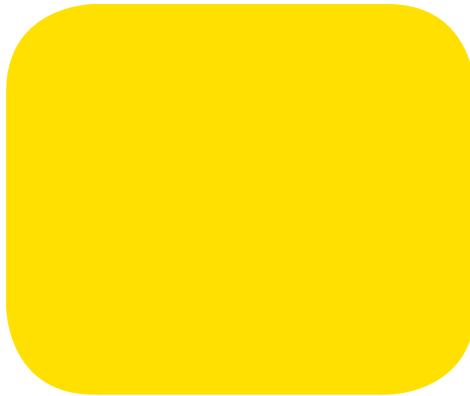
The Wendy House accepts most types of vouchers. Please contact us for further information.



## How to Contact Us

If you would like to make an appointment to visit one of our nurseries, or to find out more information, please contact us at **Shingay-cum-Wendy** on **01223 208869** or **Impington** on **01223 237775**.

Alternatively email us at: [enquiries@thewendyhouse.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thewendyhouse.org.uk)



[www.thewendyhouse.org.uk](http://www.thewendyhouse.org.uk)

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