“Play is the highest form of research.” – Albert Einstein
About us

The Learning Community nurseries consists of 4 Children’s Centre nurseries that are based in Bath, Radstock, Midsomer Norton and Keynsham.

The Learning Community Nursery Radstock is purpose built and has been open since 2007.

We welcome all children and families into our setting and have a child centred approach. We are able to offer provision for children aged from 3 months to five years. OFSTED said “This is an Good Nursery” (March 2013)

Our promise to you

At The Learning Community Nursery Radstock we will work in partnership with every family to provide the highest quality childcare in a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment.

At The Learning Community Nursery Radstock we understand that young children learn through play and therefore we create a happy and relaxed atmosphere where children can develop their physical, intellectual, social and emotional skills in a safe and stimulating environment.

We are a multi cultural Centre, valuing and celebrating different religions and cultures through the use of displays, books, costumes, games, poster, puzzles, dolls etc.
Our Ethos

Children Feeling Safe

It is important for all children to feel safe so that they can have the best possible learning experience. The settling period is vital, where children are invited to join us for short sessions. As each child is unique we tailor our settling sessions to meet their individual needs.

In addition we have golden rules, these are:

- Gentle hands
- We share at nursery
- Look after our friends
- Look after our toys
- Kind words.

Children are taught to look after themselves by saying “Stop, I don’t like it.”

All people who come into contact with children and young people have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. We are committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which the welfare, safety and protection of children are paramount. We have positive relationships with other professionals and will work together to provide the best possible outcome for children and families.
Our rooms

Baby Room—Mini Beasts
Our baby room can offer up to nine places for children aged six months to two and a half years. The room benefits from its own kitchenette, sensory area and adjoins the bathroom with a nappy changing area and potties. We support children’s individual development by observing and planning for children’s interests. Tuning in to children allows us to develop close relationships with the children and our key person system supports this. Children have access to a wide range of resources and we encourage independence from a young age. Activities such as painting, water play and sensory play are provided daily and the children can express themselves through these activities.

Toddler Room—Little Insects
Our Toddler Room can offer up to sixteen spaces daily for children aged 2-3 years. Our Little Insects strive to learn as they independently investigate and carry out self-selected activities within easy access, with experienced practitioners on-hand to support and extend their learning. The Toddlers are able to freely flow between the indoors and outdoors throughout the majority of the day which opens up a number of learning opportunities for children to learn and explore. The room has adjoins a bathroom which has access to toilets, potties and a nappy changing area.
Preschool Room – Woodland creatures

Our preschool room caters for children from the age of three to five years and can offer 24 places daily. The main play space consists of a low level easy access resources, low level toilets, a kitchenette, nappy changing facilities and free flow access to a garden.

The children are able to access a combination of child-initiated and adult-led activities based on the children’s individual needs and interests. Throughout the day Pre-school children can choose to play inside or outside as well as making good use of the school field and apparatus they have to offer.

The children engage in daily Pre-school, Language and Social Interaction groups, where fun activities help to prepare them in getting ready for school.

Our children are actively encouraged to be independent and contribute to the nursery community. Children take part in activities such as preparing snack and restocking our creative areas. This allows the children to take ownership of the nursery and play a part in keeping it an enjoyable place to be.
Play

We value children’s learning and truly believe that this happens best through play. We understand that children have different learning styles and cater for these. By offering a wide range of activities in a play based setting we are able to meet the criteria of the revised Early Year’s Foundation Stage (2014) and tune into children’s interests to extend their learning.

Our staff members support children through play but also allow children the opportunity to explore freely.

Outdoor play

Current thinking suggests that children learn best outside. Children have access to outdoor play all year round and in all weathers. The expectation is that all children come prepared to be outside and get messy. Therefore all children should be appropriately dressed every day they attend nursery.

We are constantly looking to extend outdoor play opportunities for all age groups. At present the children are regularly visiting the local woods, have snack time in the sensory garden and the two year olds have a session outside around physical development and movement. These will change regularly depending on the children’s interests.
“Play takes huge energy and concentration. It is anything but recreation or relaxation”.

(Bruce, 1991)
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Valuing Parents

We believe that parents are children’s first and most enduring educators therefore we actively encourage parent partnership to promote the best outcomes for each child. We also welcome parents to volunteer with us or join us for a session or trip. We hold parents weeks twice a year and regular parents evenings.

Being healthy

As a setting we encourage healthy eating as well as an active lifestyle. Children have access to a snack bar so are able to chose when they would like to have snack. Parents have the choice of hot meals that are provided or bringing their own packed lunch (Preschool only). Children are offered water or milk during snack and mealtimes and are encouraged to help themselves to water during the day from the water table.

AcE and ECAT

We use two assessment tools to assess the children and plan for their individual needs, helping them to achieve their potential. The AcE programme (The Accounting Early For long Learning Programme) assesses children’s personal, social, emotional and physical development. This helps us inform planning for individual children’s learning and enhances parental involvement. The ECAT (Every Child A Talker) assesses children’s communication and language skills and helps us to plan children’s next steps in their learning and development. We involve parents/carers in using both the AcE and the ECAT.
The role of the Key Person

The role of a key person as stated in the Early Year’s Foundation Stage is “The named member of staff assigned to an individual child to support their development and act as the key point of contact with that child’s parents” (2012).

As a Children’s Centre we believe the role of a key person is vital, we feel it is based upon the child’s relationship and bond with the staff, usually one staff member in particular. The key person will be responsible for a small number of children, giving them the reassurance to feel safe and cared for.

The key person’s role will involve developing bonds with a small number of children, they will do so by ensuring that they greet the child wherever possible, feed them or support them during meal times, prepare them for sleep time, change nappies and toilet them where appropriate. By the key person providing support at these times which can be distressing and upsetting we hope to make the process easier for the child.

“The key person system is highly effective as it supports children to build positive relationships in a nurturing environment”.

OFSTED 2013
The staff team

The nursery team comprises of a Nursery Manager, Senior Practitioners, Practitioners and Assistants. We also have support from our Children’s Centre Teacher.

All staff members are qualified or working towards qualifications in Early Years, these include degrees in Early Years, Early Years Professional Status, Foundation degrees and BTEC or NVQ’s in Early Years.

What our parents say……..

“It is such a welcoming and friendly nursery where the children are able to learn through play in a lot of creative ways”
Admissions Process:

Parent/carer makes enquiry

↓

Send:
Waiting list form

↓

Parent returns:
Carer contacted to arrange a visit.

↓

Carer to complete Enrolment form and sign Nursery Agreement form with registration fee (if applicable)
Plus one month’s fee

↓

The Learning Community Nursery Radstock arranges settling where appropriate and two free unaccompanied trial visits

↓

During visits parent/carer and Key Person completes:
Child entry record
Places are allocated by the following Criteria:

Children who already attend the nursery.

Children who live in the 30% most deprived areas and a Practitioner referral e.g. (Health Visitor/Outreach Worker/Social Worker)

Children who live in the 30% most deprived areas or a Practitioner referral.

Siblings of children in St Nicholas Primary School/Children’s Centre who live in the Somer Valley Children’s Centre area.

All other applications are placed in the waiting list in date order of receiving them.

All waiting list enquiries to be dealt with by the Nursery Manager.
Sessions

To maximise the time that staff are able to spend with children we offer sessions. The sessions are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Hours used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00am – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Breakfast and Snack</td>
<td>5 hours funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch (optional)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £3.70</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Without Lunch £1.50</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
<td>Snack and Tea</td>
<td>5 hours funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £2.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.00am – 6.00pm</td>
<td>Breakfast and Snack</td>
<td>10 hours funded</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Snack and Tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £5.70</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Without Lunch £3.50</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30am - 3.00pm x 1</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>11.5 hours funded</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Snack x 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.00am - 1.00pm x 1</td>
<td>Lunch (optional) x2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £6.90</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Without Lunch £2.50</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30am - 3.00pm x 1</td>
<td>Snack x 3</td>
<td>11.5 hours funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm - 6.00pm x 1</td>
<td>Lunch (optional)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tea</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £5.20</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Without Lunch £3.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 3.00pm x 2 days</td>
<td>Snack x 4</td>
<td>13 hours (11.5 hours funded &amp; 1.5 hours to pay)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch (optional) x2</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total £6.40</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Plus 1.5 hrs =£7.65</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total = £14.05</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Without Lunch £9.65</strong></td>
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If your child is receiving Early Years Entitlement Funding (children receive this the term after their 3rd birthday)

All year round: 11.5 hours

**We only offer all year round places**
Frequently asked questions about sessions

“How many sessions a week does my child have to do?”

**Answer:** we ask that your child does a minimum of 2 sessions a week these must be on different days, this is to keep some consistency for them throughout the week.

“How can I use my funding with the sessions?”

**Answer:** All year round: 11.5 hours per week
2 x 8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm
1 x 8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm and 1x 8.30am-3.00pm

Or if you require more than 11.5 hours per week you can claim 11.5 hours funding and pay the additional hours for example

2 x 8-6 sessions a week: 11.5 hours funded and be required to pay £54.75

“When do I have to pay?”

**Answer:** Invoices are sent monthly to your email address or handed out and payments must be made by 5th of every month.

“Will I be charged if I’m late?”

**Answer:** Yes there are charges for late collection. We have to keep to OFSTED ratios and a late collection could mean that this is compromised.

Late fees are charged at £5 per 5 minutes.
Any more questions?

If you have any questions that weren't covered in the prospectus then please contact us and we will be happy to help.

Our contact details are:
Telephone number: 01225 396577
Address: Kilmersdon Road
Radstock
BA33QH
The Learning Community Nursery Waiting List Application

I would like my child’s name to be placed on the waiting list for The Learning Community Nursery Radstock. I understand that this does not guarantee a place at the nursery.

Name of child ________________________________________________________________

Date of Birth ______________________ Male or Female ___________________________

Parent/Carer’s name __________________________________________________________

Address ......................................................................................................................
................................................................................................................................. Post code ______________

Telephone Number:___________________ Mobile ________________________________

Health Visitor .............................................................................................................

Days and sessions Morning session Afternoon session Full day session Core day session

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>8.30-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>8.30-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>8.30-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>8.30-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>8.30-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This place will be all year round. We do not offer term time only places.

Will your child require a hot lunch at £2.20 per day □

Requested starting date ......................Room: 0-2 room □ 2-3 room □ 2-5 room □

Does your child have any additional needs or anything else we would need to know about to support your child?
........................................................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................................................

Is your child receiving two year funding? YES / NO
If so, reference code __________________________

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________