



A professional day nursery where happy, settled children flourish in a caring environment.

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The KTB Kids Promise

KTB Kids is business venture developed from a passion to provide exceptional standards of nursery care. The nursery is designed to meet the needs of all children, with the standards of facilities, resources and nursery practitioners meeting only the highest standards.

Our promise to you is that KTB Kids:

- Will not compromise on quality of its delivery of service.
- Is designed to meet the needs of all children.
- Offer the highest standards of facilities, resources & nursery practitioners.
- Have children in the nursery that are happy, settled and well-occupied.
- Provide a safe, clean, friendly and caring environment.
- Develop close relationships between young children and their key workers.

Warmest congratulations to Naomi

We are delighted to announce that Naomi and her husband are expecting their second child in April next year. Naomi will be leaving us at the end of March 2019 for her maternity, she will return to us full time in January 2020.

A sad goodbye

It is with regret that we have to inform you that Hannah will be leaving us at the beginning of November. We are sad to see Hannah leave as she has been a part of our team since 2014. Hannah recently returned from maternity leave, since returning to work her son has been very poorly, Hannah has battled with caring for her son whilst working full time, which she has found challenging, this then led Hannah to make the difficult decision to leave KTB Kids to be with her son. We of course wish Hannah and her family all the best, Hannah will be missed by all the children and staff here at KTB Kids. We are currently recruiting to replace Hannah and we will keep you up dated once we have recruited a new member of staff.

The new Mrs Smith

On a sunny Saturday afternoon in October Sarah Ginn, our lower nursery educator became Mrs Smith. I am sure that you will join us in wishing Sarah and husband every happiness for their future together.

Dates for your diary



Wednesday 24th October

As part of our upcoming theme for October we will be looking at harvest and, as we do every year will be collecting donations to be given to the local Salvation Army as part of their harvest festival celebrations. All donations of non-perishable items such as tin and packs foods are welcomed.



Monday 29th October

We have a professional photographer here on Monday 29th October, all children and siblings are welcome to come along and have their photograph taken. Could you please let us know as soon as possible if you would like your child to have the photograph taken so we can get an idea of numbers.



Wednesday 31st October

On Wednesday 31st October 2018 we will be holding our annual Halloween fancy dress day. If this is your child's normal day to attend nursery then we would like invite them to join the staff in dressing up for the day and taking part in Halloween themed games and crafts.



Friday 21st December

In the afternoon of Friday 21st December we will have our annual Christmas party. We warmly invite all our parents to join us, even if this is not your child's usual day. Further information will be sent out to you nearer the time, but for now please save the date.

Our new nursery layout – KTB Kids upper and lower nursery

We are delighted with the new open plan nursery that we have created following our building project this month. The results have been tremendous for the children and the educators, and feedback from everyone has been overwhelmingly positive. The nursery is now much more clearly divided into an upper and lower nursery space. The main benefit of this development project is that we can now offer a more flexible play space for children of every age, and importantly this change is sustainable as we continue to slowly grow the nursery. Both parts of the new nursery have their own dedicated sleep room, dining area, cloakroom and large play space. There is a shared physical play space known as our Movimento area, and facilities for toilet training in both parts of the nursery. We will offer mixed age grouping for children within the lower nursery and again within the upper nursery, as this is embedded in our nursery ethos, but we are moving towards the children and educators from the lower nursery spending less time with the children in upper nursery. The outcome of this is that we still benefit from the flexibility of sharing spaces, positive role modelling and helpfulness that mixed age grouping provides; however, by making the spaces more age specific with the resources we have, we will be able to more easily challenge our children to reach their potential through play opportunities and varied experiences.

Our nursery team have been dedicated to either upper or lower nursery, and this is where their specialism and therefore professional strengths will be. For full details of our teams, please see our website where full profiles for each educator can be found.

Transitions for children will now take place within lower nursery at 18 months, when they will move into the larger 18 – 30 month space, and then at 30 months with a move to upper nursery. The final transition will be in the September after the child turns 3. This is when our children will enjoy our full preschool programme, this covers one year and leads them up when they leave us for reception at school.

Parent workshops – Introducing schemas in children - coming in January

We are really pleased with the success of the parent workshops that we have introduced this year. In September we invited the parents of our eldest children, to introduce our preschool programme. Parents enjoyed experiencing the science projects that their children are exposed to in our classroom, learnt about the pathway to school and the scaffolding of skills required for a successful transition into reception.

In January we will be inviting all parents to an exciting, interactive workshop on understanding schemas in children's play. This interesting topic was briefly discussed in our loose part play workshop, and following requests from parents we are excited to bring this to you. We will send further details out before Christmas.

Physical play for young children

In our nursery we work closely with NHS guidelines in many areas of our practice. One area is following the physical play guidelines for children under 5 years old. **Did you know that walking children should have at least 3 hours of 'huff and puff' exercise every day?** Most UK pre-school children currently spend 120–150 minutes a day in physical activity, so achieving this guideline would mean adding another 30–60 minutes per day.

It is really important that physical activity is encouraged from birth, particularly through floor-based play and water-based activities in safe environments. Steps should be taken to limit time spent being sedentary, so being restrained or sitting. This is why we do not have baby bouncers, walking aids or 'Jumperoo's' in our lower nursery as they limit free movement. At home it is important to minimise time spent in infant carriers or seats, and time in a pushchair. Of course it is also important to reduce time spent watching TV, using the computer or playing video games with all children.

In nursery we take every opportunity to encourage physical activity with all children. For young babies who are not yet walking, this may include:

- 'Tummy time' – this includes any time spent on the stomach including rolling and playing on the floor
- Reaching for and grasping objects, pulling, pushing and playing with other people

In older children who are mobile physical activity is likely to occur mainly through unstructured active play but may also include more structured activities. Activities can be of any intensity (light or more energetic), examples include:

- Activities which involve movements of all the major muscle groups, i.e. the legs, buttocks, shoulders and arms, and movement of the trunk from one place to another such as our yoga, dancing, ribbon dancing and obstacle courses.

- Energetic play, e.g. climbing frame

- More energetic bouts of activity, e.g. running and chasing games

- Walking/skipping on our daily outside adventures

The main benefits of movement are that it:

- Develops motor skills

- Improves cognitive development

- Contributes to a healthy weight

- Enhances bone and muscular development

- Supports learning of social skills

- Develops movement and co-ordination

- Improves cardiovascular health

Are you entitled to funding for childcare hours?

If your child has their birthday between 1st September and 31st December then they may be entitled to funding from the local authority for sessions at our nursery from January.

At KTB Kids funded sessions are offered as part of the free for two or free early years education for 3–4 year olds. 15 hours of funded childcare is delivered at KTB Kids as 5 hour blocks and 30 hours of funded childcare is delivered as 6 hour blocks. The 5 hour blocks are between 08:00- 13:00 or 13:30–18:30. The 6 hour blocks are between 07:00–13:00 or 13:00–19:00. Please note that no more than 10 hours per day of funding can be claimed from the local authority.

Funded spaces are only allocated if the nursery has availability. Funding is only for 38 weeks of the year which is in term time only. Parents or guardians may self -fund sessions to ‘top up’ the funding if they would like the child to attend longer days, sessions beyond the 15 hours, or to attend during school holidays. The calendar of term dates runs as the Kent school calendar.

In Kent, children become eligible to claim their free early education from:

A child born between:

1 April - 31 August (inclusive)	The start of term 1 following their third birthday (after summer holidays) until statutory school age.
1 September - 31 December (inclusive)	The start of term 3 following their third birthday (after Christmas/New Year holiday) until statutory school age.
1 January - 31 March (inclusive)	The start of term 5 following their third birthday (after April holiday) until statutory school age.

The government childcare choices website explains a little bit more about accessing the funded hours so take a look here to see if and what you may be entitled to. <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Please note that funded places are limited in our setting so please do let us know if you would like to claim your funding with us. These spaces are always offered to our existing parents before they are offered to new children. Please note that for your child to continue accessing the nursery throughout the whole year that we are open there will be a holiday top up for the 12 weeks throughout the year that the government does not fund. For the 15 hours this will be £92.70 per month and for the 30 hours this will be £154.50 per month.

Staff enrichment – mindfulness programme

Supporting and valuing our staff is really important to us as a company, and we place high value on mentoring, training and up skilling our team on a regular basis. We also take our responsibility to support the physical and mental wellbeing of our team. As part of this commitment, this term we have funded a mindfulness course for all our staff.

The common benefits of mindfulness practice and application are; general well being/stress reduction, presence and focus, awareness of emotional states and their onset, and impulse control. Mindfulness is also a virtuous circle between well being, in and out of work, and professional effectiveness. In addition, from a work perspective, having a more mindful team will hopefully support us in maintaining a positive working atmosphere. By attending this course as a team, we hope that each individual will be more likely to establish a practice habit and sustain it. By becoming more aware of their own emotions our educators will then be in a better position to support children within the setting.

Next term we hope to extend our mindfulness knowledge and practice by extending the emotional literacy programme for our children, so watch this space...

Buggy storage

You will have seen by now the new cupboard downstairs for storing your buggy. Thank you for folding your buggy when storing in this space.

Please may we remind you that regrettably we will not have the room to store open buggies or travel systems.

Car seats will still need to be brought into nursery to store please.

Thank you for reading, as always should you have any concerns, complaints or comments that you would like to bring to our attention, our doors are always open.

Your KTB Kids management team
Katie, Hayley and Naomi
