

Name of Nursery  
Telephone No.  
Dates Visited



### The Nursery

- Is the Nursery bright, airy and colourful?
- Does it look clean?
- Does it have orderly, clean work areas?
- Are there safe indoor and outdoor areas?
- Is the outdoor play area fenced in and has a variety of safe equipment?
- Can the Staff see the entire outdoor play area at all times?
- Are there defined areas for resting, stories, art and craft activities, is there enough space for the Children in all these areas?
- Are Children supervised at all times in the toilets and at nappy changing times, do the toilets smell clean, is the changing mat disinfected after each use?
- Is hand washing practiced, is there liquid soap, is there a towel or are there paper towels to dry hands?
- If a towel is used, how often is it changed?
- Are there separate cots for babies and separate beds or mats for toddlers?
- Are the room temperatures comfortable?
- Are health snacks and/or meals provided?
- Is the Kitchen clean?
- Are cleaning materials and medicines kept out of reach of Children?
- Do you agree with the discipline practices, how is good behaviour encouraged?
- Is the Nursery Ofsted Registered and is the certificate displayed?
- Are surprise visits by Parents encouraged?
- Ask to read all policies and procedures
- What is the process with regard to illness or if the Child is picked up by a person other than the Parent or late collection?

### Staff

- Are the Staff warm and welcoming?
- Do they greet your Child and discuss your Child with you?
- Do they treat the Children with respect, flexibility and patience?
- Do the Staff get down to the Childs level to speak to them?
- Is there enough staff in the room to meet the needs and serve all the Children?
- Does each member of staff have a Childcare Qualification?
- Are Staff trained in First Aid?
- Will staff always be available to answer your questions and deal with your concerns?
- Are Parents ideas welcomed; are there ways Parents can get involved?

- Will Staff tell you what your Child has been doing every day?
- Do the Children enjoy being with the Staff?
- Is there a low Staff turnover?
- Is there a Key Worker System, how many Children does each Key Worker have?
- Do Staff regularly attend courses to further their Childcare qualifications and keep up to date with all Childcare issues?

### Activities

- Are the activities suited to each age group?
- Is there enough equipment in the room suited to each age group?
- Are the toys and equipment safe and clean?
- Is there a balance between play, structured play, story time and rest?
- Are the toys and equipment kept on low shelving for the children to choose what they want to play with or kept stored away and only a few things got out at a time?
- Can you see a weekly plan of the activities displayed on the wall?
- Are there activities that help fine and gross motor skills, creativity, cognitive skills and social skills?
- Is Children's work displayed on the walls?
- Is rest time supervised?
- What is the daily routine?
- Do all Children participate in all activities, are any left out?
- Do you see laughing, caring, sharing, and generally happy Children?
- Will your Child be happy there?

Trust your feelings and observations. In the end it is the Nursery in which you feel most comfortable and your Child seems most positive about.

Once you have selected a Nursery, work closely with the Staff. Talk often and ask about your Child's progress, what activities he/she enjoys, and how he/she gets along with the other Children to make sure your Child enjoys the best Childcare experience.