

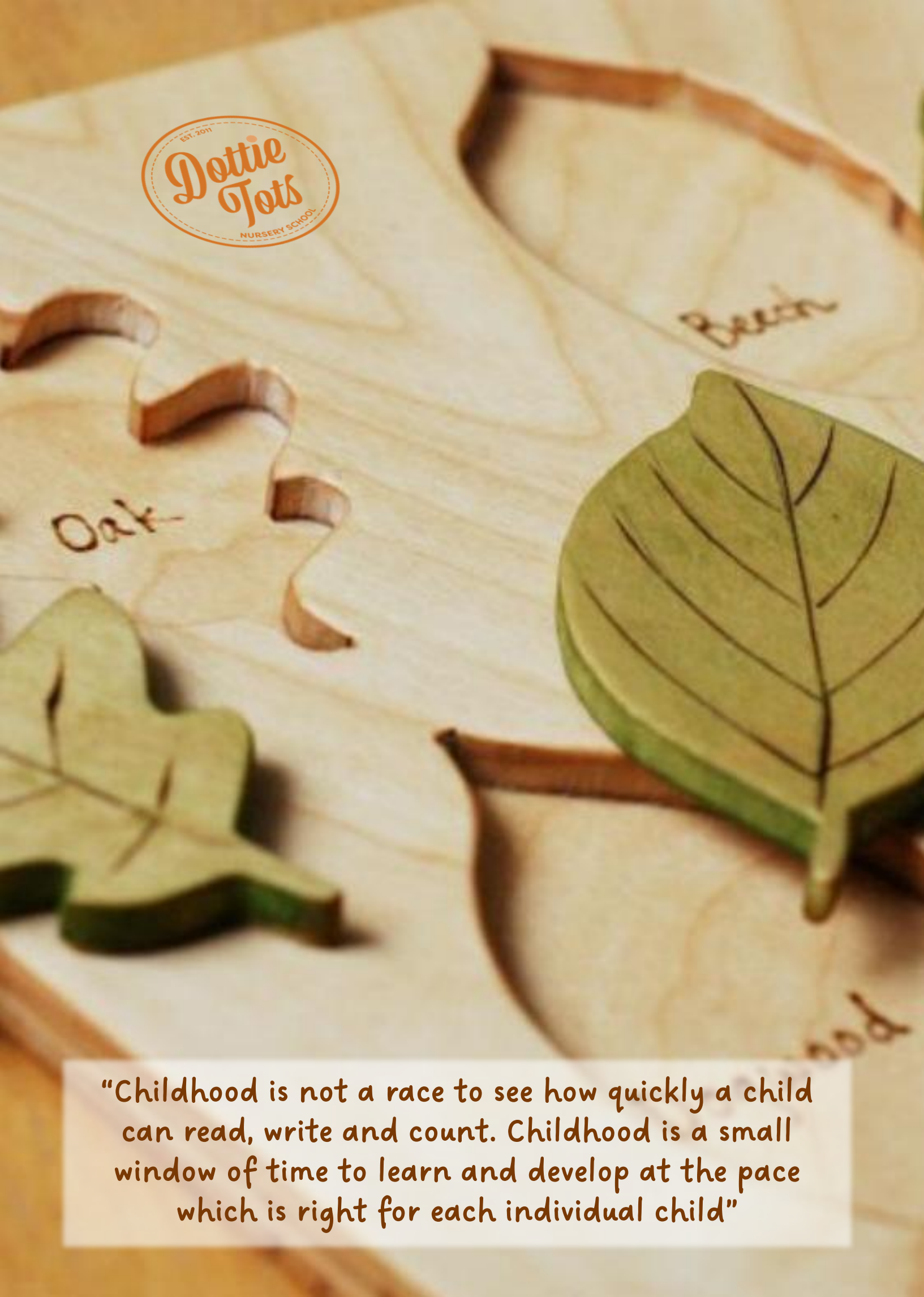


Where children Love to learn



Our Prospectus





"Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. Childhood is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace which is right for each individual child"

Welcome



Dottie Tots Nursery Schools brings together two welcoming village settings in Bentley and Kingsley, Hampshire. Our caring teams create a nurturing, homely environment where children feel secure, build friendships and develop a love for learning.

We celebrate each child's individuality, taking time to understand their interests, strengths and needs. Through warm relationships and thoughtful support, we help children grow in confidence and become curious, independent learners.

Learning through play

Children have time and freedom to choose, explore and follow their interests. Our educators build on this curiosity through meaningful conversations, small-group experiences and carefully planned activities, helping children discover new ideas and practise emerging skills. Our approach, 'Joining the D.O.T.S.', brings together what matters most to us.

The key elements of 'Joining the D.O.T.S' are:



- D – Developing a love for learning
- O – Opportunities for open-ended play
- T – Time for play, socialising, exploration and consolidation
- S – Skills for life

Outdoor adventures and everyday discoveries

Outdoor play is an important part of life at both nurseries. Our gardens offer opportunities for active play, exploration and quiet moments, helping children connect with nature and notice the changing seasons.

We encourage care for the world around us through growing, gardening and creative use of recycled and upcycled materials. Each setting draws on its village surroundings to offer experiences that help children feel part of their local community.

Working together with families

We value the knowledge families bring and work closely with parents and carers to support each child's learning, wellbeing and routines. Alongside everyday conversations, we use the Family app to share nursery news, moments from your child's day and observations of their learning. Families can contribute updates from home and communicate with the team, helping us build a shared understanding of their child.

At Bentley and Kingsley, our aim is the same: happy, secure children who enjoy discovering, creating and learning, with skills and confidence that will stay with them as they grow.

BENTLEY

Kingsley



BENTLEY



Dottie Tots Bentley

Memorial Hall,
Alton Rd,
Bentley,
Hampshire.
GU10 5NB

Phone: 07387 576307

Email: kimlaird@dottietots.com



Kingsley



Dottie Tots Kingsley

The Kingsley Centre
Main Road,
Kingsley, Bordon,
Hampshire.
GU35 9ND

Phone: 023 8251 3285

Email: nichola@dottietots.co.uk

BENTLEY



Welcome to Dottie Tots Nursery School in Bentley, based in the Memorial Hall at the heart of the village. Our welcoming indoor space and garden give children opportunities to move between indoor and outdoor play throughout the day, discovering something new in every season.

Time to play, space to grow

We celebrate each child's individuality and give them time to follow their interests, make choices and develop their ideas. Our caring educators get to know each child, offering reassurance, encouragement and thoughtful support as their confidence grows.

Through play, children build friendships, solve problems and learn to do things for themselves. We balance opportunities for independent exploration with shared activities and small-group experiences, responding to children's interests and stages of development.

Outdoor discoveries

Outdoor play is central to life at Bentley. Children can investigate natural materials, create imaginary worlds, build dens and enjoy the freedom to move and explore.

We support children to try new challenges, recognise their abilities and develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Our team carefully assesses activities and provides guidance, helping children build confidence and judgement through experience.

Part of village life

Our connections with the local village school and care home help children feel part of a wider community. Experiences have included exploring the school's woodland area, joining Christmas celebrations and sharing songs and stories with care-home residents.

These shared moments offer opportunities to meet different people, practise kindness and build relationships across generations. Our links with the village school also help children become familiar with school life as they prepare for their next steps.

Language, stories and early learning

Stories, songs, rhymes and playful phonics activities encourage a love of language and books. Children explore sounds, develop their listening skills and enjoy conversations that build vocabulary and confidence.

Creative play, mark-making and activities that strengthen hands and fingers support the foundations for writing, with experiences adapted to each child's development.

BENTLEY



Movement and moments of calm

Our playful yoga sessions invite children to stretch, balance, move and relax. They provide opportunities to notice how their bodies feel, explore emotions and practise simple ways to find calm. At Bentley, we want every child to feel known, valued and ready to explore; enjoying their early years while building confidence, friendships and a love for learning.



Please
excuse the
mess, our
children are
making
memories...



Kingsley



Situated in the Kingsley Centre at the heart of the village, our nursery is surrounded by Hampshire farmland and trees. Our welcoming indoor space, garden and secure field give children room to explore, build friendships and develop a love for learning.

Space for outdoor adventures

Outdoor play is an important part of every day at Kingsley. Children can move between indoor and outdoor activities, with opportunities to dig, climb, create and investigate the natural world.

Our secure field beside the nursery offers space for bigger adventures, imaginative play and discoveries through the changing seasons. With guidance from our educators, children try new challenges and develop confidence in their abilities. Our relationship with the neighbouring farmer has also brought memorable experiences, including meeting and bottle-feeding lambs, helping children learn about caring for living things.

At the heart of our community

Sharing a home with the Kingsley Organisation places our nursery within a welcoming community that supports adults with disabilities to develop skills and independence. Our connections with The Green Room School have provided opportunities to share stories, explore bushcraft and enjoy forest school-inspired experiences. Visits have also introduced children to farm animals and reptiles, encouraging curiosity and respect for the world around them.

Everyday skills for growing independence

We give children opportunities to take an active part in nursery life. Preparing fruit and vegetables for snacks, helping to wash dishes and caring for shared spaces make everyday routines meaningful learning experiences.

These activities are adapted to children's development and supported by our team, helping them practise coordination, cooperation and independence while enjoying the satisfaction of contributing.

Understanding feelings and building friendships

Warm relationships help children feel secure and ready to learn. We support them to recognise and express their feelings, listen to others and navigate the small challenges of playing together.

Through conversations, stories and everyday moments, children begin to develop empathy and find ways to manage emotions with support from trusted adults.



Language, stories and early learning

Stories, songs, rhymes and playful phonics activities encourage children to enjoy language and books. They explore sounds, practise listening and build vocabulary through conversation and shared play. Mark-making, creative activities and opportunities to strengthen hands and fingers support the foundations for writing, with experiences shaped around each child's development.

Movement and moments of calm

Our playful yoga sessions give children opportunities to stretch, balance, move and relax. They encourage body awareness and introduce simple ways to pause and find calm. At Kingsley, we want every child to feel valued and involved; growing in confidence through outdoor adventures, everyday achievements and a strong sense of belonging.



Dirt on My Shirt



There's dirt on my shirt
And leaves in my hair
There's mud on my boots
But I don't really care
Playing outside is so much fun
To breathe the clean air
And feel the warm sun
To stomp in a puddle
Or climb a big tree
Makes me so happy
Just look and you'll see



Play Learning & Discovery



New discoveries, growing confidence

At Dottie Tots, we offer experiences that spark curiosity, encourage creativity and develop a love for learning. Alongside everyday play, these activities give children opportunities to explore their interests and practise new skills, with support suited to their age and development.

Phonics & Early Literacy

Our preschool phonics sessions bring language to life through songs, rhymes, stories and playful sound activities. Led by our phonics teacher, children practise listening, notice sounds and explore the foundations of reading in an enjoyable way.

Mark-making and activities that develop hand and finger coordination support early writing. Where children would benefit from additional communication and language support, we offer focused small-group experiences, using conversation and shared play to build understanding and confidence.

Yoga & Wellbeing

Our playful yoga sessions invite children to stretch, balance, move and pause. Through gentle movements, breathing and relaxation, children explore how their bodies feel and practise simple ways to find calm.

Sessions offer opportunities to develop coordination and body awareness, recognise feelings and enjoy moments of quiet alongside more active play.

Nature & Gardening

Planting seeds, tending herbs and watching for insects turn our outdoor spaces into places of discovery. Children explore how living things grow and change, noticing the seasons and learning to care for the world around them.

Hands-on experiences encourage questions, conversation and problem-solving. Whether watering a plant or investigating a fallen leaf, children have time to look closely, share ideas and make discoveries of their own.

Music & Movement

Our younger children explore songs, dance and rhythm through lively, playful sessions. Moving to music and joining in with familiar songs give them opportunities to express themselves and enjoy being part of a group.

These shared experiences encourage listening, language and coordination, with freedom for children to respond in their own way and grow in confidence.

Each experience reflects our belief that children thrive when they feel secure, involved and free to explore.





fish



green tea



carrot



beet

asparagus



leek



lemon



pomegranate



bananas



yogurt



spinach



broccoli



fish



green tea



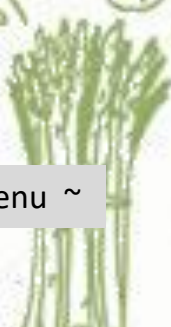
strawberries



carrot



asparagus



lemon





Dottie's Dishes

Homemade with little tummies in mind. At Dottie Tots, mealtimes are a warm, sociable part of the nursery day. Our team sits alongside the children, encouraging conversation, independence and enjoyment of food. Our meals are freshly prepared on site at Bentley and Kingsley, with a focus on whole foods, simple recipes and seasonal ingredients. Portions and textures are adapted to children's ages, appetites and individual needs.

Breakfast

A welcoming start to the day, with a selection of cereals, wholemeal toast, fruit and milk. Breakfast is available until approximately 8.15am.

Lunch & Dottie's Little Extras

Our lunches follow the seasons, from comforting cottage pies, mild curries and hearty vegetable soups in autumn and winter to colourful dishes celebrating seasonal vegetables and fresh summer flavours during the warmer months. Our varied menus introduce children to a range of tastes and textures throughout the year.

Lunch is followed by a Dottie's Little Extra — a thoughtfully chosen alternative to a traditional pudding. Seasonal fruit, comforting apple and pear oats, and soft pears with a hint of vanilla offer a delicious finish, using simple ingredients and natural sweetness, without added sugar, honey or syrup.

Lunch is served at approximately 11.30am.

Afternoon Tea

A varied, nourishing meal to keep little tummies satisfied through the afternoon. Tea is served at approximately 4.00pm.

Snacks & Drinks

We offer simple, wholesome snacks throughout the day, including fruit, rice cakes, breadsticks and crackers, with choices adapted to children's ages and dietary needs. Fresh drinking water is always available, and we offer organic milk, delivered by our local milkman on his electric milk float.

We work closely with families to support babies' individual milk feeds, feeding and weaning routines.

Thoughtfully Chosen Ingredients

We source ingredients locally where practical and limit added sugar and salt, helping children enjoy the natural flavours of their food.





Dottie's Dishes

Allergies & Dietary Needs

We work closely with families to understand each child's allergies, intolerances and dietary requirements. What we can safely provide is assessed individually, and any adaptations or alternative arrangements are agreed with families before their child starts. Please discuss your child's needs with the nursery manager and keep us informed of any changes. Current menus and allergen information are available to families.

We do not use nuts as ingredients in nursery-prepared food. While we take steps to manage allergen risks, we cannot guarantee that food or the nursery environment will be completely free from traces of allergens.

Choice for Families

Nursery-provided lunches, teas and snacks are optional. Families may provide food from home instead, following arrangements agreed with the nursery for safe storage, serving and allergy management. Choosing these alternatives does not affect access to a funded place.

Safe, Happy Mealtimes

Our team follows food hygiene procedures and supervises children closely while they eat. Children are encouraged to develop independence and explore foods at their own pace, without pressure.

For current menus, recipe information or questions about your child's meals, please speak with your nursery manager.







Uniform & What to Bring

Comfortable, prepared and ready to play

When your child joins Dottie Tots, they will receive a nursery backpack, along with a uniform top for children aged two and above.

To purchase additional uniform, please contact our Nursery Administration Manager at hello@dottietots.co.uk.

Dressed for discovery

Nursery days are full of movement, outdoor adventures and creative play. Please dress your child in comfortable clothing that allows them to move freely and that you are happy for them to get messy.

Clothes that are easy to manage help children develop independence when dressing and using the toilet. Please provide suitable footwear for active play and clothing appropriate to the weather. We offer aprons for art and messy activities, although clothes may still collect signs of a busy day!

What to pack

Please bring your child's bag each day, with:

Spare clothes, including underwear and socks, with extra changes if your child is learning to use the toilet.

Waterproof clothing, such as a splash suit or waterproof jacket and trousers.

Wellies and suitable socks for outdoor play.

Seasonal essentials — a sun hat in warmer weather, or a warm coat, hat and gloves in colder months.

A water bottle, clearly labelled with your child's name.

Nappies, wipes and any required cream, if your child needs them.

Sleep items agreed with the nursery team, in line with our Rest and Sleep Policy.

Your child's key person can help you decide what to bring to support their individual routines.

A name on everything

Please label all clothing, footwear and personal belongings with your child's name so we can help reunite them with their owner.

Unlabelled items will be kept in lost property for families to check. Any items remaining unclaimed after a reasonable collection period may be donated to charity.





Where children love to learn



Our Curriculum



Our Curriculum

At Dottie Tots, our wholehearted approach is felt the minute you step in the door. With children at the heart of our every day, we ensure that we have a culture where educators, parents and the environment is carefully nurtured to ensure children get the best day and the very best education whilst in our settings.

Our Curious and Confident Children

Children are welcomed with warm, caring and skilled educators who know that the early years are their most formative and children develop not only skills for learning but skills for life. We are dedicated to ensuring children feel good through strong relationships with peers and educators, they move their body well and learn how to feel valued, heard, seen and soothed where they build confidence and resilience, and a good sense of emotional intelligence.

With a good understanding that playing is how children learn, they are nurtured and encouraged to develop a 'have a go' attitude, where they ask questions and are taught how to learn, not what to learn. Developing fine and gross motor skills with climbing frames, water play, rolling, cutting and building is high on the agenda. Every activity is seen as a learning opportunity and every moment as a teachable moment, where children are given time to explore activities and more time to consolidate new skills, from doing up their zips to selecting and cutting up snacks to choosing where and what to play with.

Our Well Trained and Nurturing Educators

Best practice tells us that for children to develop a love for learning, they require a balance of child initiated and adult directed play to thrive. We achieve this well through a reflective approach, with skilled educators who embed our broad and ambitious curriculum and who ultimately ensure that the needs and interests of each of our children are fully met and are supported throughout their learning journey with us. We also have our own trained phonics educator, yoga instructors and Forest School champions who provide regular sessions in these specific areas for our children to further develop their skills.

Staff enjoy regular team meetings and Inset Days where they can extend their knowledge and understanding of child development and explore new theories and ways of doing things.

Managers have good bonds between settings and support each other well. We pride ourselves on focusing on their wellbeing to ensure continued professional and personal development. If the team enjoys coming to work every day, they thrive, and the children get the best from them.

Children need to **PLAY** to
BE ADAPTABLE
CONSTRUCT KNOWLEDGE
PROBLEM LEARN CREATE
SOLVE PROCESS EMOTIONS
INTERNALISE EXPERIENCES
DISCOVER CHALLENGE
BE HEALTHY THEMSELVES
LAUGH & HAVE FUN
LEARN TO WORK IMAGINE
TOGETHER LEARN TO LEAD
EXPRESS EXPLORE SPEAK
IDEAS DEVELOP READ
AN INQUIRING MIND WRITE
PLAY COUNT
matters.





Involving and Supporting Parents



Childcare Places & Fees

Helping you plan your child's nursery place

Our Childcare Places and Fee Information guide explains the attendance options and costs at Bentley and Kingsley, including private fees, funded places, registration arrangements and optional services.

Our Nursery Administration Manager can help you explore the options and provide a clear breakdown of costs for your child's proposed attendance before you commit to a place.

Our Fee Schedule

Our standard nursery day runs from 9.00am to 5.30pm, with bookings available for two, three, four or five days per week, subject to availability.

We offer wraparound care from 7.30am and until 6pm as an additional service for families that require childcare beyond the standard day.

Fees are based on your agreed attendance pattern. Our guide sets out private nursery fees, charges where eligible funding is applied, registration fees, advance payments and optional meal and additional care charges.

Funded Childcare

Eligible families may use funded hours within an agreed private attendance pattern or access our separate funded-only offer.

At both nurseries, funded sessions are stretched across 51 weeks of the year, with up to 11 or 21 funded hours per week, depending on entitlement. Full details of session patterns and availability are explained in our guide.

Optional Services

Nursery-provided lunches and afternoon teas are optional, with charges shown separately. Families may provide food from home instead, following safe arrangements agreed with the nursery.

Any additional services you choose will be explained and agreed in advance, so you understand what is included and what you will pay.

For our current Childcare Places and Fee Information guide and help choosing an attendance option, please contact hello@dottietots.co.uk





Clear arrangements for your family

Our Childcare Places and Fee Information guide sets out our fees, attendance options and optional services. Before your child joins, we provide a personalised quotation and place agreement so you understand the arrangements for your booking.

Help with Childcare Costs

Eligible funded hours may be used within an agreed private attendance pattern. We also offer funded-only sessions; details are available in our guide.

We welcome payments through Tax-Free Childcare. If you use an existing employer childcare voucher scheme, please contact our administration team to confirm payment arrangements.

Paying Your Invoice

Private childcare fees are payable monthly in advance, with payment due within seven calendar days of the invoice date. Additional sessions and optional services are itemised separately.

Please contact us promptly with any invoice queries or payment difficulties so we can discuss them with you. Late-payment terms are explained in your place agreement.

Absence & Planned Closures

Private fees remain payable during illness, holidays and other personal absences, as your child's booked place and staffing remain reserved.

Private fees also remain payable when a booked session falls on a bank holiday or one of our up to two planned staff training days per calendar year. Planned closure dates are communicated in advance.

Our Private Place Agreement explains arrangements for emergency closures, including when charges, credits or refunds apply.

Changing or Ending Your Booking

For private bookings, please provide:

Six weeks' written notice to reduce your child's attendance.

Eight weeks' written notice to end your child's place.

Notice should be emailed to hello@dottietots.co.uk and begins when received. Private fees remain payable during the notice period, whether or not your child attends.

Requests to change days or hours are subject to availability and written confirmation.



Learning & Development

Learning through play

Being active and playing supports young children's learning and development through doing and talking. This is how children learn to think about and understand the world around them.

"Play is the highest form of research" – Albert Einstein

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

This is the curriculum which sets standards for the learning and development for children in our care, It underpins and shapes everything that we do. Below is more information about the Prime Areas of Learning.

Personal, Social Emotional Development

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development.

Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others.

Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary.

Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

Communication and Language Development

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development.

The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial.





By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, educators will build children's language effectively.

Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive.

Through conversation, storytelling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their educator, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures

Physical Development

Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor experiences develop incrementally throughout early childhood, starting with sensory explorations and the development of a child's strength, co-ordination and positional awareness through tummy time, crawling and play movement with both objects and adults.

By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination which is later linked to early literacy.

Repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practice of using small tools, with feedback and support from adults, allow children to develop proficiency, control and confidence.

Please go to our website: dottietots.co.uk/curriculum to read more and download a copy of 'Development Matters'.

Effective Learning

Effective learning is achieved through the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' as outlined in the EYFS. These include playing and exploring (engagement), active learning (motivation), and creating and thinking critically (thinking).





Learning & Development

Every child brings their own interests, strengths and ways of learning. At Dottie Tots, we take time to understand each child, supporting their curiosity, confidence and independence through play, caring relationships and meaningful everyday experiences.

Understanding Your Child

Your child's key person builds a close relationship with them, getting to know what they enjoy, how they approach new experiences and where they may need encouragement. Through everyday play, conversations and observations, we recognise their achievements and plan opportunities that support their next steps.

We value your knowledge of your child. Sharing their interests, experiences and achievements at home helps us build a fuller picture of their development and provide continuity between home and nursery.

Planning for Learning

Our educators regularly review children's learning, interests and needs, adapting activities, resources and the environment to support both individual children and the wider group.

Our age groups are:

Dinky Dots: children under two

Mini Spots: children aged two

Polka Dots: preschool children aged three and four

Within each group, our approach remains flexible and responsive. We recognise that children develop at different rates and provide an appropriate balance of time to explore, opportunities to practise and sensitive adult guidance.

Sharing Progress with Families

We use Famly to share observations, photographs and moments from your child's nursery day. Families can also contribute updates from home, ask questions and communicate with the team.

We provide progress reports three times a year and hold parent evenings twice a year. These offer opportunities to celebrate achievements, discuss your child's development and agree how we can support their next steps together. Everyday conversations with your child's key person remain an important part of this partnership.

Learning & Development

Progress Check at Age Two

Between the ages of two and three, your child's key person completes a progress check, as required by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This provides a short written summary of their development in the three prime areas:

Communication and language

Personal, social and emotional development

Physical development

The check draws on our knowledge of your child and the information you share with us. It highlights their strengths and any areas where additional support may be helpful.

We discuss the summary with you and agree any next steps together. Where appropriate, we work with other professionals to support your child's needs. You are also encouraged to share the summary with your health visitor.

Supporting Transitions

Whether your child is moving to another age group, a new setting or school, we help them prepare through familiar routines, conversations and experiences that build confidence.

We work with families and share relevant information with the receiving setting or teacher to support continuity of care and learning, helping your child feel understood and supported as they take their next step.





Why choose Dottie Tots

Choosing a nursery is an important decision. At our Bentley and Kingsley settings, we create warm, welcoming environments where children feel secure, build friendships and develop a love for learning.

We take time to understand each child's personality, interests and needs. Our caring educators combine opportunities for independent play with thoughtful guidance, helping children grow in confidence at their own pace.

Working Together with Families

You know your child best. We value your knowledge and work closely with you to understand their routines, celebrate their achievements and support them through changes and new experiences.

Throughout the year, we invite families to share in nursery life through stay and play sessions, sports days, graduation ceremonies, Christmas events and seasonal and cultural celebrations.

Our 'Grab and Go' breakfasts offer another welcoming way to connect with the team and enjoy a little refreshment during a busy morning.

Your Child's Key Person

Your child's key person builds a close, reassuring relationship with them and becomes a familiar point of contact for your family. By getting to know your child well, they help support settling in, daily routines, friendships and learning.

We welcome conversations about life at home, new interests or any concerns, so we can respond together.

Sharing Learning and Progress

We provide progress reports three times a year, sharing your child's learning, development and achievements. Parent evenings twice a year offer dedicated time to meet with their key person, discuss progress and agree how we can support their next steps.

You do not need to wait for a scheduled meeting to speak with us. Our team is available for everyday conversations, and a longer discussion can be arranged when needed.

Keeping Connected with Family

We use the Famly app to share moments from your child's day, observations of their learning and relevant updates about meals, sleep and toileting, according to their age and needs.

Famly also brings together nursery news, reminders and direct communication with the team. Families can share updates from home, helping us understand the experiences and interests that matter to their child.

Together, we build a partnership that helps your child feel known, supported and ready to enjoy nursery life.



Meaningful experiences for curious minds

Our approach, 'Joining the D.O.T.S.', centres on developing a love for learning, opportunities for open-ended play, time to explore and skills for life.

Across Bentley and Kingsley, children enjoy experiences that encourage curiosity, creativity and independence. Activities are adapted to their ages, interests and development, with time to practise, revisit and make discoveries.

Phonics & Early Literacy

Our preschool phonics sessions use songs, rhymes, stories and playful activities to help children listen closely and explore sounds. Led by our phonics teacher, these sessions encourage enjoyment of language and books while supporting the foundations for reading. Mark-making and activities that develop hand and finger coordination support early writing. Focused small-group experiences offer additional communication and language support where needed.

Yoga & Wellbeing

Playful yoga sessions invite children to stretch, balance, move and relax. Gentle breathing and moments of quiet give them opportunities to notice how their bodies feel and practise simple ways to find calm.

Our educators support children to recognise feelings and express themselves, both during these sessions and throughout the nursery day.

Nature & Gardening

Planting, watering, investigating and caring for living things help children connect with nature. They notice seasonal changes, explore plants and insects, and learn that their actions can help care for the environment.

Our outdoor spaces provide opportunities for active adventures, imaginative play and quiet observation, with discoveries to enjoy throughout the year.

Music & Movement

Our younger children explore songs, dance and rhythm through playful music and movement sessions. Familiar songs and shared activities encourage listening, communication and coordination, while giving children freedom to express themselves in their own way.





Connections Beyond Nursery

Each setting draws on its village surroundings and local relationships to offer experiences beyond the nursery.

Bentley's links with the village school and care home have created opportunities for woodland exploration, celebrations, and sharing songs and stories. At Kingsley, connections with the neighbouring farmer and The Green Room School have offered animal encounters and outdoor learning experiences.

These connections help children meet different people, practise kindness and develop a sense of belonging within their community.

Children's Ideas Matter

We listen to children's interests, ideas and preferences, using these to help shape activities, routines and play spaces. Children are encouraged to make choices, contribute and take an active part in nursery life.

Our educators build on their curiosity, offering support and new possibilities while allowing time for children to develop their own ideas.

At Dottie Tots, learning grows through play, relationships and the joy of discovering something new.



Our Sponsorships

At Dottie Tots we have undertaken the amazing and delightful commitment of sponsoring Celma who was born on 30th May 2021 in Mozambique. We have made the commitment to her, her family and her community until she reaches adulthood. We receive letters, postcards and updates from her and her village and we send Celma all sorts of gifts and letters from the children in our nursery settings.

The change is real,

We are the only sponsor of Celma, the money we give monthly goes directly to help her, her family and her village which is called Kazuzo in Mozambique.

Our Sponsorship change lives

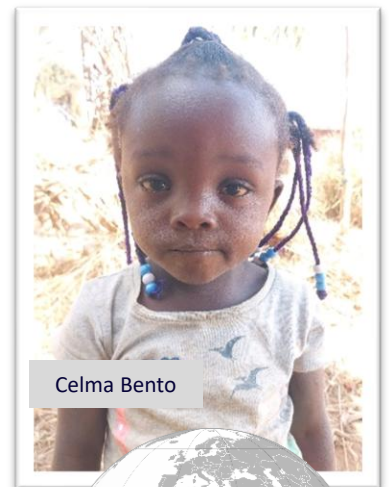
The money transforms life in Kazuzo by giving the village clean water, nutritious food, healthcare, education and a way to earn a living. We wish for Celma to enjoy her childhood free from need and full of promise.

Our friendship brings hope

Meanwhile, our friendship we are building together brings her real hope and encouragement, helping her reach her full potential and a way for our children to learn, help and understand about the world we live in

We will make a lasting difference

With our support, World Vision will be able to continue working with Kazuzo for years to come, until the people live free from poverty, with all the skills and resources they need to support themselves.



Celma Bento



Mozambique



We love animals here at Dottie Tots, with regular farm visits, pet weeks, and looking after various creatures within our settings. Animals have made a real buzz with our children so it made sense to extend this interest and care and adopt some animals from a local Zoo.

So we selected Marwell, close enough so our children can meet our adopted animals and see the Dottie Tots logos on the adoption signage. Each of our settings has adopted their own animal who lives at the zoo. We receive regular update of their progress, photos and activity packs. If you wish to know more, or would also like to undertake an adoption please speak to your nursery manager



Ring-tailed lemur



Amur tiger



Humboldt penguin



Giraffe

Notes & Doodles



Notes & Doodles





Where children Love to learn