



**Little Steps Nursery School**  
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## Nursery Prospectus

Thank you for your interest in Little Steps Nursery School.

Little Steps has been providing a warm, nurturing environment for young children since it opened in 1991. Initially, the nursery was just one room of St George's Independent School, but in 1996 we moved in to the building adjoining the school. The nursery has continued to grow and flourish and now caters for children from birth until school age.

We aim to meet the differing needs of parents, providing everything from full day care to just a few sessions a week.

The nursery retains very close links with St George's School, with older children able to take advantage of the resources the school provides.

Further information about the nursery is contained within this prospectus, including:

- An **overview** of the care, curriculum and facilities
- An **application form** for your child

If you have any question about the nursery or would like to arrange to come in to visit us, please contact the School Office on 01582 661471 or by email via [info@stgeorgesdunstable.co.uk](mailto:info@stgeorgesdunstable.co.uk).

# Little Steps

## Nursery School



Little Steps nursery opened in 1991 in one room of St. George's School Independent School. In 1996 the adjoining building was purchased and the nursery moved in. It has grown since then to accept firstly, two year old children then in 2008 our baby unit was opened. It is now run independently of the school.

Our nursery aims to meet the needs of parents with needs from full day care or just a few sessions a week by providing a high standard of care and education for your children. Whilst our practises are efficient and thorough, our nursery has a warm, nurturing environment where your children will feel happy, valued and welcome helping them develop confidence and self-esteem.



### Facilities

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The nursery has large, bright, airy rooms with both stimulating, well-resourced spaces, encouraging children to explore and discover and also, quiet, restful areas where children can rest and relax at times during their busy day.



Our exciting outside space helps develop social and exploratory play – it is a rich environment that includes growing beds where the children can see plants grow and learn how to care for living things. We grow vegetables that are used in our kitchen, the children help to plant, nurture and pick them, developing an understanding of the world around them and a positive attitude to a healthy life style for the future.

### Forest School

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The Forest School site on our grounds greatly enriches the curriculum for the children at St. George's School. It is led by Sophie Breese, who is a fully qualified leader in Forest Schooling.



The Forest School ethos is to allow children to learn and explore, increasing self-esteem and gaining confidence within an outdoor learning environment: through nature.

Children experience outdoor learning in a flexible, self-led, adult-led way; ensuring that they learn and use their imagination through new experiences; becoming highly motivated, confident, enthusiastic learners and explorers. Children learn how to safely use different outdoor tools such as peelers, bow saws, and drills. These are adult supervised and safety rules are taught to the children. They learn in a variety of weathers and in all seasons; this is all part of Forest School.

## Curriculum

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We use in the moment planning which is designed around the next steps of each child as we see them. We use observations to assess how we can help our children to develop to their full potential. Our resources are planned to encourage the children to become independent learners and problem solvers.

Through the provision of a structured environment using good quality equipment as well as creative and caring staff, we endeavour to ensure that your child's needs are met.

A key person will monitor your child's progress in the nursery by observations during play, providing activities to help your child develop across all curriculum areas while having fun. These observations will be used to help us provide an individual learning journey for your child, which as parents you are welcome to share with us.

## Communication

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We believe that a good level of communication between home and nursery is a vital element in enabling us to provide the highest possible level of care for your child.

Prior to your child joining our nursery we spend as much time with you as you would like, to learn about your wishes for your child. This communication continues throughout your child's time with us – by face-to-face communication on a regular basis and by daily record books



which keep you up to date with your child's care and activities throughout the day.

We use an online Learning Journey called Tapestry. This allows us to send you regular updates through our observations of your children.

You will receive newsletters every half term, and we have parents' evenings three a year – all aimed to keep you informed and hopefully to feel part of our community.

## Team/Staff

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Our team are dedicated and caring and qualified to understand the needs of your children. We have in place strong professional development plans ensuring staff remain up-to-date with current developments and maintain standards.

We aim to ensure all are staff are qualified to level 3 in Childcare and if not already of that level when joining us, we then support them through their studies to achieve that level.

## Meals

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Healthy balanced food is cooked on the premises with care and consideration for all our children's dietary needs. As in all other areas, we respect your wishes and ensure that your children are provided with the diet of your choice.

## Three months to 2 years (Hedgehogs and Badgers)

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Each child follows their own routine. Parents' wishes are respected with each child having their own care plan written after discussion between nursery and parents. Communication between parents and nursery staff is a strong element of nursery. Children's home books are updated daily allowing parents to follow their child's day and as they grow older, discuss it with them at the end of the day. These young children benefit from the large and stimulating garden and enjoy playing outside regularly.



## 2 to 3 years (Rabbits)

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We have two rooms dedicated rooms for this age group. Our Badger room is for our younger 2 year olds, which is situated next to the baby room to allow for smooth transitions. Our Rabbit room is for our older 2year olds and is situated on the ground floor. Both the rooms have a warm, nurturing environment that stimulates the children's developing skills of speech, physical development, social skills and the safe but exciting surroundings promote the new skills of numeracy, literacy, and the enjoyment of music, dance, creativity. This holistic approach creates the stepping stones to well-rounded, happy, confident individuals. We plan in the moment for this age group, carried out by professional, dedicated practitioners, that promotes the children's learning and development through play and meets the children's next steps as they see them.

## 3 to 4 years (Squirrels)

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The ground floor of the building is dedicated to these Pre-School children. They enjoy one very large, well-resourced sunny room with access to the garden, a further room – used for small group and messy activities – and a large, changing room and child bathroom.

Our Squirrel room is spacious giving the opportunity to be surrounded by stimulating resources and activities promoting the learning and development of this age group.

Planning incorporates the seven areas of learning, recognised in the government's Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS): With the prime areas being: Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language and Physical Development and the specific areas being: Literacy, Numeracy, Understanding of the World, and Expressive Arts and Design.





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Application for Admission

Name of child:

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Date of birth:

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Name of parent(s):

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Home address:

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Email address:

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Telephone number:

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I would like my child to be considered for admission to the school on:

Date for admission:

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Indicate days and hours (start and end time) required:

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

Times

Table with 5 columns for days and rows for times.

I understand that six week's notice must be given in writing to remove a child from the school. Failure to give this notice will require one term's fees in lieu.

I enclose £50.00 enrolment administration fee. Cheques should be made payable to: "St. George's School"

Signature of parent/guardian:

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Date of application:

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