



Welcome to Apple Trees Nursery & Preschool

We are unique to other childcare settings. We have a large converted house giving a fully functional layout with a homely feel.



01582 840586



hello@appletreeschildcare.co.uk



21 Church Road, Flamstead, Hertfordshire, AL3 8BN

About us



Apple Trees Childcare in Flamstead is unique to other childcare settings. We have a large converted house giving a fully functional layout with a homely feel. We believe that our children ALWAYS come first. Which is why we have a higher staff ratio than is recommended, giving the children extra attention and care.

We are situated in Flamstead, just a short distance from Markyate, Caddington, Slipend, Kensworth and Redbourn. We are just off of junction 9 of the M1 and close to Harpenden with good rail links into London.

Your child's safety is our main concern, which is why we have invested heavily in a gated drive, speed control and CCTV. All staff hold a full CRB disclosure and have a level 2 or 3 in childcare. You can rest assured that your child is safe within our care.



Love the home from home feel and how we are included in his day, love that I can jump on here and see what he's been up to. I have a great welcome morning and night from the staff and they are never too busy to chat to me about L. He's really happy and talks about everyone at Apple Trees daily. Thank you all so much. Oh and I love the flexibility when I need to arrange childcare around work and family that's invaluable and takes the stress away.



Selina, Dunstable
Happy Parent



01582 840586

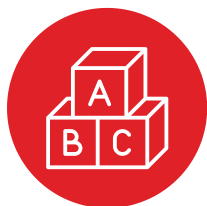


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What We Offer



**45 Place
Nursery**



**Beautiful
Garden**



**Outdoor
Classroom**



**Vegetable
Patch**



**A fun Mud
Kitchen**

A Complete Service

Your child can be with us from birth until 12 years, taking advantage first of our Caterpillar (baby) room followed by our Butterfly (toddler) room and then government funding in our Ladybird (pre-school) room. Once your child starts school we offer school drop offs and pick-ups and then an after-school club. This gives your child routine, structure, great learning, healthy home cooked meals and the benefit of building a relationship with their regular carers. What's more all nappies, wipes, formula, meals and snacks are included!

Our Facilities

Our Garden



Two of our best facilities are our gardens. Our pre-school and after school club garden boasts multiple climbing frames, sand and water play, multiple play houses, a variety of ride-ons and scooters, a construction area and a mud kitchen.

Vegetable patch



The children enjoy growing a variety of fruits and vegetables every year and also enjoy eating them from our healthy home cooked menu! Having the vegetable corner on site means that the children can partake in the gardening activities daily.

Outdoor Classroom



This new addition to the setting has proved invaluable. It has given us extra space allowing us to purchase even more learning resources as well as providing an outdoor area that can be used all year round.



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Our Caterpillar Room (Babies)



Our Caterpillar (baby) room, taking children from birth until walking, offers exceptional care and facilities. The room is limited to 6 children meaning your child will get the care and attention they deserve and has direct access onto the garden allowing indoor and outdoor play to flow easily.

Caterpillar room is furnished with low level furniture providing full access to the children at all times and offering a huge range of exploration and provocative play. The room also has a wonderful quiet area and a sensory zone designed to stimulate interest and imagination.

The Caterpillar room have their own baby and toddler garden. This is an area separate from the older children where the younger ones can explore and develop without the worry of boisterous 'bigger kids'. All play equipment has been selected to encourage physical and imaginative play. A wonderful resource for the setting.

We will work with you to ensure your own routines are followed where possible and can support special dietary requirements. We are happy to implement things that will help your child settle and welcome your input. You will be given access to your own Tapestry account where you can see your child's care diary including what your child has been doing, their sleep and toilet patterns as well as their menu. We pride ourselves on our partnership with parents to ensure your child gets the best from their time in our care.



Butterfly Room (Toddlers)



Our Butterfly (toddler) room, taking children from walking until 2 years depending on development, is fully equipped to aid your child's learning requirements and works very closely with Caterpillar room so practitioners from both Butterfly and Caterpillar rooms get to know all of the children under 2 years old.

The beauty of our setting is that we can move children through the nursery depending on their ability. Therefore, all of the children in a room are of a similar developmental stage meaning their learning is enhanced. It's amazing to see how children learn and encourage each other.

Butterfly room is furnished with low level furniture providing full access to the children at all times and offering a huge range of exploration and provocative play. Our home corner, reading den, arts and crafts area and variety of educational toys provides your child with stimulation from the moment they arrive and they will never be bored! As the children are of similar ages and development stages they also enjoy building friendships that they can carry forward into the Snail and Ladybird (pre-school) room.

Our Butterfly room has proved invaluable in getting the children ready for our Pre-School rooms with practitioners of both rooms working together to inspire and encourage the children. The rooms also work closely together on planning and termly topics and arts & crafts are a key part to the children's life at Apple Trees. On viewing the setting you will see numerous display boards full of the children's colourful and vibrant work. It really is quite refreshing seeing what a child's imagination holds when they are encouraged to express themselves.

We pride ourselves on working closely with parents and complete a daily care diary on Tapestry where you can see what your child has been up to and feel a part of their day. The care diary also has valuable information about your child's sleep pattern and menu choices.

The Butterfly room has use of their very own baby and toddler garden. This is an area separate from the older children where the younger ones can explore and develop without the worry of boisterous 'bigger kids'. All play equipment has been selected to encourage physical and imaginative play. A wonderful resource for the setting.





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Snail Room (Children ages 2-3 years)



Our Snail room, taking children from 2 -3 years is the start of your child's preparations for school. With only one intake at schools now, some children will not reach our Ladybird (Preschool) room, but will turn 3 over summer and go straight to nursery school. Therefore, our Snail room ensures they are prepared for the big leap without the distraction of our younger toddlers.

As children develop and refine the skills learnt as babies / toddlers, their daily routines require a more structured approach to learning and play as well as developing social skills needed at school.

Our Snail room work closely with our Ladybird room on planning and topics with slight changes to accommodate the different developmental stage. The room has a home corner and role play area, arts and crafts area, book corner and a host of learning resources. They also have access to our large front garden and mud kitchen.

Our outdoor classroom is also available to the Snail room and means the children can enjoy the outside space all year round. Our Snails and Ladybirds travel on nursery trips together and often mingle in the gardens giving the children a chance to build their social skills before travelling off to 'big school'.



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Ladybird Room (Pre-School)



Our Ladybird (pre-school) room, taking children from 3 – 5 years is the largest room within our setting and is run by an exceptional team. With over 30 years experience between them, all holding level 3 qualifications and with links to the local schools, we are committed to giving your child the best start possible to their education.

Our Ladybird room has a variety of new learning resources which must be seen to be appreciated! The 6 display boards within this room are testament to the amount of creative work the children undertake which support all learning areas within the EYFS. The room is a vibrant and welcoming one which is full of colour to capture your child's attention.

Boasting an extensive imaginative play area, book corner, circle time area and an arts and crafts area, this room is packed with so many activities it's common for the children to not want to go home! With the children nearing school age we work on implementing and developing skills that will aid their learning journey such as building relationships, routines and social skills.

The Ladybird room also has direct access to our outdoor classroom that has an amazing impact on the children's learning experience. It has allowed us to get even more resources, provided a great outdoor eating area in good weather and will allow the children to play outside all year round.

Our Ladybird's have access to our large front garden and mud kitchen which has an art areas, music wall, lots of ride on toys, climbing and balancing challenges and a sensory area. The children have enjoyed many hours of fun playing and creating there and simply love outdoor time.





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The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



All schools and Ofsted-registered early years providers must follow the EYFS, including childminders, pre-schools, nurseries and school reception classes. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework supports an integrated approach to early learning and care. It gives all professionals a set of common principles and commitments to deliver quality early education and childcare experiences to all children.

As well as being the core document for all professionals working in the foundation years, the EYFS framework gives mums and dads confidence that regardless of where they choose for their child's early education, they can be assured that the same statutory commitments and principles will underpin their child's learning and development experience.



Apple Trees have taken great care of our youngest over the last year. His Key Worker, Lisa, has gone out of her way to provide excellent, loving care for him and to gently encourage him to grow and develop. We wouldn't hesitate to recommend Apple Trees to another.



Hannah, Markyate
Happy Parent



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SENCO stands for “Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator”. A SENCO is responsible for the day-to-day operation of Apple Trees Child Care’s SEN policy.

Emma Snaith is the SENCO in our setting and she does a fabulous job. Emma works closely with her SEN children and their parents while making sure her training and courses are always up to date.

The SENCO will co-ordinate additional support for pupils with SEN (special educational needs) and liaise with their parents, practitioners and other professionals who are involved with them. The SENCO has responsibility for requesting the involvement of other professionals and external services for children that need it. This also includes general SEN assessments, administration and parental support. The SENCO has the support of the nursery manager and other practitioner to try and develop effective ways of overcoming barriers to a child’s learning and ensuring that they receive effective teaching through assessing the child’s needs and setting targets for improvement.



My son really enjoys it here, he has been coming since he was 10 months old, he is 2 now. I like the any that although all the children have their own rooms with their age group and their key worker, they also spend a lot of time mixing with the other rooms, so mix with all ages of children. There are always plenty of activities going on and lots of things that come home to get put up on the wall. The investment that has been made in the setting in the last year has been really impressive, with lots of new play equipment in the garden, a mud kitchen and new bikes/ trikes. The team are really friendly and helpful. Jess is also great at being as flexible as she can be around extra days. I would definitely recommend it Apple Trees, its just brilliant!



Joanne Slipend
Happy Parent



How Safe Is Your Child Care Provider?

Apple Trees Child Care believes the safety of our children is paramount and it is NEVER compromised. This is something that every child care provider will probably tell you. However it's all well and good to say the right thing but actions speak much louder than words. When we say it at Apple Trees we mean it. We have invested heavily to make our setting is as safe and secure as possible and hold regular intensive risk assessments to ensure that everything is in good repair and safe.

We have two designated safeguarding officers within the setting as well as insisting that all staff members attend safeguarding and first aid courses. We have a very in-depth policy pack including our safeguarding policy, one that is in far greater detail than is necessary to satisfy OFSTED requirements, but we feel it is an area we want to go above and beyond in.

Safety Features

- ✓ 16 CCTV cameras located around the setting covering all areas.
- ✓ Secure gated driveway that's touch sensitive at an adult's height.
- ✓ Stair gates on every internal access point in the building.
- ✓ Under floor heating, so no chance of burns.
- ✓ Higher staff ratio than recommended to make sure the children are never left alone, EVER.
- ✓ Double locking gates to each of our 2 gardens.
- ✓ Socket guards, protective corner guards, doorguards etc in all rooms.
- ✓ Adequate equipment including low-level feeder chairs, & changing tables.
- ✓ Industrial fire alarm system.
- ✓ All staff hold a full DBS disclosure.



Prices

We believe that you will not find another setting that is better value than ours. We pride ourselves on providing exceptionally high standard of care, highly qualified and experienced staff, fabulous facilities and excellent resources and equipment.

The prices below are a guide and if you have special requirements then please contact us and we will be happy to design a childcare package to suit your needs and budget.

- Half Day – £39.90
- Full Day – £74.55
- After School Club – Flamstead School pick up including tea – £16.50

Discounts are offered if you require a full time place plus we do offer a sibling discount.



The setting is fantastic. The safety is second to none, the resources and equipment are excellent and the staff are friendly, caring and really look after the children. I think one of the great features are the gardens. They are exceptional including multiple climbing frames and garden togs, ride ons, play houses, a full size trampoline, a vegetable patch and a mud kitchen. I like how the gardens are split in age ranges so everything in the garden is age appropriate. Inside the setting its a home rather than a nursery and the differing ages of the staff is also great. Too many nurseries are full of young girls with little experience but here you have the mummy figure and the nanny figure. My boys both loved it here so much they never wanted to leave to come home and A is now very settled in Pre-school while H does after school club. I would recommend to everyone xx



Samantha Flamstead
Happy Parent



Apple Trees Extras

At Apple Trees we are keen to give the children opportunities that they may not experience at home, which is why we include a number of extra classes across the week for the children to enjoy. These classes are included in your fees and the children love them!!



Rugbytots

This active class is a huge hit with the children and they simply love it. The structured play sessions take children on a journey of sporting imagination with engaging and energetic coaches supporting them every step of the way whilst teaching how to catch, pass, kick, run with the ball and play as part of a team.



Tiny Mites Music

Tiny Mites Music provides music, movement & drama based sessions, shows and parties for babies and children using original songs including jazz, salsa, disco, reggae and rock 'n' roll. Original songs engage even children and the use of puppets, props and bubbles inspires little ones to join in. The children thoroughly enjoy the class and has been taking place at Apple Trees for many years now!



Kidslingo

At Apple Trees we celebrate diversity and love learning new things. Our Kidslingo French class is great fun! Kidslingo we use a combination of songs, drama, games, actions, role plays and stories. Kidslingo is also friendly to Makaton and promotes inclusion.



Messy Mashup!

Messy Mashup

This class is aimed at sensory exploration and incorporates very messy activities that most parents are delighted happen at nursery and we clear up the mess!! Think soil, beans, custard, jelly play, shaving foam, the list goes on. This class promotes inclusion and is designed around any allergies. A firm favourite with the children!



Government Funding

We like to provide lots of variety for the children including new arts and craft ideas, adult led activities and free play. We also follow EYFS so our activities are linked to support all areas of learning. Below is a sample of one of our daily routines, but it can sometimes change depending on the season, outings etc.

Government funding states that every child is entitled to 15 hours of free childcare from the term following their 3rd birthday. If you choose Apple Trees your child will spend their 15 hours in our Ladybird room. Some children will also qualify for the NEW 30 hours free funding from September 2017. This funding is for children who have working parents from the term following their 3rd birthday. Apple Trees will be offering the 30 hours funding but spaces will be limited due to such high demand. If you would like to enquire about taking a place please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Some children also qualify for FREE 2yr old funding. If your child qualifies, you can claim your funding at Apple Trees Child Care and your child will spend their 15 hours in our Butterfly room before moving on to our Ladybird Room for pre-school. We have a number of children in our setting that take advantage of this funding. These are not just children whose parents are out at work. Even if you do not work it is of huge benefit to your child to take advantage of the FREE government funding. It allows the children to make friends, become independent and develop their skills. It also allows you some free time to get those odd jobs done!

For more information, visit www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs





Contact Details



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Opening Hours



Monday – Friday 7.30am – 6pm

