

## Finally.....

Please do ask if you have any queries about your child's day or need to know more about how we do things.

There are notes up outside our room which informs you about when nappies were changed, weekly plans are up in the actual room which gives you an insight as to what your child will be doing for the week ahead.

There is also a display in the hall which gives you an explanation of how the EYFS works.

When we feel your child is ready to move on to our older groups you will be given a moving up letter informing you about their move and who their new carer will be. Their move is preceded by play visits with a familiar carer to their new room. These visits may take weeks or just a few short sessions. There is no need to rush this stage. We like the children to be happy and confident with their new surroundings before the move is completed.



**Leave your child with confidence.....**

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MERRYVALE NURSERY LTD  
2-3YRS ROOM  
PRACTISES FOR THE TWO TO THREE YEARS

This booklet is aimed to help distinguish the difference between the baby unit and the 2-3yrs room.

Although it is known as the 2-3yrs room this does not necessarily mean that all the children join as soon as they are two or leave as soon as they are three. Many children join the group before their birthdays, based on their ability, confidence and their relationship with their peer group. (It would be unfair to leave one child in the baby unit whose friends were all moving into the next group) Initially a child from the baby unit will spend some time each week or each day in their new room, usually with a member of staff that they are familiar with. You will be notified of their permanent move with one of our "moving up cards". We only move children when we are confident that they will benefit from moving to an older group.

## What are the differences?

The 2-3 yrs group offers new challenges not available in the baby unit. They are part of a larger family group (one staff to four children) and are encouraged to become more independent and more aware of the other children's needs around them. They are encouraged for instance to share toys, play together, to sit quietly and listen to a story and of course toilet training is usually part of the children's growing independence. All the children have the opportunity to participate in various activities such as junk modelling, cooking, painting, sticking, play dough, scissor practise, role play, pencil control. As you can imagine everyday is full of fun and lots of messy play so please don't send your child in their best clothes!

We also encourage the children to feed themselves and to learn to use beakers rather than feeder cups. Any of you with experience of other two year olds will know about the "terrible twos". Many children can be very difficult as they become independent and will have tantrums and scream and shout to get their own way! We have found that, a set of rules that the children are familiar with and that we are consistent with, usually works eventually! For example, the children are able to access any toys and activities they wish but are aware that they must tidy up after themselves, before getting any more toys out.



## TOILET TRAINING

Lots of parents dread toilet training. The art to toilet training is knowing when to start. Too early and the children are not ready and it can take months. Too late and habits are formed and difficult to break!. It would be great if we could say at two years and three months all children are ready to be toilet trained but sadly it doesn't work that way! There is one fact that you should all know. Eventually they are all toilet trained and it doesn't really matter how old/young they are. When you want to start toilet training we ask you to provide lots of pants, trousers and socks!. Pull ups are very similar to nappies .Children learn more quickly in pants than pull ups as they are aware of the discomfort of having an "accident". If we feel a child is ready for toilet training and they aren't already doing so we will approach you. Toilet training can be a stressful time but we do ask that they continue it at home to cause less confusion for the child and making the process quicker and easier. Sometimes the children "perform" better at home where there is less to distract them and sometimes they are better at nursery where we are more used to reminding them. Either way we usually succeed before they move into the 3-5 yrs room!

## Early Years Foundation stage

The children in this room continue to follow the 'Early Years Foundation stage'. You may be surprised that this age group has a curriculum to follow but it consists of things that young children practise every day. The only difference really being that in nurseries we **record** children's development and **plan** for their next stage of development on an individual basis. At home you do this naturally. You know that after crawling comes walking and after walking comes climbing and you expect and plan for it in much the same way as we do. Of course it is not quite that simplistic but then did you expect it to be?! Needless to say there is reams of information available in nursery for you to look at or you could look at information on the internet.

### Health and safety

Health and safety continues to be high on our agenda and all our procedures remain the same. The children can be prone to accidents at this stage as they become more daring during physical play, especially outdoors. We continue to monitor them closely but not discourage their natural curiosity and exuberance.

All nappy changing/toileting progression and sleep checks continue to be recorded .

As their independence develops the children are encouraged to wash and dry their hands after using the toilet and clean their teeth after meals.