

Carousel



Let us take you on a magical tour

by Niall



Carousel Childcare 8 Merchiston Road, Bainsford, Falkirk FK2 7JP
01324 630 101 www.carousel-nursery.co.uk



Welcome to Carousel Childcare

Providing quality childcare in an environment that's safe, fun and stimulating.

Thank you for considering Carousel Childcare to take care of your childcare needs. Carousel Childcare is a local, family owned nursery which has been operating since 2000.

The nursery is licensed by the Care Commission to care for 52 children at any one time, from birth to 8 years old and is managed by a qualified experienced and professional nursery manager. Your child's key worker is a qualified and carefully selected member of staff, who along with the nursery manager monitors childcare standards and performance on a daily basis. Office based administration e.g. invoicing and personnel is handled off site ensuring the focus of the nursery manager is on the needs of the children at all times.

As a mother of three young children, two of whom attend the nursery, it was always important to me to create an environment that is inviting for your child. Since opening in 2000 we have built an enviable reputation for offering the highest quality of childcare, in an environment which is warm and friendly, yet at the same time stimulating, colourful and educational. This will help to make your child quickly feel at ease and will help ensure that your child really looks forward to attending the nursery.

Choosing a suitable nursery, whether for your new baby or a young child, is probably one of the biggest and most important decisions you will make with regards to their early education. This booklet will give you most of the information you require about Carousel to assist you when making that decision, however please do not hesitate to contact the nursery manager if you have any questions or require further details.

Tracie Nelson

"I was nervous going back to work but the staff were so relaxed and professional, I knew he was in safe hands."

always know exactly what they've been doing that day through our key worker



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Our Philosophy - We Listen to You

Parents and guardians understand their child's personality and preferences and by working closely we can make the right choices for you and your child.

Our aim is to provide a hugely positive experience for your child which will guarantee them the best start in life. Children and adults work in collaboration, constructing knowledge about the world around them. Play offers opportunities for learning and discovery using the expressive languages and literacy's of the arts, sciences, technologies and humanities. Time, space and materials are organised in a way that value and foster children's expression of ideas, theories and views, where possibilities are explored. Parents are informed on a daily basis, both verbally and through a daily information sheet, on what their child has achieved that day. We keep parents updated concerning activities, toilet times, sleep patterns and meals eaten. We have a structured Parents Staff Association (PSA) which holds meetings every 6 weeks. The PSA receives tremendous support from parents, who can help plan and run events such as prize bingo, fun days and coffee mornings to help raise funds for the Association. The proceeds from these events assist in funding Christmas parties, a summer fete and day trips out, as well as other causes that are agreed upon.

We understand that all children have different needs, depending on how old they are but also on their individual personality and ability. Our highly experienced and caring staff are the backbone of the organisation and will make learning a fun, rewarding and a confidence building experience. Through the correct level of support, your child has the opportunity to develop their character and self esteem. Gaining confidence and respect and allowing them to grow and develop both as an individual and within a group.

Your child will feel safe, happy and secure as 'part of our family' which has been created by our team of professional and dedicated staff. Your child's key worker will encourage them to reach their full potential and records their progress throughout the year. This allows you to be kept up-to-date with their development via daily feedback and at parents meetings.



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Our Commitment to You

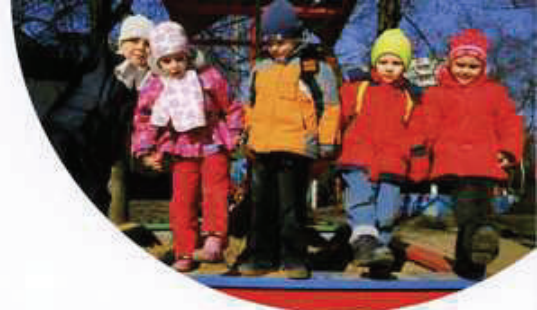
We will always provide a safe, stimulating, fun and caring environment where your child can feel valued, happy and secure and be allowed to progress at their own speed.

Candy Floss room (0-2 years)

The Candy Floss room has a generous ratio of 1 adult to 3 babies, this allows us to nurture your child with lots of cuddles, smiles and eye contact. Your baby interacts with their key worker through engaging sounds, verbal communication, music and tummy time: Like at home your baby is kept to a routine and develops early skills like crawling and walking. We follow the birth to 3 curriculum guidelines and encourage and assist in developing your baby's 5 senses. We develop their ability to feed themselves and mix with other children with positive encouragement. A dedicated sleep room is available for babies when they need rest.

Your baby's privacy is maintained in a separate changing room. The Candy Floss room has its own dedicated kitchen area where milk and meals can be heated. This large colourful room is split into two areas, with one area for babies who are walking and another for babies who have still to acquire this skill. For the well being of the younger babies, they have access to the swinging chair, donut or free play on the sensory mats. The older babies can master the physical play equipment and other constructive educational toys as well as being able to go to the story corner for some quiet time. There are various other activities that can be enjoyed outside in the specially built baby garden and, weather permitting we encourage outdoor play as much as possible. Your baby can also visit the conservatory where we

encourage sensory and heuristic play, with various displays on offer. We assist babies to develop their motor skills with the use of the ball pool. All activities are child led and through observations of babies at play, we can develop new learning experiences.



Dippers (2-3 years)

To support their rapidly developing skills and physical abilities we have a ratio of 1 adult to 5 children in the Dippers room. Through praise and support, we will provide opportunities for your child to explore new learning experiences by stimulating their mind through individual attention and group participation. We sing songs, nursery rhymes and set the foundations for learning colours, numeracy, shapes and sizes as well as knowledge and understanding of the world we live in. Children paint and enjoy listening to and playing music, which helps to develop their senses and extends their ability to communicate ideas and feelings.

Each child has access to our vast range of educational equipment such as books, puzzles, physical play equipment, interactive board, computer and ICT equipment. We follow their lead, and with gentle encouragement they gain confidence in all areas of the curriculum.

There are two spacious play rooms for the Dippers, and the children can freely move between different areas within these rooms, whether it's the mini gym, art and craft area or even the story corner. When the children need a rest from all the excitement a peaceful room is available. Working with you we encourage individual menu choice and we follow your lead when you feel its best for your toddler to be toilet trained.

"The range of good, quality learning apparatus has really made a difference to my son's development, plus they're all great fun!"

Clown Town (3-5 years)

The children of this age are classed as attending anti preschool and preschool. We have one adult for every eight children in the Clown Town room. This area of the nursery is split into two play rooms. Both play rooms are bright and stimulating with the children's own ideas and art work displayed throughout. The wall displays are very welcoming with lots of interactive displays for the children and adults to look at and investigate. The children gain great pride and self esteem to be able to show their parents and family their special work.

Within the playroom there are designated areas for different areas of the curriculum. The play rooms provide the children with sand, water, malleable play, role play, imaginary play, construction, writing and early literacy, art and craft as well as many other areas that are on offer.

At this time within the nursery your child will be getting ready for school and this is an important step in your child's life. The children are involved in many curriculum activities that will benefit the children and help with their transition to school. Staff are professionally trained in all areas of the curriculum and provide challenging purposeful play which enables children to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

As the Carousel is in partnership with Falkirk Council the Clown Town room also uses all the Falkirk Councils working documents. Staff plan the children's education just like a statutory nursery would with yearly, monthly and weekly plans. With this partnership with Falkirk Council, we are able to provide funded placements for children from 3 years old equalling 2.5 hours a day which can be accumulative. We ask only that there is a minimum of 10 hours a week wrap around care given.

"My daughter used to be very shy, I was worried about her starting school, since she has been at Carousel her confidence has really grown - she can't wait to start!"

Juniors (5-8 years)

Now your child has started school, we want to build on what they are learning through staff interaction and group participation. One adult to eight children ensures this is possible. We encourage your child to develop their language skills by listening and joining in at story time. Children also practise their writing skills, painting and collage allowing their creative flair to grow. Learning is balanced with play time, and children have access to a wide variety of educational equipment, ICT and internet access.

Whilst we have been accredited in health promoting schools we are also aware how important daily exercise is to each child, and after being in classrooms all day we ensure that the Juniors have free time to explore our beautiful purpose built garden and take part in various outdoor activities using their motor skills in play such as bicycle track, themed houses and bring this into their indoor learning experiences.

The Juniors really enjoy their role as helpers and with encouragement from staff they are able to assist within the Clown Town area and develop their team building skills and show their independence on topics that they wish to discuss.



Our Team – Experienced quality carers

Every member of our team at Carousel Childcare has been carefully selected to ensure that they are dedicated to ensuring your child receives the highest quality care and has a genuine interest in their development.

We believe that staff continuity is very important and benefits both the children and the nursery. The majority of our staff have been with Carousel since we started up, and as we expanded other members of staff have joined us. All our team are either fully qualified Nursery Nurses or highly experienced child care assistants, and all are required to hold a valid, up-to-date First aid certificate as well as food and hygiene certificates. All staff are registered with Scottish Social Services Council.

All team members are well supported by the nursery manager, with regular training and personal development regarded as an important tool in maintaining the high standards of childcare that your child receives at Carousel.

As you would expect, our selection processes are very thorough, and all references are checked prior to employment within the nursery. All new staff members are also required to undergo a Police Disclosure check before joining us.

Settling In - Come and meet the team

At Carousel we know that starting something new can be a difficult time for children and families, so we take our time and help you to start when you're both ready.


During this period of transition we recommend that parents are part of the process and we offer free flexible settling sessions. This allows you and your child to meet the nursery staff and lets everyone get to know each other in a typical days environment. The Nursery Manager can offer help and advice to ensure that your child's introduction to the nursery goes as smoothly and as stress free as possible.

"Considering how long some of them have worked here, they are still passionate about childcare - this is more than just a job to them."



Mealtime – healthy, balanced and tasty!

At Carousel we understand how important it is for children to have healthy and nutritional meals that's why we have our own in-house chef with over 30 years experience.



All staff hold a Food Hygiene and Preparation certificate to ensure the highest standards are maintained at all times. We use fresh ingredients, free from artificial additives, colourings and preservatives to prepare our balanced meals. If your child has any special dietary requirements please discuss with the Nursery Manager, we can usually cater for most needs. Mealtimes are valuable for social training, where children learn how to come together and be part of a group. We encourage children to learn about eating healthy and good table manners.

An additional charge applies for breakfast, lunch or dinner however the nursery will provide light snacks in the morning and afternoon, typically milk, water, cheese, fresh fruit, and various breads. For babies please supply sufficient bottled milk and food for each day but please advise us of your babies brand of milk should they require extra feeds (additional charge applies).

Flexicare – adapting to the way you live

Our unique Flexicare sessions are the ideal solution to your individual requirements; perhaps you work different shift patterns or just need some time to yourself. Flexicare lets you choose the hours that your child attends the nursery.


With Flexicare you will be charged an hourly rate for the times your child attends the nursery. For example, if you required childcare between 10am and 3pm, you will be charged for 5 hours rather than attending two sessions. Not only does this allow you greater flexibility when it comes to planning your childcare arrangements but it can also save you money compared to standard rates. We can make arrangements if you need to drop off or pick up your child outside normal opening hours (a small fee applies to cover staff overtime).

Flexicare operates once month in advance, please advise of your arrangements before the 10th of the prior month to allow sufficient time for staff rotas. You will be charged an hourly rate on the Flexicare service. Flexicare is subject to a minimum of 10 hours per week.

Opening hours and session times

Carousel nursery can open between 7am and 8pm, Monday to Friday and offers full/part time or flexible sessions. We open on bank holidays throughout the year however we close just before Christmas and reopen just after the New Year. Parents will receive advance notification of the exact dates prior to the holidays.

Fulltime session – 8am – 6pm
Morning session – 8am – 1pm
Afternoon session – 1pm – 6pm



"I was quite worried when I changed jobs as it was a new shift pattern but Flexicare meant we could have a new routine with minimal fuss."

General Information

Please see the enclosed leaflet for standard child fees.

Registration Fee

A registration fee of £50 is payable when you register your child at Carousel Childcare. This fee will be deducted from your final months invoice, provided one month's written notice is given to the Nursery Manager.

Late Payment

All late payments received will incur a £5 daily charge, which will be applied to the following months invoice.

Planned Additional Hours

Planned additional hours will be invoiced in arrears at our Flexicare hourly rate.

Unplanned Additional Hours / Late Pick-up

Late collections or unplanned hours (or part thereof) will be charged at £20 per hour, with a minimum charge of £10. This is to cover 2 compulsory staff working overtime.

Clothing and Personal Property

All clothing and personal property should be clearly labelled with your child's name as Carousel Childcare cannot accept responsibility for lost items. Children should wear clothes suitable for playing in; bring soft shoes and suitable clothes for outdoor play. The nursery will provide aprons and overalls for painting and water play.

As we often take the children outside, either into the garden area or on walks, children should also bring a sun hat and protective sun cream during summer months, and in winter a hat, scarf, gloves and Wellington boots.

We know that your child may wish to bring their favourite toy, book, comforter, etc. with them to nursery but we ask parents to keep these within reason. We cannot be held responsible for the items that get lost or damaged.



Nappies

If your child requires nappies please ensure you supply us with a sufficient amount to cover their stay. Nappies are changed regularly or immediately if they become soiled. We do have a supply in event of a child not having enough; a small charge may be made.

Illness or Emergencies

Children should not attend the nursery if they are suffering from an infectious illness, have unspecific rashes (until diagnosed by a doctor) or have sickness or diarrhoea (children should not return for 48 hours after the last bout of illness as they can be highly contagious to other children). Instances of infectious illness should be notified to the nursery immediately to enable us to check for symptoms amongst other children. If your child should fall ill while they are at Carousel, we will contact you immediately. In certain circumstances we may require you to collect your child from the nursery. In the event of an emergency your child will be taken to the nearest hospital. A senior member of the Carousel team will accompany them until such time as a parent or emergency contact arrives.



Longdales Road

B902

A9

Phillip Street

Mungalhead Road

Gibsongray Street

Glen Alby Pl

Napier Place

Dollar Avenue

Bumbank Road

Ronades Rd

Merchiston Rd

Dollar Gardens

A9



A9

Merchiston Road

Merchiston Avenue