



## **The crèche and kids club**

Our crèche is tremendously important to us. It is fully accredited and regulated by the Conseil General and is run by two English speaking staff. The Manageress, Michelle, is an Early Years Professional who has worked with children in their primary years for the last 15 years. Her assistant Irina has experience working with children and has studied elements of Child Psychology. Both are totally dedicated to the welfare and happiness of your children. There is also a third person available to assist in the crèche if required. Our staff are always warm and friendly and will offer all children the very best play opportunities possible.

We take babies from 3 months old up to children of 5 years. Older children are always welcome if they would like to join in on the fun! We offer a chance to play freely, to explore and investigate enabling valuable first hand experiences that will leave a distinctive lasting impression of their time at Country Kids.

We are open six days a week:

- Sundays from 11am - 4pm (over lunchtime so you can leave your kids with us and relax!)
- Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm with a one hour break over lunchtime.

Within those hours children can be dropped off and collected whenever parents wish, there is no booking system and they can be looked after and fed over the lunchtime hour for a small charge.

## **Play**

Play is like breathing for children, it is essential. It helps them to understand the world around them and to develop socially and emotionally. All children should be able to play in a fun environment with adults who understand, support and care about them. This is the aim of our crèche. Babies and toddlers will experience heuristic play such as treasure baskets filled with different natural and safe materials, sensory and malleable play experiences such as dough, sand and music. All children will have the opportunity to be creative through messy play such as painting, modeling, sticking, collage and clay.

We have a wide variety of children's books that are easily accessible to the children in our comfy reading corner and the staff love reading them too! There is a collection of dressing up clothes for imaginary play and lots of fantastic resources to create great activities. Children will be entertained and primarily have fun and when they see the fantastic outdoors area they might not want to leave!

They can play on tricycles, little cars, push their buggies and climb in our wonderful soft play area with super ball pond, not to mention the fun sports activities, games and shows that we create together. The children's safety and emotional well being is our priority and will be supported by caring and understanding staff at all times.

If your child has any medical or physical problems please advise the crèche manageress so we can make the appropriate arrangements and provisions to care for your child. Forms to advise us of these details will be given to you to fill out on your child's first day. We promote equal opportunities and an anti-discriminatory practice for all children.



## **Crèche Guidelines**

### **Please bring the following to the crèche with you:**

- your own nappies, wipes and cream or your usual changing supplies. This is important if your baby's bottom is easily irritated with different products. If you forget we do have spares so don't worry!
- meals for infants including formula milk and bottles and information on how and when your child should be given its meals and snacks. The crèche has access to a microwave for warming up food and a fridge to keep food and milk cold.
- change of clothing for little ones in case of unforeseen little accidents.

### **Please do not bring:**

- sweets and ice-creams into the crèche as we provide drinks and snacks (and we have had a lot of stickiness and upset in the past in this regard!!)

### **Lunchtime child care**

The crèche closes at lunchtime for 1 hour between 12.30 and 1.30. Michelle's mobile number is 06 88 62 68 40 and she can be contacted if you are running late and thing you will be back after closing time. If Michelle is busy with children or cannot get to the phone quickly please call Tracey on her mobile 06 77 54 56 00 or on the office/house number 04 67 97 18 94.

If you are out doing one of the off site activities included with your package and Tracey has booked times which mean you need to leave your child with us over the lunch hour then we will do so with pleasure and there will be no charge. If you decide you would like to go out over lunchtime (or even be here but without your child!) then one of the ladies from the crèche can care for them over the lunch hour. There is a €10 charge for one child and a €5 charge per additional sibling. This is payable directly to the crèche in cash please. If you would like us to give your child lunch then there is a €5 additional charge or you can bring a packed lunch instead.

### **Health matters**

Parents using the crèche/kids club are required to fill out our form to give information such as food allergies and medical authorisations. Crèche staff will not give any medicine other than life-saving medication unless pre-authorized in writing (and in limited circumstances by telephone) by the parent. If your child is unwell please do not bring them to the crèche. We trust parents will use their judgment knowing their own children but if the crèche staff feel a child should not be in the crèche they will discuss the situation with parents.

### **Feedback**

If there is anything regarding the crèche/kids club that you would like to discuss with Tracey or Michelle during your stay please do so without hesitation. Thank you.

