




NEWBURY
RACECOURSE

**A brand new, state of the
art nursery in a beautiful
and unique setting**





An exciting start

Established in 1992 and based in the unique setting of Newbury Racecourse, we have extensive experience in nurturing the early development of children and in August 2015, we moved to a brand new, purpose-built nursery.

Our vision is to provide the highest possible quality of care for the children who are entrusted to us. We have planned the building meticulously with experts to create a bespoke nursery designed to meet the modern demands of childhood.



The new nursery provides larger than average indoor room settings for all age groups and dedicated outdoor areas. It is bright, bold, airy and brand new, everything you would wish for your little ones. There is also an emphasis on getting out and about. Using the Racecourse grounds, the opportunity for countryside walks and fresh air activities are endless.

Their early years

Early Years Foundation Stage

The Rocking Horse Nursery follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. EYFS is the statutory framework that sets the standards which all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.



Our aim at the Nursery is to provide children with opportunities to develop a wide range of skills, covering all aspects of their development - social, physical, intellectual, communication and emotional. Such opportunities are presented as play-based, hands on learning experiences where children can explore and experiment.

**Children are safe,
healthy and learn
through play**

Every child is treated as an individual and provided with age and development appropriate learning opportunities to suit their specific needs. This is implemented through a mixture of child-initiated and adult-led activities. The EYFS promotes teaching and learning to ensure a child's 'school readiness'. Children are given a broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress.

rockinghorsenewbury.co.uk

Call: 01635 48969 Email: info@rockinghorsenewbury.co.uk



How we work

We are open from 7.30am - 6.00pm and can accommodate children and babies for whole days or half days depending on your requirements.

Key person

At every step of your child's journey through the Rocking Horse Nursery there will be a dedicated member of staff holding their hand and assisting in their development and learning. This person is your child's 'key person'.

A fantastic space for every age

Their key person will be responsible for ensuring they progress effectively through their learning journey, be a loving pair of arms when needed and provide lots of fun play times.

The Rocking Horse Nursery is spacious inside and out. The children are grouped by age and are cared for in six rooms dedicated to their needs at that stage of their lives. The rooms are all named after famous racehorses.

Many Clouds

Birth to 12 months, a maximum of 12 babies.

Finian's Rainbow

12 to 18 months, a maximum of 12 babies.

Celestial Gold

18 months to two years, a maximum of 15 toddlers.

Rocky Creek

Two year olds, a maximum of 24 children.

Frankel

Three year olds, a maximum of 24 children.

Tidal Bay

Three and a half years to school, a maximum of 24 children.

Our staff

We have a team of 21 experienced staff dedicated to creating a loving home from home atmosphere. We place a great deal of emphasis on staff qualifications and skills and we support all our staff through work-based training. 20 of our staff are qualified to at least Level 3 including all the room leaders. We always encourage and facilitate additional learning for our staff where possible.

Skilled, dedicated staff with great experience



We believe that well trained staff are happy and motivated and this has resulted in almost no staff turnover, which to you means consistent care for your little ones. All our staff are qualified first aiders, all have Level 2 food safety in catering and are fully trained in Safeguarding and Protecting Children.

There is a focus on developing each child's communication skills. We have an Early Language Lead Practitioner and all our staff are trained in Makaton sign language. The children benefit from these skills by learning 'symbols' each week.



Babies and young toddlers

We welcome babies from birth and have three baby rooms, designed and equipped to meet their needs as they grow and develop with us. All our babies have opportunities for naps with the first two rooms having dedicated sleep rooms with cots. We encourage parents to supply comforters to ensure restful sleep.

Bright rooms with lots of great toys

Many Clouds (Birth to 12 months) and **Finian's Rainbow** (12 to 18 months)

The first two baby rooms will see them through to around 18 months. These initial rooms have a very nurturing environment where we make a huge effort to make our newcomers feel at home as quickly as possible.

We follow your routine from home including milk feeds and naps. Once your baby is ready, like our older children they will be able to enjoy our specially prepared home-cooked meals.

Celestial Gold (18 months to 2 years)

Our other baby room accommodates young toddlers from 18 months - 2 years old and has much more structured routines to ensure everyone gets to join in the fun.

The rooms are bright, comfortable and equipped with a fantastic array of age-appropriate toys. There is a secure garden, with outdoor toys which is dedicated to the babies. The staff also regularly enjoy taking them for walks around the extensive Racecourse estate.

Nappies, wipes and creams are all provided by the nursery. Freshly prepared meals are available from the time you choose to wean your baby.

Our staff to child ratio in the baby rooms are the recommended level of 1:3

Two year olds

Rocky Creek

The Rocky Creek room is home to children aged from two to three years and is full of fun. Friendships are formed and the children are encouraged to achieve their early learning goals through play.



We actively promote participation in imaginative play. This includes dressing-up, role play and messy play which can range from sand and water activities to getting their hands sticky with jelly. We also have daily story-time sessions and regular music and singing. Painting, drawing and creativity are always very popular in the Rocky Creek room.

Creative play, lots of stories, music and singing

Again, there is a dedicated garden which we make every effort to use on a daily basis and we enjoy regular walks around the Racecourse grounds.

Children at this age develop fast and we know their routines are ever-changing. We will work with you on this. We will assist with potty training and take your lead on sleeping patterns. In our Rocky Creek room children can if required enjoy an after-lunch nap in order to recharge their batteries for an afternoon of fun, play and smiles.

Our staff to child ratio 1:4



Three and four year olds

Frankel

Frankel is our room for three year olds. You will notice the start of a change in our routines as we introduce more structure to our days. We know the children are all still young and so our focus remains very much on learning through play. There are a wide variety of toys and resources available to stimulate the children. We have small and large construction toys and puzzles to develop their fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination. We continue our role play, dressing up and messy play opportunities and also introduce the children to computers and actively encourage their use in play.

As with all our other rooms the pre-school has a dedicated secure garden which is our largest and most stimulating outdoor area.

Frankel shares the largest of our secure gardens with the pre-school children in Tidal Bay.

Tidal Bay

At this stage your child will be entering the last phase of their time at nursery before they head off to school.

Our Tidal Bay pre-school room has the buzzy atmosphere of happy, busy children. In this room we make sure the children are fully equipped to make the transition from nursery to school. As an extension of the previous pre-school room, similar toys and activities are available to the children throughout the day.

In pre-school we have circle time, which is an opportunity for the children to have a voice. The staff encourage the children to talk about what interests them and our team uses this information to plan activities. We encourage a mixture of child-led and adult-led activities which are a result of spontaneous reactions between adults and the children. The children happily flourish when they create their own fun.

We have a fully qualified Early Years Teacher who will work with your child's strengths and encourage their individuality and independence. All children leave the Rocking Horse Nursery with a completed learning journal which highlights their abilities, achievements and next steps. This will form the basis of our reporting to their school, but will also serve as a fantastic memory book for them to keep.

The introduction of a uniform for our pre-schoolers is another signal to the children that school is getting closer.

Our staff to child ratio 1:8

After school club

Once children have moved on from the Rocking Horse Nursery we offer the opportunity of continuity for parents and children who require care outside school hours with our after school club.

Our after school club can accommodate up to eight children aged from four to ten years. We run pick-ups daily from St Johns, Falklands and John Rankin schools.



We have found our after school club is particularly popular with parents who have younger siblings still at the nursery. It has also proven to be an effective stabiliser for children who are starting school and going through the change involved - familiar faces, familiar places.

A huge range of activities, free play and relaxation

Free play is actively encouraged, but there are daily adult-led activities such as cooking, arts and crafts and board games.

The focus for the children attending after school club is on fun rather than learning and to give the children an opportunity to relax and wind-down after a busy day, if that is what they choose. There are many indoor and outdoor activities for the children to enjoy.



Tailor-made by design

One of the advantages of building a brand new nursery is the opportunity to create truly child-centric spaces. As well as the large playrooms we are proud of our well-stocked library, sensory room and gardens.

Library

The library is well-loved by the children, especially the older ones who have regular visits to be read to by their carers. The books are all arranged and stored at child-friendly height which makes for a fun visit.



Secure, fun and child-friendly

Secure gardens

We have always had a focus on utilising our outside space. Our secure gardens are a real treat for the children in all rooms. We have created a racetrack for the older children, who also enjoy a huge sandpit and bikes, trikes and scooters.

Each of our gardens features a 'mud kitchen' which encourages messy play and role play. Whatever the weather we actively encourage the children to head outside. They even don their wellies and waterproofs and jump in muddy puddles when it is wet.



Sensory room

Children from all the rooms in the nursery make use of the sensory room most days. We have created a really fun space including soft play equipment and lots of light-focused equipment which is stimulating in the darkened room.



Parents as partners



Keeping in touch

We like to keep our families informed of news from the nursery and we publish 'From the Horse's Mouth' e-mail newsletter. This features reviews, photographs, diary dates and forthcoming activities. On a weekly basis you will receive an email detailing the activities your child will enjoy during that week.

Added benefits

Being part of Newbury Racecourse means we can offer parents additional benefits. These include complimentary tickets to come racing, reduced prices in our restaurant on racedays and social events through the year.

Social media

We have a closed group Facebook page which we use to communicate urgent messages and information to our members. We also have a 'social' Facebook page where we publish news from the nursery. We occasionally use photos of the children and we have a strict protocol in relation to photography usage which allows parents to withdraw their permission for us to publish photos of their children.

We have a transparent approach to our relationship with our parents. We welcome feedback and suggestions to make improvements which will enable us to create the best possible atmosphere and environment to foster your child's development. It is the children who make the nursery what it is and their happiness is paramount to us.

Fees

Our fees are highly competitive and represent great value for money in relation to the high quality of care and facilities we offer.

Charges are split by age groups, 0-2 years and 2-5 years. The following sessions are available:

Session
Daily rate
Morning with lunch
Afternoon with lunch
Full time monthly
Hourly rate
After-school 4-11 years

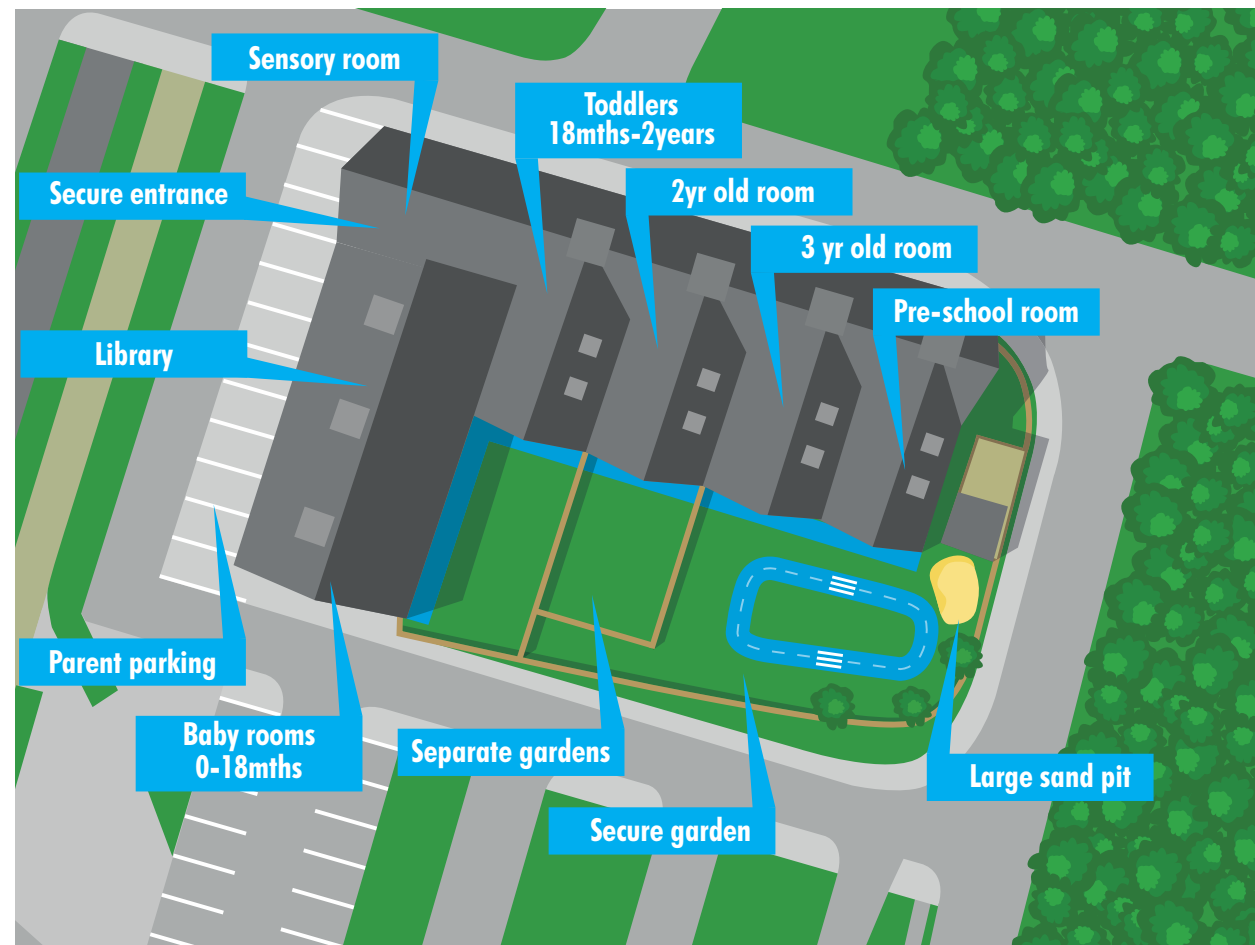
Fees are subject to review annually. For the most up to date price list please see our website or call the nursery as we will be happy to discuss them with you.

We currently have places available at the nursery, however demand is increasing as a result of the new facilities so would recommend registering for your child's place early to avoid disappointment.

Great value for money plus excellent care

We accept childcare vouchers, which you can organise through your employer and in the term after your child reaches the age of three you will be entitled to assistance with funding for up to 15 hours per week from the government.

Site plan



How to find us

**Rocking Horse Nursery
Newbury Racecourse
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 7NZ**

The Racecourse is well signposted throughout Newbury; you can follow the brown signs. When arriving at the Racecourse estate the Nursery has its own signposted entrance opposite the stables.

Contact

We would love to show you around our fabulous facilities.

Please call us on
01635 48969 or alternatively
you can email us on
info@rockinghorsenewbury.co.uk



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