



Where children learn, play & grow

# Dee's Childcare Prospectus

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# About Us



Dee's Childcare was founded in 2001 by the owner Decima Isles-Broughton in her home, as a small childminding business that grew with demand from other parents who heard about the wonderful services Dee's Childcare was offering. Over the years, the business expanded and now, Dee's Childcare operates from a newly refurbished setting offering care in a bright, clean, safe and homely environment for children aged 6 months to 11 years.

With a team of friendly, qualified assistants, Dee's Childcare goes above and beyond to offer the children stimulating learning experiences, healthy lifestyle and a safe place to learn, grow and play.

We love outdoors and we are part of the Forest Childcare Association. We are great believers that children learn best outside the classroom when they are free to explore, take risks, and build resilience.

We provide weekly visits to our allotment, woodlands, parks, farms and now at our new setting, we are very fortunate to have our very own enchanted gardens.

One of the things that set us apart from other childcare settings is our commitment to provide weekly opportunities to take the children out into the community. Outings range from going shopping, observing modes of transport or socializing at playgroups or music sessions and more.

Furthermore, we have associated with Lingotots Bexley, to bring weekly French lessons in the day-care for those who are interested.

We work in partnership with parents and seek to support, nurture and encourage that special relationship. We understand that, on occasion, there are end of day pressures that means parents simply don't have time to discuss their child's progress. Recognising this, we use Baby's Days, a secure online portal to enable parents to follow their child's progress, view their picture gallery or, perhaps, just to watch a video of messy play that day. Daily general updates are also provided on our WhatsApp Parents Forum. Dee's Childcare offers a truly all-inclusive service, all year round offering Holiday Club during half Terms and Summer Break.





# Meet the team



"Hi I'm Decima aka Auntie Decima I started childminding because I was so dissatisfied with the childcare I received when my daughter was a toddler. My motivation was to provide a service to families that I wanted as a parent, it was only meant to be for a short time until my children started school but I love my job and 20 years later! I'm absolutely passionate about what I do, where no two days are the same, and so many individual little people to engage with, having fun whilst providing the children lots of challenges and opportunities, exposing them to new and exciting experiences. The rewards are plentiful - Being part of their growth and development and helping them to reach their full potential".



I'm Marilyn aka "Miss Marilyn".

I officially joined the team in 2017. Dee's Childcare is an amazing place to work and an exemplary early years setting for young children. My greatest joy is building relationships with the children and watching them blossom and grow in confidence.



I'm Karis. I am a Level 2 qualified practitioner and am currently studying towards my level 3 certification in childcare. I have been with Dee's Childcare for two years.

Dee's Childcare is such a friendly and growing environment for the children, all staff welcomed me with open arms. The support that Decima gives to both children and staff members is amazing. The Day-care has such a family friendly environment for children to grow and learn.



Hi my name is Samantha. My children attended Dee's Childcare years ago. I was so impressed with the service given them that when a position became available I knew I wanted to work there. Being a part of children's development and growth is very rewarding to me.



# Key information



Dee's Childcare offers a truly all-inclusive package to parents, giving you the peace of mind that while your children are in our care, they benefit from the highest level of childcare.

## What's included

- ✓ Food and drinks\*
- ✓ Enrichment activities\*\*
- ✓ Trips and outings\*\*\*

## What's not included

- ✗ Bottles/formula milk
- ✗ Nappies/Wipes/Creams
- ✗ Special dietary foods

\* Breakfast, mid-morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. We provide healthy foods and only use Almond or Coconut milk.

**There will be an additional charge for food and drinks, for children attending on the 30 hours entitlement. As Government funding in England covers the delivery of early education and care only and does not include food or resources.**

\*\*Sensory play, messy play, arts and crafts, dressing up, role play, soft play, reading and singing sessions, yoga classes , French classes(at additional cost) and weekly Black History Sessions.

\*\*\*Weekly trips and outings to playgroups, allotment, playgrounds and parks, fields and woodlands, farms and local community area.

\*\*\*Yearly trips to opticians, dentist, Fire Station, Police Station as part of learning about people in the community who help us.

“

*This is the best childcare team in the world, and we lived in UK, USA, Italy, and Switzerland. Their passion and creativity makes the children happy and engaged. The range of activities and the services provided are really exceptional, including a little bit of farming, which is soo important for children living in a city.*

Ferdinando Vegni

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# Opening hours and Fees



At this time, we have availability which could potentially suit your requirements and we would be happy to welcome you and your child into the Dee's Childcare extended family. Outlined below are the initial key elements of our admissions policy and procedure, should you wish to progress further.

**Opening Hours:** 7.30am till 6.30pm Monday to Friday.

All children must be collected by 6.30pm a late collection fee of £10.00 per 15 minutes (or part of) is payable. (Earlier or later hours can be arranged at an additional fee of £10.00 per hour).

**Retainer Fee:** To retain a space for 6 weeks or more we require you to complete a registration form and pay one-week non-refundable retainer fee.

**Deposit:** Once a place has been accepted you will be required to pay a one week's refundable deposit and complete a contract and all necessary documentation.

**Payments:** Fees are payable in full for all contracted days including when child/children are sick, bank holidays, school closures, parent holidays, doctor appointments, bad weather, parent's days off and staff training days.

## **Fees:**

Our fees are very competitive for this area, and can be hourly, daily or weekly based on individual needs. Fees are calculated monthly/weekly in advance and payments are due on 1st of the month. A late payment fee of £10.00 will be charged for each day payment is late.

With effect from **1st January 2021** All fees are inclusive of VAT

## **Full-time: Charges per full week**

Caterpillars Room (0 - 2years)	= £330.00
Cocoons Room (3 - 4years)	= £300.00
Butterflies (5-8 years)	= £125.00 per week (PM only)

## **Part-time: Charges per day**

Caterpillars Room (0 – 2 years)	= £70.00 Full Day
Cocoons Room (3 – 4 years)	= £65.00 Full Day
Butterflies (5 - 8 years)	= £25.00
Casual hourly rate	= £8.00

## **Unsocial hours (outside of normal working hours) £10.00 per hour**

Contracts can be Full Time, Part Time, Term Time\* or Casual\* (\*incurs an additional retainer fee)  
•We accept Childcare Vouchers, offer the 15 & 30 hours free entitlement and Together4Twos. You may also wish to contact Tax Credits <https://www.gov.uk/child-tax-credit/new-claim> to check your eligibility.

**Holidays: Two weeks paid holiday, (usually one week over Christmas, one over Easter) At least Four weeks prior notice will be provided**



# Being Covid-19 Safe

- The safety of children, staff, and families is paramount.
- This is a learning process, considerations may evolve and be built upon as the situation changes and new precautionary measures and practices may be introduced.
- It is important that everyone complies with the latest Government guidance on Coronavirus.

## **The key elements to keep everyone safe at nursery are:**

- Any pupil, staff member, parent or visitor with Corona virus symptoms must not attend nursery and must isolate at home.
- We will be taking children's temperature every morning at drop off.
- Increased cleaning processes are in place, throughout and at the end of the day
- Children and team members will be social distancing as far as possible.
- Children will stay in key groups (a bubble) each day.
- Arrival and departure will be staggered and children will be dropped off at the entrance. Parents need to sanitize and while waiting outside please maintain social distancing.
- Parents will not come on site or visit the nursery rooms unless this is explicitly arranged with the Nursery Manager e.g. in the event of a child being distressed.
- Parents and staff members will wear masks during drop off and collection at nursery.

# Our Daycare



Dee's Childcare is the place where children learn, play and grow. This is our motto. This is the forefront of setting up any space for the children in our care.

Our new setting is newly refurbished into a clean, warm, homely space. We've created a bright natural learning environment with open ended natural resources. Furthermore, we benefit from an enclosed enchanted garden for Forest Childcare Experiences.

Each of our rooms are bright and airy, age specific, in compliance with National Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum and directives.

We've created a special room for each age group which we fondly name:



Caterpillars: 0-2 years old



Cocoons: 3-4 years old



Butterflies: 5-11 years old



Within each room are curriculum based areas, corresponding to the EYFS seven areas of learning, as well as an area for sleep and quiet time, and plenty of space to play.

Butterflies have access to a computer station and quiet area to complete homework.

All children gather in the main dining area at meal times or collective activities and have the opportunity to socialize, help each other and play together.

*Dee's child care was a home away from home. The attention and care provided to children is exceptional. Dee has PASSION for child lead learning, teaching and just a genuine love for creating a wonderful environment for the children. Dee takes pride in the quality of the setting she creates for the children and she provides great outing experiences, something which I find not many care givers can do. Thank you Auntie Decima as my son calls her, for enriching the early years of my son's life.*

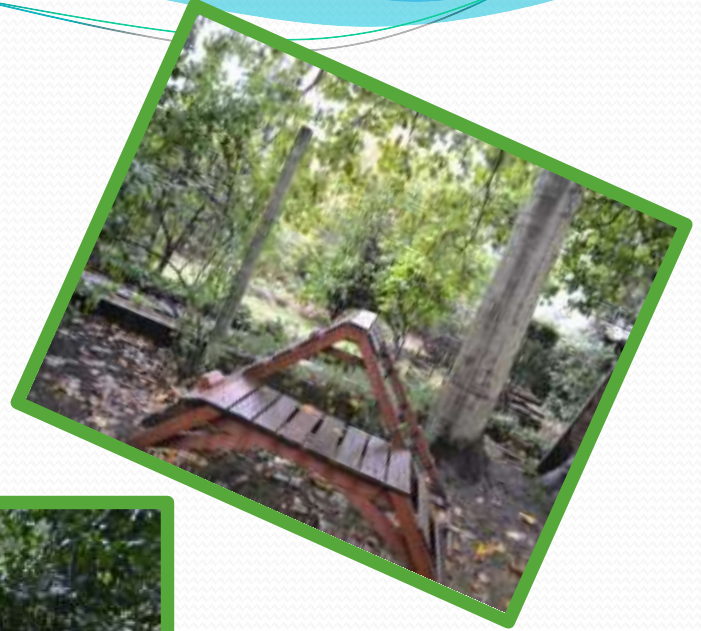
*@Tolani Soaga*

# Our Rooms





# Our Enchanted Garden





# Settling in & Daily Routine

## Settling in sessions/transitions

- Parents may enter the daycare for the purpose of settling-in sessions, if not doing so would cause a child distress.
- The Manager will give further guidance on the day regarding the duration of the settling in sessions after discussing with the parents the needs of each child.
- It is important that social distancing continues to be maintained.



## Daily routine

During the nursery day we aim to provide the children a wide range of activities which enables them to build a variety of new skills.

Our daily schedule is generally divided as follows:



- Morning session could be an adult led activity, an outing, story and song time, morning snack and outdoor play in the garden

- Lunch

- Nap time/Quiet time

- Afternoon session consists of interaction with all age groups children, free play, child led play, afternoon snack and outdoor play in the garden.



Children thrive on routine and consistency and we are dedicated to create a positive environment where children feel secure, safe and loved.

# Healthy Living



Aside our daily time in the fresh air and the exercise that comes with it, we also believe in providing nutritious, delicious food, freshly cooked on site, by staff who have Level 2/3 in Food Hygiene.

Children in full-time day care can receive up to 90% of their daily food intake from our meals. We recognise that a nutritious and balanced diet helps set the foundations for lifelong food preferences, making it essential that children eat well during their formative years.

As part of our commitment to providing the children with a healthy diet, our menus, you will notice are mainly plant-based, created in conjunction with the Change4Life website.

The staff are currently working towards the Healthy Early Years London Awards.

HEYL is an awards scheme <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/healthy-early-years-london/about-healthy-early-years-london> funded by the Mayor of London which supports and recognises achievements in child health, wellbeing, and development in early years settings.

## General Information about our menus

### **Food Safety**

Food is stored, prepared and presented in a safe and hygienic environment.

All the staff preparing and handling food have gained a Food Hygiene Certificate.

We also insist to teach children basic hygiene skills, such as not eating food that has fallen on the floor, and washing their hands with soap and warm water before eating meals or snacks and after going to the toilet or handling animals.

### **Plant based**

We have such a love for nature and all things coming from it, which enhance the children's learning and growing experiences. To this end, we grow our own vegetables at the allotment.

Our menus favour a more plant based selection.

### **Drinks**

We offer plant based milks and fresh drinking water which is available and easily accessible throughout the day.





	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Breakfast available on request: Cereal Porridge Waffles Allergens: milk, gluten, egg, peanuts, soya				
Lunch	Mac'n'veg, cheese with coleslaw Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, milk, eggs	Veggie chilli with Mashed potatoes Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, milk	Vegetable golden rice & veggie meatballs Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: milk	Vegetable Soup with French Bread Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, milk	Fish Fingers with potato wedges, peas & sweetcorn Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, eggs, fish, milk
Afternoon snacks	Tuna, mayo & sweetcorn sandwiches Allergens: gluten, milk, egg, fish	Crackers with various toppings: cream cheese, hummus Allergens: sesame seeds, milk	Sausage and veggie rolls Allergens: gluten, milk, egg	Chicken, cheese and salad wraps Allergens: gluten, milk	Make your own Pitta bread pizza Allergens: gluten, milk
All afternoon snacks will be served with <i>vegetable crudité</i> s: carrot sticks, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, pepper sticks and <i>seasonal fruits</i> .					

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Breakfast available on request: Cereal Porridge Waffles Allergens: milk, gluten, egg, peanuts, soya				
Lunch	Vegetable Sheperds Pie Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: milk	Rice with red lentils and cauliflower Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: milk	Tuna and sweetcorn pasta Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, milk, fish	Carrot and butternut squash soup with French Bread Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: gluten, milk	Mushroom Risotto Natural Yogurt and Fruits Allergens: milk
Afternoon snacks	Crackers with various toppings: hummus, cream cheese Allergens: gluten, milk, sesame seeds	Cheese and cucumber Sandwiches Allergens: gluten, milk	Jacket potatoes with beans and cheese Allergens: milk	Pitta bread pockets with chicken and salad Allergens: gluten	Vegetable soup with toast Allergens: gluten, milk
All afternoon snacks will be served with <i>vegetable crudité</i> s: carrot sticks, cucumber slices, cherry tomatoes, pepper sticks and <i>seasonal fruits</i> .					





# Forest Childcare/Learning Outside the Classroom

We are a forest childcare provider and a great believer that children learn best outside the classroom when they are free to explore, take risks, and build resilience.



Outdoor learning provides countless opportunities for children to develop problem-solving skills, self-exploration, decision-making skills, healthy living awareness, creativity, and imaginative thinking whilst learning to understand and love their natural environment. We provide weekly visits to our allotment and now at our new day care, we have our very own enchanted garden.



The attached sample of our weekly plan clearly portrays that one of the key things that sets us apart from other childcare providers, is our commitment to providing weekly opportunities to take our children out into the community.





## Weekly Attendance & Activity Timetable

Week Beginning Monday 19th July 2020

Open 8.00am - Close 6.30pm

	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>
AM Activities	In setting: Letter recognition and phonics 	Forest Childcare: Visit to Mudchute Farm, Isle of Dogs Please provide a double pack lunch. We will aim to be back at the setting by 4.30pm	Forest Childcare: @ Crook Farm Allotment 10.00am - 2.30pm 	Outing to Villas Road Playground 	Setting Closed Staff Work from home
PM Activities	Forest Childcare: @ Crook Farm Allotment 3.00pm - 5.30pm 		In setting: Children's Yoga Session 	In setting: Independent play in Garden 	Setting Closed Staff Work from home

NB: Plan is subject to change, you will be informed via the parent's forum.



## Summer Club Holiday Activities

### Attendance & Weekly Plan

Open 9.00am - Close 6.30pm

	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>
Attendance					Setting
Activities	Forest Childcare Outing: @ Crook Farm Allotment 	In Setting Water Play 	Forest Childcare Outing: Exploring Bostall Woods, Nature Trail to Crook Farm Allotment  Please provide a double pack lunch	Forest Childcare Outing: Visit to Fairy Folk Trail @ Hall Place, Bexley Please provide a double pack lunch. 	 Staff Work from home

NB: Plan is subject to change, you will be informed via the parent's forum.

# Baby's Days...



## Working with Parents

At Dee's Childcare we value parents as partners and understand the importance of this relationship in ensuring that your child thrives, both emotionally and academically, whilst in our care. Using Baby's Days the most advanced, interactive child care management system available, we provide daily updates on your child's progress and achievements.



Baby's Days allows us to form this partnership with you, simply and effectively. When you connect to our system you will be able to view numerous areas of the system including Daily Notes, Toileting, Sleep Times, Progress, Photograph Galleries, Policies, Permissions and Invoices etc. Within the Daily Notes you can read about your child's daily activities and leave comments for us to read and respond to. Within the Progress section parents can read Progress and Observation notes, view photographs and see exactly what development level your child is currently at. In addition, you can read, agree to, and digitally sign acceptance of our Policies and Permissions and also view and print your weekly/monthly invoices. But best of all, the system is fully interactive enabling you to add/share photos and observations of your child's achievements at home, therefore, providing a complete development record between home and your childcare provider.



Considering that close to 8% of an OFSTED inspection grades the effectiveness of the parent partnership, it is imperative that we form a good working partnerships with all of the parents of the children in our care. We must be able to communicate a steady flow of information regarding your child's progress, activities, development and more and be able to demonstrate how we do this during our inspection.



# The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the framework followed by all early years settings following the British Curriculum. This is a child centred curriculum, which places play and exploration at the forefront of the child's learning journey. The EYFS framework guides staff to provide meaningful learning opportunities across the 7 areas of learning and development, outlined below:







# The Early Years Foundation Stage

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.



## As a mum or dad, how you can help with your child's learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school.

Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time every day to do some of the following things with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner.

Should you wish to find out more about the EYFS please speak to us, we welcoming speaking with you. Alternatively, you can find the Early Years Foundation Stage which includes the early learning goals at

[www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk) The foundation years website also includes a range of resources and contacts.

# Community Partnerships

- Dee's Childcare has been a part of the local community for almost 20 years.
- Therefore, we have built strong relationships with other local services to provide the children the best experiences to enhance their learning.
- We work in close partnerships with many local children centres, libraries, schools, nurseries and some small independent businesses.
- We are regular visitors to Plumstead Children Centre and Library, Woolwich Library, Thamesmead Library where we attend playgroups, singing and story time sessions.
- We do school runs for Notre Dame Primary School, Eglinton Primary School, Plumcroft Primary School, Foxfield Primary School and St Patricks Primary School.
- Lingotots Bexley, offers language lessons and for more than 5 years we have affiliated with them to bring this opportunity to the children in our care. Once a week, a tutor comes to the day care and delivers a French lesson for the children whose parents wish them to attend, due to the additional cost. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions we also participated in the Lingotots Generations programme, where sessions were held in a local elderly care home, where the children interacted with the elderly residents.
- Windyrush Farm is a family owned inner-city-farm in Belvedere. They regularly welcome our visits so that the children can have close contact and interactions with the animals by observing, petting and helping to feed them.



# Parent testimonials



**Yvonne Osamor**

★★★★★ 7 weeks ago

I can never find the best words to describe my experience at Dee's childcare, we have used Dee's childcare for the past 9 years, now we are at the end of our journey, I feel a sense of loss. Dee's childcare has been a part of our daily routine for so long and we are going to miss that. Dee and her team have been more than a childcare provider, it is a home away from home and a community of happy parents and children, my children look forward to being there and I am always reassured. I cannot recommend Dee's childcare enough to anyone looking for childcare. It is truly an outstanding service.

**Mirela Kovacs**

★★★★★ 11 weeks ago

I have been part of the Dee's Childcare family for almost 9 years now, and have been on both sides, as a staff member for almost 7 years and as a parent for the last 2. Needless to say how much I love Dee's Childcare, it's part of my family. As a staff member, I enjoyed being part of all the children's journeys and watched them grow from babies and toddlers into young people. It's the most rewarding job. Also, planning and preparing fun and interesting learning activities, plus the countless outings to the local parks, farms, playgroups and the allotment. Some more special outings we did to the sea side, theatre, the zoo. But, for me, the most enjoyable moments were the ones where all the families came together for celebrations such as birthdays, Christmas, Easter Egg Hunt and the annual allotment barbecue. As a parent, I experienced the anxiety of leaving my baby in a childcare setting but i have been met with so much reassurance and my baby girl was so loved and well looked after. Lots of patience, communication and love, turned my clingy baby who cried on drop off into a more confident one that just walked in with the other children soon enough. Thank you Decima and all the staff members for being so amazing. I cannot wait for more memories together!

**Adam Jarvis**

★★★★★ 15 weeks ago

Great staff, great with the kids, our little girl has really missed them all on lockdown, that is a testament to the relationship they build with your child.

**Beatrice Fordjor**

★★★★★ 15 weeks ago

It's quite amazing to see how Dee's childcare manage to bring the best out of all of the kids - their confidence, independence, team work and just how they take care of each other is great to see. |||

**Tanisha Paul**

★★★★★ 17 weeks ago

Ive been using Dees for the last 6 years, the level of professionalism, the educational outing, the numerous activities and the amount of effort put into catering for every child, is of a remarkable standard. The care and service received is above expectation, Dee and her staff goes out of their way to accommodate us. Imagine having a second family, that puts your child's well being first and foremost;Thats Dees! Their safety, care, development and well being is all paramount at Dees and and I would not swap them for anyone else.



# Follow us

Please have a look at our website [www.deeschildcare.co.uk](http://www.deeschildcare.co.uk),



[Facebook Page](#)



[Instagram](#)

to follow our daily adventures.

Click on our [free index reviews](#) [google reviews](#) to read our reviews and see what our parents and friends say about us.

