

Little Swans is a homely welcoming nursery, located just off the Swan Island by the library, in the Yardley vicinity. The A45, running parallel to the Nursery, gives easy access to motorway and city routes, all within a few minutes drive.

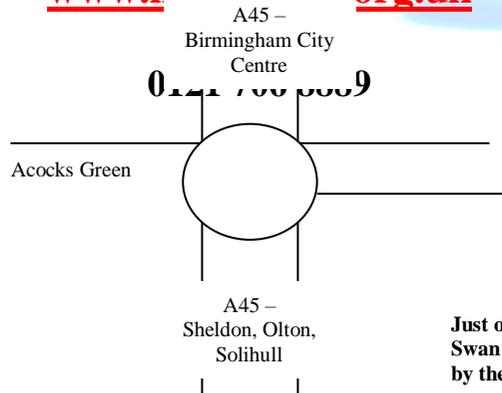
It is privately owned and comprises of two detached properties, lying in its own extensive grounds to both front and rear. The nursery lies well back from the road with ample parking for parents. There is also disabled access and parking.

Having been extensively refurbished *Little Swans* is a modern purpose designed nursery offering very high standards of childcare for children from 3 months to 8 years.

The **proprietor, Elaine Boulton** opened the nursery in 2001 and the **Manager Samantha Tranter** joined Little Swans in 2004. Both will be on-site to ensure the highest standards are met and maintained. Elaine works 5 mornings and Sam full time. As from September 2018 we have a new member of management **Rose Sargent** who is a **fully qualified teacher** and will be working alongside staff in all age groups ensuring best possible practice, catering for each child's individual needs. Rose, our **Assistant Manager** will be on site from 7.30am each morning until 2pm every afternoon.

Our aim is to become part of your family, a loving and caring nursery, offering good advice, exceptional practice, and on-going support.

www.littleswans.org.uk



Little Swans Day Nursery

330 Yardley Road
Yardley
B25 8LT

0121 706 8889

www.littleswans.org.uk



**‘OUTSTANDING’ OFSTED
Reports
June 2013 & January 2016**

In the process of working towards a third OUTSTANDING outcome

**GOLD AWARD, NUTRITIOUS MENU AWARD
5H ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
AWARD 2007, 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2015 2018**



Little Swans Is here for you and your child. All areas help children develop to their full potential through implementing the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We help parents and families in the community with childcare, parenting skills, health care and much more.

Ref: (NN) Level 3 Nursery Nurse, (NA) Nursery Assistant Level 2 or working towards. Owner and Manager both graduate leaders, Assistant Manager graduate / teacher status; Supervisors all Level 3 or above, as well as management and team leading qualifications.

Elaine Boulton Owner for 17 years' service, Samantha (Sam) Manager 15 years' service. Rose Sargent Assistant Manager started September 2018.

At Little Swans, we offer a home visit as part of your child's transition into nursery. Please refer to our Home Visit Policy.

“Jelly Babies” 3mths- 18 mths

Our baby unit opened its doors for the first time in Dec 05. It is a very large luxurious purpose-built room with a large expanse of area for the children to explore.

The baby unit is situated behind the main nursery building. A cosy home environment, carpet, settee, blinds all especially adapted to create a familiar comforting atmosphere. The unit has space for babies to rest, sleep, play and explore.

Our unit caters for 24 babies from 0-18 months old (Jelly Babies)

Our babies' needs are established when they first start at the nursery by carrying out a home visit to suit the parent. Parents are asked to complete a questionnaire about all the babies' routines, including sleeping and eating habits, and any medical history or known allergies in order for our early year's staff to help baby and their family settle quickly into nursery.

The unit has its own baby changing area and a wide variety of toys and equipment, which encourages child development.

The babies in our care always have “special time” with their key person – with lots of love, cuddles and interaction! Activities include, playing games, providing stimulating creative experiences, reading and singing to baby as well as performing all of our caring duties.

Parents are given a written record of activities their baby has completed during the day, what they have eaten, when they have slept and all other relevant information.

Babies are fed according to parent's specific instructions. Parents are asked to provide nappies, wipes, commercial / liquidised food, and formula milk.

When your child is one-years-old they will progress from baby milk and food to our nursery menu where food is provided at no extra cost, along with pasteurised milk throughout the day.

Although we have a routine in our baby unit, each baby's individual needs will have priority.

‘Jelly Tots’ 18 months to 2 years’ old

The Jelly Tots room caters for 12 children. They have their own toilets for the children that are potty training as well as their own wash basins to start to learn basic hygiene skills. Low level open windows encourage the children to look outside and communicate with others. They have their own pegs to encourage them to take off their coats and hats themselves and hang them up; creating a sense of belonging. Toys and activities encourage small and big muscle movement as well as promoting cognitive development.

“Smarties” 2 year olds

Smarties have two large playrooms that are well equipped and cater for all the children's needs.

The children learn how to become independent by having practical life lessons, washing and drying their own hands and using the small toilets. Pre-reading and pre-writing skills are also developed in this group by means of pencil control, scissor work, artwork, painting, chalking, number, colour and shape recognition through a stimulating and structured free play environment.

Individual on-going assessment allows our children to work at their own pace.

Sweeties 2-3 year olds

Sweeties have three large play rooms especially planned for this lively active group with work rest and play areas. And runs as a continuation of the Smarties group as above.

‘Rolos and Heroes’ 3-4 years’ old

Children are situated in a self-contained unit. Rolos have the downstairs while Heroes occupy the first floor. Both classrooms have a lovely colourful large play area, with their own toilets and washbasins. It is divided into key areas where the children have access to a multitude of educational toys throughout the day during free play. Rolos and Heroes visit the local library for story and computer sessions as well as the local Forest School. They have organised trips off the premises; for example, visits with our elderly residents in the community.

The whole of the first floor is dedicated to the Heroes. The large spacious room has been divided into areas as follows; construction, technology, writing, imaginative, creative, maths, and role play. There are also special quiet areas for the children to develop their computer skills and read library books. These areas can be sought by children as and when they choose, during free play, with all activities on offer throughout the course of the day, and varied daily to ensure the children are stimulated at all times.

During the foundation stage these areas of learning will be introduced in ways that are suitable for your child, often through play.

Individual ongoing assessments and observations allows for each child to work at their own pace.

Throughout the year, the children participate in planned outings/trips to extend their learning and development. Trips organised by nursery are free to ensure no child is excluded. We have enjoyed trips to Sheldon Heath Country Park, Pantomime, Funactiz, Cinema and Elmdon Park.

Children in preschool (Rolos and Heroes) also attend the library regularly for story sessions as well as visiting the residents at Carrs Lane care home and other residential homes for the elderly at Easter and Christmas to sing their favourite songs. Our children in Heroes also perform two assemblies each year; leavers and nativity for parents and families to watch. They are fantastic!!

Outdoor Play

Little Swans has a large outdoor play area, consisting of: a large sand pit, climbing trail, climbing apparatus, painting easel, hard surface areas for bikes, scooters, and prams as well as a large astro turf area for soft play etc.

All equipment varied and age related. We also have an undercover area and Planting areas so we can grow our own fruit and vegetables..

Staff

Our nursery nurses are fully qualified and experienced, with the exception of apprentices working towards their qualification; either a level 2 or 3 in Early Years . The ratio of staff to children complies with OFSTED requirements. All staff are fully committed to an equal opportunity policy regardless of sex, colour, age, religion and disabilities. The management team who are **Mrs Boulton** Proprietor, **Sam Tranter** Manager and **Rose Sargent** Assistant Manager, work closely with the nursery nurses, who are experienced and committed professionals, to ensure the high standards of care are met at all times. **Have a look on our website.** We recognise the importance of on-going training for all staff and the owner and both managers all have a Degree in Early Years. Rose Sargent is a fully qualified teacher. Mrs Boulton and Miss Tranter have a Level 5 in First Line Management. Supervisors all have at least a level 3 in Early Years and all have completed either a management or team leading qualification. We feel strongly that on-going training for all staff ensures best practice throughout the nursery in making sure all children reach their full potential.

Meals

We recognise the importance of a well balanced diet for young children, and we therefore provide a varied menu of nutritious meals, attractively presented and prepared in our kitchen, by **Karen and Dee**. **Parents help to plan the menus which are changed twice a year in the summertime and winter.**

All individual needs, including religious, cultural or medical dietary requirements, are catered for. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea is served, with a light snack mid-morning and late afternoon. Vegetarian and Halal are catered for daily. **We are dedicated followers of healthy choices; with our own three-week rolling menu planned by parents based on the recommended 5 portions a day menu suggestions!!**

We have won an award from Birmingham NHS NET, for our nutritious well-planned menus, as well as **Birmingham's Healthy Settings Award.**

We have also been awarded a **5H rating** (this is the highest you can obtain!) from Birmingham Health Authority for our health, hygiene and cleanliness within the catering environment; and have held this award for the last 11 years. Many of the dishes cooked are made from scratch and the kitchen staff take pride in the presentation. Every day when the children are near the kitchen they will call out "What's for dinner today?" and end with an "Mmmmm!" when Karen calls out the menu for the day!

Fees

Our fees are paid weekly or monthly in advance by direct debit, cash or nursery vouchers.

Payments need to be continued in the event of illness or holiday, including Bank Holidays, in order to retain the place. **Four weeks' notice is needed to terminate the contract.**

In order to reserve a place, one full week's money will be required. This is non refundable should you need to cancel for any reason.

Monday to Friday

7.30am - 6.00pm

51 weeks of the year (excluding Bank Holidays)

Full time attendance hours

7.30am – 6.00pm

Part time attendance hours

7.30am – 12.30pm

1.00pm – 6.00pm

(hours vary for children in receipt of government grant)

Our aim is to provide a safe and caring environment in which you will be happy to leave your child.

Children need to feel they are in safe and loving surroundings, in order to settle down happily. At *Little Swans* we have many ways of providing this reassuring atmosphere, but a key factor for most young children is building a relationship with, or attachment to, the people who are caring for them. As it is hard for children to come into a new setting and make several attachments at the same time, at *Little Swans* we help the children separate from their parents by providing a key person system. This means that one adult in the setting will take responsibility for your child, and they will build a special relationship with each other.

The key person will carry out a home visit, with another staff member prior to your child starting at the setting. Please refer to our Home Visit Policy for details. Parents must live within a 3-mile radius of the setting.

Children tend to feel more reassured when they know what to expect. This means that routines and consistency are important in each area of the nursery. Therefore, our routines are flexible, but are structured enough for our children to be able to anticipate what is likely to happen next – for example, to know that after going outside they will be washing their hands and going to the toilet, if needed, and that after story time, they will be having lunch. We understand that this is also an anxious time for parents and by providing lots of information on our website, blog and twitter page as well as monthly newsletters and regular feedback we ensure parents are kept up to date and involved in nursery life at *Little Swans*. We also offer termly stay and play sessions at Yardley Library which enable parents to become involved in their child's learning as well as share ideas.

Frequent staff meetings on a weekly and monthly basis, along with policies, ensure that we work together in a consistent way so that children in our care feel secure within the nursery environment.

We are an educational nursery and follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework curriculum for children in all areas.

Termly we have a different topic that we plan lots of exciting activities around. Please have a look at our latest OFSTED report. This details our positive approach towards childcare and children's education through The Early Years Foundation Stage. **Each child has a "Learning Journey", which is a journal of their days at nursery, from start to finish. A lovely keepsake, Wonderful!**

Hi, my name is **Elaine Boulton** and I am the proprietor of *Little Swans Day Nursery*, **Sam Tranter** nursery manager has been managing Little Swans since 2011 and has worked at the setting for 15 years, working her way up from nursery nurse, supervisor, assistant manager to managing the setting and taking us through two Outstanding Ofsted inspections. In September 2018 **Rose Sargent** joined the team as Assistant Manager. Rose is a qualified teacher coming to us from an Early Years Primary School and here to ensure all children have a first class start to their education. Rose is my daughter in law to be and will be marrying my son in December 2019.

We are here to care and support all of our children and their families attending

In October 2013 both Sam and I completed our studies and both now have a Degree in Early Years as well as a Level 4 Diploma in Early Years completed in 2010 and a BTEC Diploma in Early Years, gained in 1997. In 2016 we completed a Level 5 course in Leadership and Management in order to develop the nursery further.

I have two grown up children, a daughter and son. Both of my children attended Nottingham University. My son is now a primary school teacher and my daughter is an Occupational Therapist. My daughter is expecting her first baby in July 2019 when I will be a first-time nanny. I can't wait!!

For a number of years, I worked for the Education Authority. Firstly, through an agency, working in many different Infant Schools/Nurseries, all over the City, gaining extensive knowledge in cultural and special educational needs along the way.

Sam has three children. She currently has one child still attending school, another who works at Little Swans as a trainee nursery nurse and another a full-time mother. Sam started her career working in private day care and then went over to play work working with primary school children, joining us in 2001.

Little Swans is now in its 18th year and has an excellent reputation; gaining two consecutive ***Outstanding Outcomes in both June 2013 and January 2016***. Our staff are qualified, dedicated professionals and most have been at the nursery for a number of years.

Experience has taught us, that children *really do* learn best when cared for in a loving, welcoming and stimulating environment, where they are happy and have plenty of opportunity to explore their surroundings.

Our aim for *Little Swans* is to make it a nursery in which all children love to attend. And where you as a parent feel happy and content with the support you and your child receive from us.

Outstanding **OFSTED Report** June 2013 and January 2016

Please ask for a copy/copies

WE AIM TO PLEASE

Security

Our nursery has its own intercom and CCTV system installed; no one is admitted until they identify themselves and are recognised by staff. If any person other than yourself is collecting your child from nursery, please ensure we are fully informed beforehand.

Children starting our nursery should bring with them a change of clothes, sun hat and sun cream / hat, scarf, mittens, when necessary as well as a water bottle. Please make sure your child's name is on all items. It is a good idea for bags to be clearly named on the outside where possible.

www.littleswans.org.uk

“Please check out our Outstanding June 2013 and January 2016 OFSTED reports on the web”

We have a 5H rating (the highest that can be obtained) from Birmingham Environmental Services for our Health and hygiene standards within a catering environment 2007, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2018

Check out their web!!

We have been awarded a certificate by NHS NET for our well-planned nutritious meals covering the 5 portions a day incentive

WE AIM TO GIVE OUR CHILDREN THE BEST POSSIBLE START



For further information, please do not hesitate to call

Sam or Elaine at *Little Swans Day Nursery*

0121 706 8889 OR Email us at

elaine@littleswans.org.uk OR sam@littleswans.org.uk or

rose@littleswans.org.uk

We are always happy to help

Working in association with

Birmingham Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership