

The Mount Day Nursery



Welcome to The Mount Day Nursery

Welcome to The Mount Day Nursery, an outstanding early learning provision set within the grounds of Fairholme School. The Mount Day Nursery offers day care of the very highest quality to children from birth to 3 years as well as wrap-around care and holiday clubs for older children.

The premises are bright and spacious and offer areas which cater for all levels of development. The nursery provides well-equipped nursery rooms for each age group, a dedicated safe outdoor play area and a garden play area, as well as opportunities to access the wider school premises for some activities.





Vision at The Mount Day Nursery

At The Mount Day Nursery, we aim to create a secure and caring environment for children – to provide a home from home that incorporates both learning facilities and quieter, retreat opportunities. We aim to help children feel safe and happy in their surroundings so that they can grow, develop and achieve their full potential right from the start.



Nursery Information

The Mount Day Nursery is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and is open from 7.45am until 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, providing breakfast, lunch, afternoon snacks and tea. Children can attend on a full or part-time basis with morning and afternoon sessions available.

The Nursery offers wrap-around care for children from Fairholme School and a variety of local schools. Drop-off and collection services are undertaken by Nursery staff, on foot for nearby schools or in the Nursery vehicle.

The Mount Day Nursery offers holiday care for children up to 11 years. During holiday periods, children will have opportunities to access the school's sports hall and all-weather sports pitch as well as garden play areas. Holiday club children bring their own packed lunch with morning and afternoon snacks provided.

Children are cared for using English as the main language. Welsh is incorporated into the day whenever possible, including activities and greetings.

Sessions Options

The following session options are available:

Full Days	7.45am to 5.45pm
Holiday Club	7.45am to 5.45pm
Morning Session	7.45am to 12.45pm
Afternoon Session	12.45pm to 5.45pm
School Day	7.45am to 3.45pm
After School Club	3.00pm to 5.45pm





The Mount Day Nursery Staff

All staff are well qualified and trained to a very high standard. We believe that a high adult to child ratio is essential in providing good quality care in the Nursery and we provide:

-  0-2 years - at least one member of staff to every three children
-  2-3 years - at least one member of staff to every four children
-  3-8 years - at least one member of staff to every eight children
-  8-11 years (holidays) - at least one member of staff to every twelve children.

The Mount Day Nursery Rooms

Children are cared for in one of our four rooms, each with a designated member of staff. The rooms are beautifully presented and well equipped and are suitable for age groups as follows:

-  'Fun on the Farm' Baby Room – Youngest babies' room
-  'Jungle Safari' Toddler Room – Toddlers' room from 12 months +
-  'Under the Sea' and 'Walking with Dinosaurs' Pre-School Rooms – Children 2 years +



Fun on the Farm

Our baby room, 'Fun on the Farm', provides the calm and secure environment that babies need. Each baby has an assigned keyworker who works in partnership with parents to promote each child's development, enabling them to follow their own individual feeding and sleeping routines. The baby room is fully equipped with highchairs, sleeping beds, and changing facilities.

Each day, staff will help babies develop new skills by encouraging them in their first attempts at crawling, walking, and talking. Our babies engage in many 'hands on' experiences using a wide range of toys which have been specifically chosen to promote development, as well as being fun.

Sensory stimulation plays an important part in babies' development: our soft play, ball pools and sensory toys provide an important start. Learning through play, using slotting toys, stacking cups, soft blocks, shakers and rattles, stimulates early cognitive development and assists in developing hand eye co-ordination and balance. Messy play and craft activities encourage babies to have fun and develop inquisitive natures.

Outings are provided regularly for our babies using prams for walks by the River Elwy or to the local park. Babies enjoy fresh air each day with time in the play area and garden, giving them further opportunities to move around and develop their physical skills.

Our staff make sure each day is filled with fun, singing, laughter and happy faces.





Jungle Safari

As children become mobile, they move into our 'Jungle Safari' toddler room which offers a friendly and welcoming environment, equipped with age-appropriate toys. Toddlers begin to explore their surroundings as their language, mobility, and gross and fine motor skills develop. Our staff help to further these skills by providing activities to enhance and encourage.

Toddlers have opportunities to explore and learn through play independently, choosing from a wide selection of activities such as using construction toys, books, jigsaws, games and role play. The children are encouraged to speak as much as possible and they begin to discover shapes and colour, with staff encouraging participation in messy play, drawing, painting and gluing activities.



Toddlers like to move around, so time in the outdoor play area is very important. The children are taken outside as much as possible so they can enjoy using climbing frames and slides, running about and riding on bikes and cars. They enjoy playing in the sand and water trays and using the mud kitchen and water wall. Staff enjoy taking the toddlers for walks to the local park or along the river, counting how many fish they can see in the water!

Our staff always encourage independence and teach the toddlers how to brush their teeth and feed themselves. Children sit at the table together for meals, using chair straps for safety. Toddlers take naps in the baby room and share the changing facilities. When toddlers reach 2 years and staff feel they are ready, they move on to our Pre-School rooms.



Under the Sea and Walking with Dinosaurs

In the pre-school rooms, 'Under the Sea' and 'Walking with Dinosaurs', staff focus on preparing children for when they grow up and go to 'big school'! Children are encouraged to develop their own independence and to build relationships with others.

The Pre-School open plan area provides a large space where children can take part in circle time, reading books and singing songs. Staff provide activities to help the children develop their personal and social skills and children are introduced to toileting, dressing and continued teeth brushing.

Children are encouraged to choose activities both individually and as a group, learning to share and socialise with other children and staff. They begin to experience some adult-initiated or structured play and activities. We believe that children learn best through gaining first-hand experiences and opportunities to discover the world around them and so staff ensure children take part in activities such as role play, small world, circle time, construction, music, art, reading and sand and water play. They are provided with age-appropriate activities which stimulate development of fine motor skills, such as cutting with scissors and manipulating playdough. Staff show them how to tidy up too!



Our Pre-School children have plenty of opportunities to enjoy our garden areas. We help them to learn about the environment by planting flowers in our digging area, enhance their creativity by cooking in the mud kitchen and playing in the Wendy house and develop gross motor skills running on the grass and pedalling bikes or cars. The children enjoy learning about bugs and insects, searching for them using magnifying glasses. The staff love to see how excited the children become finding out about the amazing world around them!



Learning Themes at The Mount

Craft and group activities often centre around monthly themes.

Through our themes . . .

-  Children develop an active interest and enthusiasm for learning through our widely varying themes
-  Children are provided with a purposeful structure which helps them to link ideas and further their learning
-  Children develop teamwork, and value and respect for all individuals through our observation of special days and festivals
-  Parents can gain ideas on how to support their child's learning at home
-  Children can achieve the development goals of the Foundation Phase Framework

As well as the monthly topics, children at the Nursery also celebrate and have special activities for events and festivals including St. Dwynwen's Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, St. David's Day, Hallowe'en and World Book Day. These events enable children to develop an awareness of the wider world around them.



FUN ON THE FARM

-  JANUARY In The Garden
-  FEBRUARY All About Me
-  MARCH New Life
-  APRIL Farm Animals
-  MAY People Who Help Us
-  JUNE Transport
-  JULY Under the Sea
-  AUGUST At the Beach
-  SEPTEMBER Space
-  OCTOBER Insects and Minibeasts
-  NOVEMBER Thinking of Others
-  DECEMBER Christmas

JUNGLE SAFARI

-  JANUARY People Who Help Us/ Vehicles
-  FEBRUARY Nursery Rhymes
-  MARCH Space
-  APRIL Spring
-  MAY Minibeasts
-  JUNE Under the sea
-  JULY Summer
-  AUGUST Jungle Safari
-  SEPTEMBER All About Me
-  OCTOBER Autumn/ Hallowe'en
-  NOVEMBER On The Farm
-  DECEMBER Christmas and Winter

UNDER THE SEA & WALKING WITH DINOSAURS

-  JANUARY Winter
-  FEBRUARY Animals
-  MARCH Spring
-  APRIL Minibeasts
-  MAY People Who Help Us
-  JUNE Summer
-  JULY Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales
-  AUGUST Transport
-  SEPTEMBER All About Me
-  OCTOBER Autumn
-  NOVEMBER Alphabet, Numbers, Colours & Shapes
-  DECEMBER Christmas

A typical Day at The Mount

The Mount Day Nursery aims to help children develop physically, mentally and emotionally through a carefully planned programme of activity and play. Children are encouraged to develop independence, having the opportunity to choose activities, design their own art and craft work and spend time interacting and playing with other children.

	Time	Activity	Details
	7:45–8:30	Welcome	Opportunity for free-play, the children can choose activities from a range of table-top toys and games, books, home corner, dressing-up etc. Children are encouraged to tidy up at the end of this session.
	8:30–9:00	Breakfast	Children are encouraged to sit at the table to eat. Breakfast varies throughout the week.
	9:00–9:15	Circle Time	Children gather in the book corner and chat about topical events and share their news. They read stories together and sing songs.
	9:15–10:00	Activities	Children take part in messy play or craft activities.
	10:00–11:00	Free Play	Children take part in free play which includes indoor and outdoor play, trips to the local park or walks along the River Elwy.
	11:00–11:30	Quiet play	Children have the opportunity to choose a 'quiet play' activity, for example – jigsaws, drawing.
	11:30–12:30	Lunchtime	Children sit at tables for lunch. They are not rushed to eat their food. Staff sit with children, encouraging good manners and social interaction.
	12:30–1:30	Quiet time	Children may go to sleep; others will be able to sit quietly in a relaxing atmosphere, listening to stories or looking at books.
	1:30–2:00	Snack time	Snacks vary throughout the week.
	2:00–2:30	Free Play	Children take part in free play which includes indoor and outdoor play, weather permitting.
	2:30–3:30	Activities	Children take part in activities – construction, drawing and cutting out shapes, painting, sand and water – and have the opportunity to explore outside, weather permitting.
	3:30–4:00	Quiet Play	Children have the opportunity to choose a 'quiet play' activity.
	4:00–4:30	Teatime	Teatime snacks will vary throughout the week.
	4:30–5:45	Indoor Play & Story time	Children use a variety of indoor play equipment before collection of children at end of day.

Food at The Mount

The nursery uses the on-site School catering team, who are dedicated to providing a balanced menu of hot lunches, breakfasts and snacks with low sugar, salt and additives content. The menu has a three-week cycle and is on display in the nursery porch. Staff encourage children to eat fruit and vegetables and the snacks provided are always tooth-friendly.

The Nursery Manager works closely with the cook to ensure that there is a consistently wide range of nutritious and attractive meals available for the children. Children with individual dietary requirements are catered for appropriately. Our celebrations of various special religious and cultural festivals often allow children to experience new types of food and drinks.



Settling In at The Mount

At The Mount Day Nursery we aim to provide the best quality care and play opportunities for all our children in a pleasant, caring and learning environment. We aim to make the transition into Nursery as smooth as possible for both children and parents. Time is spent getting to know children during initial visits with the Nursery Manager.

The Nursery offers free 'settling-in' sessions. These allow each child to build up relationships with adults and other children and become familiar with the surroundings and daily routine. Following a settling-in session, parents may wish to gradually build up to the full session time, through a number of shorter visits.

Settling-in times are important for parents as well as children. We aim for both parents and children to feel happy, confident and secure at all times.



Fairholme at The Mount

Breakfast Club and After-School Club are offered for Fairholme pupils at a discounted rate.

Younger pupils join Nursery children for snacks followed by play activities in one of the outdoor play areas or preschool rooms.



Older pupils are given the opportunity to complete their homework in the Nursery homework room which is equipped with IT facilities for each child. Pupils can access the Fairholme learning platform for homework tasks and can use subscription software for practise of spellings, maths and reading.

Children then have the opportunity for relaxation activities in the Sports Hall or on the Sports Pitch or can take part in drawing and craft activities within the homework room.

Fairholme pupils are also welcome to attend Holiday Clubs along with children from other schools accessing play areas, sports hall and all-weather sports pitch.



In Summary

At The Mount Day Nursery we strive to achieve:

 Happiness in a home from home ethos that provides a safe and caring environment

 A love of and excitement for learning through widely varying learning opportunities and experiences and wide-ranging play provisions

 Development of value and respect for all individuals acknowledging individual qualities, differences and achievements

 A disciplined approach in a positive and caring environment



The Mount Day Nursery

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