

Sustainability



Sustainable and eco-friendly nursery practices are becoming increasingly important as we strive to reduce our impact on the environment. There are many things a nursery can do to become more eco-friendly. Single-use plastics are top of the list. Plates, trays, bowls, cutlery and some types of polystyrene cups are big offenders. Plastic straws are already banned. Plastic waste can last in landfills for many years. Some parents are beginning to choose reusable nappies. The age of children being potty trained has increased over the years.

Earlier potty training does away with the need for nappies for as long, so nurseries prioritise this.

It is very important to teach young children to care for animals and respect them. We have many different kinds of animals and the children have many opportunities to explore nature, including farm animals, guinea pigs, mini beasts and much more.

Having that space outside to grow vegetables, where children can grow their own food, can become a great learning experience. You can use rainwater to help the plants grow too.

Local farmers can be used to reduce green miles, to provide healthy and sustainable nursery meals focused on unprocessed foods with an inclusive menu. Options at nurseries can include meat-free menu options such as vegan and vegetarian meals. There are many variations to most nursery menus, using seasonal ingredients where possible too.

Some staff use charity shops to make second hand purchases instead of buying new, where appropriate. Staff can also buy recycled paper and recycled cotton wool all helping to keep our landfills emptier. Our nursery promotes outdoor learning and the natural world by making good use of our outdoor spaces. Nursery gardens can encourage diversity (butterflies and bugs), foster respect for living creatures amongst children and be used to teach children how to grow food. Children spend a lot of time outside instead of in the nursery to give them the chance to develop a deeper understanding of the world around them. Once away from technology and screens, children can be more creative. Hopefully beginning to appreciate how beautiful our world is.