

Empowering children to become confident learners



Call us on 020 8935 5636
or visit alpha-blocks.com



Alphablocks
Nursery School

Thank you for your interest



Alphablocks Nursery School & Pre-Prep in Hadley Wood, London, provides outstanding early education to children aged two to five years old. We empower children to become confident learners in a safe and stimulating environment, which adapts according to the skills that we want our children to develop.

The school was founded by its director, Alexandra Samara, in 2015 and rated Outstanding in all areas by Ofsted in 2018. The individuality of every child is of central importance and as an open non-denominational setting we value the broad diversity of our children's backgrounds. Our teachers are

experienced educators, qualified in the field of early years; they develop key relationships with children and their families. Our indoor and outdoor environments are divided into different areas of learning, with over 90% of our furniture and educational resources made of natural materials.



Ofsted's Comments:



- **Children make exceptional progress.** They have extremely good opportunities to challenge their physical skills, outdoors and indoors. Their emotional well-being is superbly promoted. All children thrive, with remarkably high levels of self-esteem and confidence.
- The nurturing and highly responsive **staff value and support children's individual needs.** Children are extremely happy and calm as they play. They are creative, imaginative and highly motivated learners.
- **Partnerships with parents are excellent.** A variety of highly effective systems is used to exchange detailed information.
- **Staff use precise assessments to plan exceptional experiences,** which are tailored to children's unique interests and learning needs.
- **Teaching is consistently of a very high quality** and children are highly motivated to join in. For example, during a science experiment, children are fascinated to watch 'volcanoes' exploding as they investigate a variety of different materials. Children scream with delight and use words such as 'lava' and 'hot'.
- **Staff skilfully support children's literacy skills.** For example, as children play in the role-play kitchen, staff suggest they write a shopping list and then explore the sounds that letters represent in words.



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Our Curriculum



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We bring together the best elements of different teaching methodologies in order to maximize children's learning potential. The main approaches that are incorporated into our curriculum are Reggio-Emilia, Montessori, High Scope, and Forest School.

These strands are combined under the umbrella of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, which sets out safeguarding and welfare requirements, the seven areas of a child's learning, learning assessments and progress tracking. We have robust policies and procedures in place in these and related areas - if you are interested to know more just let us know and we will walk you through them.

Our children's learning takes place continuously through play and creative activities. In addition, we provide ample learning opportunities through

- **A warm environment full of natural resources** and handmade furniture specifically designed for children; a sensory garden and a playground.
- **Specialist classes**, such as "Music and Movement" and "Children's Yoga" sessions, ICT, phonics and maths, Spanish with Bilingual Beats, Cooking.
- **Educational outings** to the theatre and dedicated Forest School days out.



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A Typical Day



8.30	Arrival and self-registration
8.30-9.30	Play & exploration based on our learning theme & children's individual interests
9.30-10.00	Group time & focused books
10.00-10.15	Nutritious snack time
10.15-11.00	Specialist class: Spanish, PE, Music & Movement, Drama, or Cooking
11.00-11.30	Adult-led planned activities, based on desired learning outcomes
11.30-12.00	Outdoor Play
12.00	Lunch
12.20	Goodbye circle for morning children
12.30-2.30	Rest time & sleep routines
2.30-3.30	Afternoon classes: language groups, phonics & maths
3.30	Nutritious snack time
3.45-4.30	Planned activities & open-ended outdoor play
4.20-4.30	Reflection circle for full-day children

“What a fantastic nursery - Ben and I have been so impressed with all your efforts and your lovely team. Isla is just the happiest girl with you, she is learning and experiencing such a wide and interesting range of things and has come on leaps and bounds since starting.”

Lianna

“I like PE on Wednesday, I like cheering and clapping for my friends.”

Jack

Children can also attend an extended morning session 8.15-8.30, when breakfast is provided, or an extended afternoon until 5.30.

Working in Partnership with Parents



Each and every one of our teachers recognises the importance of forming strong working partnerships with our parents/carers, as they are their children's first educators. We appreciate their valuable input and treat all families with understanding & respect. Parent partnerships are promoted in a range of ways:

- **Meet and greet** at arrival and departure times
- Parent **progress meetings** three times per year
- A detailed **newsletter is sent out twice per term**
- An **open-door policy**, so that parents can discuss any matter they think may be affecting their child's welfare or learning
- **In-depth registration session** prior to a child attending the school
- Parents can get involved through the **School Advisory Board**

// I like the sandpit in the garden //

Zion



Preparing for Primary School



One of the biggest transitions for a child is when moving to Primary School. In order to support families in this process we work very closely with the Primary of your choice. We plan various tailored-made activities that promote school-readiness, typically over the last two terms of a child's attendance with us. We then produce a summary record of achievement, identifying stages of development, and all relevant information is passed onto the new school during a transition meeting with them, which we are happy to organise.

// My son is very happy at Alphablocks. The staff are great and the setting is fantastic. I looked around at many places but this stands out as exceptional in our area. //

Star

// I like playing with the wooden aeroplane and I like the singing and jumping songs. //

Theo

Our children move into some of the following schools, with which we have established close partnerships:

- Hadley Wood Primary
- Stormont House School
- Monken Hadley CE Primary
- Foulds Primary
- Lochinver House School
- Lyonsdown Prep School
- Monkfrith Primary
- St. John's Prep School



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“ My son has had a very happy term. I love hearing about all the things he has been up to. I think you are doing a fantastic job! ”

Alice

“ I like the playground and the slide, I like to go on the trampoline. ”

Rosie

Operating hours

8.15am to 5.30pm
Monday to Friday
Term-time

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