



Banstead Bunnies Preschool Autumn 2025 Newsletter

Hello Bunnies Families!

We've been busy behind the scenes here at Bunnies and can't wait to share what we've been up to! Team Bunnies is made up of our wonderful staff, parents, children, and community, so keeping everyone connected and informed is really important to us. Grab a cuppa and enjoy catching up on all the latest news and updates from Bunnies!

Learning areas

This term, we've introduced exciting new exploratory learning areas! Our little Bunnies are naturally curious and imaginative, and we've created spaces that beautifully blend the *prime* and *specific* areas of learning.

Sensory play continues to be a big hit (you may have noticed a few extra sets of clothes coming home!) — we love giving children the freedom to explore, express themselves, and fill our room with creativity and laughter.

Prime Areas: Communication and Language, Physical Development, and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Specific Areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, and Expressive Arts and Design.

Take a look:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/DPGw0CoIG5x/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

Who are we planning for?

We've moved away from set topics and themes and instead plan around our children's *interests*. Using daily observations and progress checks, we shape our activities to support and extend each child's learning.

The 3 I's of Learning:

- **Intent:** What do we want the children to achieve?
- **Implementation:** How can we support their learning through resources and interactions?
- **Impact:** What worked well? What can we build on next time?

As our new Planning Lead, Rachel will share weekly learning updates every Friday via *Baby's Days*.

Interventions

Some children benefit from extra time with an adult, either 1:1 or in small groups. These sessions focus on specific developmental goals and use targeted programmes to enhance learning.

Our interventions include:

- Early Talk Boost
- Makaton
- Puppet shows
- School readiness
- Cohort groups: *Play and Interaction, Listening and Attention, Speech and Language, Physical Development.*
- 1:1

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Our SENCo, Jo, has been working closely with outside agencies to strengthen our support for children with additional needs. She regularly attends Surrey SENCo Forums.

Jo is leading on **EHCNA applications**, which assess whether a child may benefit from an *Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan*.

You can find out more about EHCNA applications on the Surrey CC Local Offer website: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/local-offer>

She's also working with:

- Surrey SEND Team
- LEAP (Local Early Autism Programme)
- REMA (Race, Equality and Minority Achievement) supporting children with English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- STEPS (Supporting Targeted Education and Play Skills)
- RIPPL (Reception Inclusion Pathway Planning)

School Readiness

For children starting school in September 2026, Maria and Vicky are focusing on developing key readiness skills to support a smooth transition to primary school. Jo has shared local school information and application details — remember, the deadline for applications is 15th January 2026.

For more information on how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

Some children may benefit from additional transition support. With approval, Jo can arrange *school visits* with you and your child to help them feel confident and comfortable.

Home Learning Packs

We're putting together **Home Learning Packs** this half term to give you fun, practical ideas to support your child's love of learning at home.

Preschool Library

Our **Preschool Library** is now open! Each morning, children can pick a book from the registration table to share at home and return the following week. Reading together creates magical moments and builds a lifelong love of stories.

Circle Times

Every morning, we come together for a cheerful start to the day! During circle time we:

- Sing our *Days of the Week* song
- Talk about our *Golden Rules*
- Explore the *colour and sound of the week*
- Discuss our *skill of the week*

Show and Tell

Children are now welcome to bring in an item twice per week to share with their friends. Please encourage them to choose something linked to the *colour* or *sound* of the week and practise talking about it at home — this builds communication and confidence.

Group Times

During group time, children share their show and tell or take part in interactive activities with an adult. Some love songs and games, while others enjoy conversations or story-sharing — each activity helps build listening, attention, and language skills, alongside the specific areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

Safeguarding

Our updated Safeguarding and Whistleblowing Policies (including *Operation Encompass*) are available in our preschool folder and on our website.

If you ever have a concern, please:

- Email safeguarding@bansteadbunnies.co.uk
- Speak to Jo (DSL) or Vicky (Deputy DSL)
- Maria will complete her DSL training in Spring Term 1 and join the safeguarding team.

Training

All staff are Paediatric First Aid trained and have refreshed their FGM and Prevent training.

Recent and upcoming training includes:

- **Jo:** LEAP Workshop
- **Vicky:** Coaching and Mentoring
- **Rachel:** How to Support Children's Learning Through Schemas and SENCo Training (Spring Term 1)
- **Maria:** DSL and ELSA Training (Spring Term 1)

All staff have recently completed training on diabetes by the NHS Diabetes Team.

Nutritional Guidance

New nutritional guidance reminds us that all meals and snacks should be healthy, balanced, and nutritious.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6839b752210698b3364e86fc/Early_years_foundation_stage_nutrition_guidance.pdf

At Bunnies, children now enjoy:

- **Morning Snack:** Fruit, toast and milk or water
- **Afternoon Snack:** Crackers, fruit and milk or water

We also encourage healthy lunchbox choices. For ideas, visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Best Start in Life

The new **Best Start in Life** service replaces *Childcare Choices* and is full of useful information for families:

<https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/>

Bunnies Winter Wonderland!

Save the date: Tuesday 16th December!

Join us for a magical afternoon of festive fun, games, hot chocolate, and cake.

We'll also be raising funds for our *Incredible Eggs!* Spring project — when we'll hatch and care for our very own ducklings!

Parent Survey

Keep an eye out on *Baby's Days* for our **Parent Survey** — your feedback helps us grow and improve!

And That's a Wrap!

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We're so proud of our little Bunnies and everything they've achieved this term — and we can't wait for all the adventures still to come!

