Welcome to Tiny Tigers

A Day in the Life of Your Child

At Tiny Tigers, we believe that **happy children learn best**. Our aim is to provide a warm, nurturing and stimulating environment where every child feels safe, valued and confident to explore, have a go and develop at their own pace.

Our days are carefully structured to provide children with a sense of security and routine, while still allowing plenty of time for **child-led play, exploration and discovery**.

A warm welcome

Each day begins with a warm welcome from familiar members of the Tiny Tigers team. We take time to greet each child individually and find out how they are feeling and what they are interested in.

Children are encouraged to develop their independence from the moment they arrive – putting away their belongings, changing their shoes, and preparing themselves for the day ahead.

Learning through play

A large part of our day is dedicated to **continuous provision and uninterrupted play**.

Children can choose where they would like to play, whether indoors or outdoors, and can follow their own interests. Our carefully considered environment provides opportunities for construction, imaginative play, mark making, creativity, maths, books, sensory exploration, small-world play and much more.

Our practitioners are there to **observe, listen and interact**, knowing when to step in and extend a child's learning and when to give them the time and space to explore independently.

We don't believe children need to be constantly directed by adults to learn. Some of the most valuable learning happens when children are deeply engaged in something that interests them.

The great outdoors

Outdoor learning is an important part of life at Tiny Tigers.

Children have regular opportunities to explore our outdoor environment and Forest School area, where they can investigate nature, climb, balance, build, dig, create, problem-solve and take appropriate risks.

Our outdoor experiences help children develop **physical confidence, resilience, independence and a sense of wonder about the world around them**.

We also make the most of our allotment, giving children opportunities to plant, grow, water and care for plants and vegetables and learn where food comes from.

Snack and social times

Snack time is much more than simply eating.

Children are encouraged to become increasingly independent – making choices, serving themselves where appropriate, talking with friends and adults and developing their understanding of healthy choices.

These everyday experiences provide valuable opportunities for communication, social development, maths and independence.

Experiences that extend learning

Throughout the day, children have opportunities to take part in carefully considered adult-guided experiences and small-group activities.

These may include **creative activities, cooking, phonics, early mathematics, stories, music and movement, physical activities, sensory experiences and opportunities to explore the natural world**.

Activities are planned around what children need to learn, while also taking account of their interests, experiences and individual development.

👣 Following children's interests

At Tiny Tigers, we recognise that every child is unique.

Our practitioners observe children's play and use what they see to identify interests, strengths and areas where children may benefit from further support or challenge.

A child's fascination with dinosaurs might lead to counting dinosaurs, making dinosaur footprints, researching where dinosaurs lived or creating a dinosaur habitat outdoors.

A fascination with water might develop into investigations about floating and sinking, measuring, vocabulary, mark making or imaginative play.

We follow children's interests because we know that children are most motivated to learn when they are genuinely curious.

💗 Relationships come first

Our key-person approach means that every child has a familiar adult who knows them well.

We take time to understand each child's personality, interests, strengths, routines and individual needs. Warm and responsive relationships are at the heart of everything we do.

We want children to feel that **Tiny Tigers is their place** – somewhere they belong, feel listened to and can confidently say, "I can do it!"

🎑 Preparing for school

As children move towards their next stage of learning, we gradually support them to become increasingly independent and confident.

We develop skills such as:

- Listening and following instructions
- Taking turns and working alongside others
- Managing personal belongings
- Dressing and undressing independently
- Developing independence with personal care
- Sitting and participating in small-group experiences
- Developing communication and language
- Recognising and managing emotions
- Building resilience and perseverance
- Developing early literacy and mathematical skills
- Feeling confident to ask questions and seek help

Our aim is not simply to prepare children academically for school. **We want them to be confident, resilient, independent and excited about their next adventure.**

Our Focus Week

At Tiny Tigers, we dedicate regular Focus Weeks to getting to know each child even more deeply.

During Focus Week, a member of our team spends additional time observing and interacting with an individual child, watching how they play, communicate, explore, problem-solve and interact with others.

Rather than expecting children to complete a set activity, we follow their natural interests and allow them to show us what they know and can do through their everyday play and experiences.

Our practitioners look carefully at the characteristics of effective teaching and learning, including how children engage, persist, think creatively and make connections.

Focus Week helps us to build a detailed picture of each child's development and identify their strengths, interests and next steps. It also allows us to consider whether our environment and continuous provision are providing the right level of challenge and opportunities for that individual child.

Where appropriate, we may adapt or enhance the provision in response to what we discover. This could mean introducing new resources, extending an interest, providing additional challenge or creating opportunities to develop a particular skill.

🤝 Working together with parents

Parents are an important part of our Focus Week process. Following their child's Focus Week, parents are invited into Tiny Tigers for an opportunity to sit down with their child's key person and discuss what we have noticed and learned about their child.

This provides a valuable opportunity to celebrate their child's achievements, talk about their interests and strengths, discuss their development and consider their next steps together.

We also value the knowledge parents have of their child. Parents can share what they are seeing at home, tell us about their child's current interests and experiences, and contribute ideas about how we can best support their learning and development.

This two-way conversation helps us to build a much more complete picture of the child and ensures that home and pre-school are working together to support their individual journey.

Most importantly, Focus Week ensures that every child is seen, heard and understood as an individual.

Our observations and reflections are shared with families through Tapestry, alongside the opportunity to meet with us in person.

Our Focus Week approach means that assessment is a natural part of children's everyday experiences rather than something that takes children away from their play.

We observe with purpose, listen carefully, work in partnership with parents and use what we discover to help every child take their next step in learning.

For children with SEN, this conversation also gives us an opportunity to discuss the support and adaptations that help their child to feel included, confident and able to participate. Parents can share what they are seeing at home, tell us about their child's current interests and experiences, and contribute ideas about how we can best support their learning and development.

We also value the knowledge parents have of their child. Parents can share information about their child's communication, sensory preferences, routines, relationships and ways of expressing

themselves. This helps us to provide consistent support between home and pre-school.

This two-way conversation helps us to build a much more complete picture of the child and ensures that home and pre-school are working together to support their individual journey.

Most importantly, Focus Week ensures that every child is seen, heard and understood as an individual. We celebrate each child's unique strengths and ensure that children with SEN are fully included in our experiences, routines and opportunities to learn.

Our observations and reflections are shared with families through Tapestry, alongside the opportunity to meet with us in person.

Our Focus Week approach means that assessment is a natural part of children's everyday experiences rather than something that takes children away from their play.

We observe with purpose, listen carefully, work in partnership with parents and use what we discover to help every child take their next step in learning.

🕮 Your child's learning journey

Every child has their own individual learning journey. Through observations, interactions and assessments, we build a picture of what your child knows, understands and can do.

We use **Tapestry** to share children's experiences and learning with families, enabling parents to be an important part of their child's journey at Tiny Tigers.

We value the knowledge that parents bring about their children and believe that the strongest outcomes come from **working together with families**.

✸ What makes Tiny Tigers special?

Tiny Tigers is more than a place for children to spend their day.

It is a place where children can:

Explore. Discover. Create. Question. Investigate. Get muddy. Make friends. Take risks. Make mistakes. Try again. Become independent.

Our combination of **high-quality continuous provision, child-led learning, skilled adult interactions, outdoor and Forest School experiences, our allotment, physical and sensory opportunities and a strong focus on children's individual development** provides children with a rich and varied early-years experience.