

Brief History

Chatterbox Nursery was initially a home based nursery and was established 28 years ago (1983) by the current Manager Lorraine Smith, with just 3 members of staff. Over the years the Nursery has steadily grown both in popularity and size. Six years ago the group moved from being a "home based group" to operating in a local church hall to cope with the growing demand. Last year (2010) having lost the lease Chatterbox searched for suitable premises that would not only secure the groups future but would provide an environment where staff could continue to provide outstanding care for children in the Basingstoke areas which they have done for over 1600 children, since it first opened its doors in 1983.

On losing the lease Lorraine was offered support from both current and past parents who were eager to secure the future of the group.

Darren Lamb who owns the popular soft play centre JJ's Play in Basingstoke had his own son at the Nursery and was keen that other children in the future share his own son's experiences.

He had approached Lorraine to relocate the Nursery within JJ's as he believed a Nursery would be a complementary service provision to local parents. Both Darren and Lorraine believed this move would not only secure the popular groups future but enhance its future provision dramatically enabling the group to expand its services with an exciting outside area, crucial for children's learning.

Chatterbox Nursery has now become JJ's Chatterbox Nursery.

Lorraine writes:-

"We believe these new premises will enable staff to offer children an exceptionally stimulating environment, where they can play safely, explore and investigate. Staff will be able to observe and monitor the children, extending their learning and development in exciting indoor and outdoor environments as they gain confidence and develop during their time in the Nursery. We aim to offer a sound learning platform

*for children aged 2- 5 years that will encompass the whole of the Early Years Foundation Stage in an environment that will stimulate a desire to learn about the world around them through play
We will now be open all year around, open for longer days to support more parents.*

This is the next and most exciting chapter of this Nursery so far and we look forward to the continued success of the group”

Lorraine Smith

Manger