



UNDER THE SON

NURSERY SCHOOL

INFORMATION PACK



Thank you for your interest in our little nursery school.
We hope this information pack answers your questions, if you have any queries please email us.

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OUR HOMELY SETTING

At Under the Son we aim to provide inspiration from our beautifully unique nursery school, a nursery that has been opened due to the passion, research and experiences of its owners. Plenty of careful observation, research and being collaborative learners with our children over the years has helped us to learn the way we want to do things. We are always striving to learn more so we can provide the best opportunities for our children to flourish and be prepared for life in all its glory! In short, we do this by allowing children to be children, following their lead and passions for learning, researching alongside them, valuing and respecting their every contribution and providing open ended opportunities to truly foster the magic of childhood and the endless imaginations and fascinations of our children.

We provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment, where learning is a joyful and rewarding experience, helping to build foundations for increased confidence, self-esteem and a sense of worth, as they have a growing awareness and natural inquisitiveness about their surroundings and the world they live in. Our nursery school is situated in a spacious, cool, secure and tranquil cottage, with 2 safe outside play areas, 1 for each classroom (Dragonflies and Geckos).

A big part of our planning is how to involve the children in every day routines/making of resources etc. We make use of lots of wooden furniture, outdoor kitchens, dark dens, role play and cultural dens, textiles, wooden and traditional toys, soft cushioning etc. Spacious with specific cosy, 'down-time' areas. We are environmentally friendly, with a strong focus on nature, recycling and the importance of outdoor and heuristic play.

We have regulated space for 30 children, and enrol 20 children (age/need dependent). We love our children to have lots of space at Under The Son! This also allows part time children to attend on ad-hoc, non-contracted days if need be. We are currently in the process of registering our nursery school with all relevant authorities. We abide by all the legal, municipal and educational requirements already, which we surpass. We enrol children from birth (6 weeks) to Grade R. We have Public Liability Insurance.

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

FULL DAY

6:30am - 5:30pm (drop off and collection can be between these times)
(minimum of 2 days per week, and subject to availability)

HALF DAY

6:30am - 12 noon/2:30pm (drop off can be later)
(minimum of 2 half days per week, and subject to availability)

DATES WE ARE CLOSED IN 2020

Public holidays, 15 June, 25 and 26 September, Closing on 15 Dec, re-opening on 5 Jan 2021.
Fees are payable every month, even when the nursery school is closed.



Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children"

FEE FAQs

What is the monthly fee? *(Fee increase is due in January 2021, there has been no fee increase since January 2019).*

FULL DAY

5 days – R3500 (Jan 2021 - R3800); 4 days – R3040 (Jan 2021 - R3300); 3 days – R2460 (Jan 2021 – R2700); 2 days – R1800 (Jan 2021 – R1950)

(fee includes morning curriculum program, breakfast, 10am snack, 12 noon cooked lunch, 3pm snack, 4pm light meal)

HALF DAY

5 days – R3200 (Jan 2021 - R3500); 4 days – R2800 (Jan 2021 - R3060); 3 days – R2280 (Jan 2021 – R2520); 2 days – R1680 (Jan 2021 – R1830)

(fee includes morning curriculum program, breakfast, 10am snack, optional lunch and sleep)

What does the fee not include?

- Nappies, wipes and formula.

Is there a weekly minimum attendance at the nursery school?

- Yes. 2 days per week, so your child settles with us. *1 day per week is too sporadic.*

What do parents need to contribute?

- Nappies *(bulk)*, 2 packets of wet wipes per month, formula *(if your child is not on cow's milk yet)*, and 1 box of latex disposable gloves in January, for the year. *(We supply for the rest of the year).*

When is breakfast served?

- Breakfast is served between 7am and 8am, so you can drop your child off at any point during this time if you want breakfast. Last drop off is 8:45am please as our nursery school curriculum program starts at 9am.

When is a vacancy secured?

- A contractual vacancy is secured upon the signing of an Under the Son childcare contract and the deposit having been received. A vacancy is not secured if you are on the waiting list. The deposit is 1 month fee.

How are fees payable?

- Fees are invoiced and payable monthly in advance (Direct Debit preferred), by the 1st of the month.

Is there a late payment fee if we pay late?

- Yes. R50 per day late after the 1st of each month, dependent on circumstances.

Is there a late pick up fee?

- Yes, R50 for every 15 minutes late, dependent on circumstances.

Is my deposit refundable?

- The deposit is a once off cost and is not refundable. This deposit includes auto contractual renewal each January.

How do holiday fees work?

- Full fees are due while a child is on holiday. Full fees are due on public holidays and any time the nursery school is closed.

Are fees payable for illness?

- If a child is unable to attend due to illness, full fee is payable. Care days are not swapped.

What fee do you charge for emergency care?

- We offer emergency/ad hoc care to contracted children on days they do not attend, if we have availability and the correct staff:child ratio to do so. The ad hoc fee is R300 for registered children, and R350 per day for non-contracted children.

Do you offer a sibling discount?

- Yes. We offer a sibling discount, which is dependent on the number of days they attend.

How do settling in sessions work?

- Children settle in with mum/dad in their first session, and then on their own over increasing times/days... this is child led as some children need more settling in sessions than other children. We work alongside you and your child as he/she settles.

What is your notice period?

- 2 months' notice in writing.

EYFS CURRICULUM

Jennifer has observed the excellent developmental outcomes of the many children in her London preschool and nurseries between 2007 and 2017, under the EYFS curriculum, with 2 x Good Ofsted gradings (2014, 2016) and 3 x Outstanding Ofsted gradings (2008, 2012, 2016) achieved. These are top gradings in England.

This curriculum works perfectly in conjunction with CAPS (for both private and Govt. primary schools) when looking at a child's developmental outcomes, however is more play-based, non-formal and child-led.

The aim of the EYFS (*Early Years Foundation Stage*) is to ensure there is consistency of high quality care and level of learning in a child's early childhood years.

There are 3 Prime Areas of Learning:

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We support our children in the following 4 Specific Areas of learning, through which the 3 Prime Areas (above) are strengthened and applied:

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

Overarching principals of an EYFS setting

Every child is a unique child

Through positive relationships children learn to be strong and independent

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments

Children learn and develop in different ways and at different rates

BIBLE CURRICULUM

Alongside our Education curriculum we run our Bible curriculum, being a Christian-based nursery school.

We encourage our children to be loving, caring and kind, to learn to be empathetic and thinking of their friend's needs, plus being able to express their own needs, from a young age.

EXTRA CURRICULARS

Ballet - R250 p/m (Tuesday), **Music Box** – R100 p/m (Wednesday), **HipHop** – R100 p/m (Thursday)

Please note that currently we are unable to legally offer any extra curriculums.

'Wisdom begins in wonder' ~ Socrates

NUTRITION

We strive to provide the children in our care with a healthy diet, as we realise that a poor diet is a nutritional time-bomb that leads to big health problems in later life. It increases the risk of heart disease, high blood pressure and some cancers. In the short term, a poor diet can lead to iron deficiency anaemia, tooth decay and obesity. We realise that working in partnership with our parents about what and when their child(ren) eat can lead to optimal nutritional growth and development for them. We gather information from our parents about their child(ren)'s dietary needs and then act on them. We are strict in allergy control of the foods we serve.

Older children often help prepare fruit to eat using knives under supervision. Meal time is also a good time for social skills, learning about good manners, helping one another (handing out the fruit) and sharing. We value nutrition, health and the well-being of our children highly. Morning snack at 10am is a variety of fruit, afternoon snack after sleep time is Marie biscuits, with our light meal at 4pm being a variety of rice cakes with jam/Bovril provitas/peanut butter sandwiches etc., with water. Cooked meals are spaghetti bolognese; cottage pie; chicken stir fry; veg omelette; macaroni cheese; beef and couscous with veg; chicken and tomato pasta; fish and rice with veg etc. Chips/chocolate/sweets/cold drinks are sent home. Rooibos tea, milk and water are only allowed in children's bottles/beakers.

We write what each child has eaten/their sleep time/nappies/activities in daily Whatsapp feedback. We also include photos/videos we have taken that day. Personal water beakers/bottles are always available to the children. They are encouraged to drink water and rooibos tea (no milk or sugar). Each child has their own beaker/bottle to prevent cross contamination. We provide cow's milk, while formula/soya/other milk is provided by parents.

A TYPICAL DAY'S ROUTINE

The older children follow a more structured routine:

6:30: Nursery opens, free play
7:00-8:00: Breakfast (cereal/porridge), water/milk
8:15: Move to our classrooms, outdoor free play, wash hands
9:00: Circle time – prayer/welcome song/days of the week song/calendar & weather/thematic introduction to our day
9:20: Pre-maths skills/puzzles/blocks/lego/story time
10:00: Wash hands, snack, water
10:15: Focus activity - creative/science experiment
11:00: Outdoor gross motor/messy/sensory play
11:45: Wash hands, lunch, water/milk.
12:00: Sleep/rest time
15:00: Snack, water, wash hands
15:15: Outdoor play/music/reading/puppet show/role play
16:00: Wash hands, light meal, water/milk
17:00: Story time, free play
17:30: Nursery closes

A baby's routine is baby led... revolving around their milk feeds, sleep, nappy changing and play times. We work closely with mum and dad to ensure that any routines that are already in place at home, remain in place. If you have a child who needs to move on from nappies to using the 'potty' then we let you know how they have fared during the day.

CIRCLE TIME

We welcome one another (we learn how to say this in various languages) and enjoy a Show and Tell. The children are welcome and encouraged to bring in items from home. We share our news, discuss our theme, update our daily calendar, and choose what we will be doing for our (mostly) child led session that day. *(The younger children have a much shorter circle time, a song welcoming our friends, theme, weather and play discussion).*

ACTIVITIES

We paint/do experiments/practice our mark making etc. Our classrooms (indoor and outdoor) are beautifully set out in exciting, interactive hubs, according to the EYFS. Supported by our diverse and extensive resources, our children are covering their sensory, language, reading, numeracy, science, writing, geography, small world, cultural differences, art, construction, role play and so much more. We compile Under the Sun journals, which contain artwork and photographs of your child's time with us.

OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH AND ETHOS

Under the Son Nursery School is built upon an ethos of "*what we can do for others*", we are very much child, need and community driven. We have created an enriching environment within which our children play and learn... a safe, fun and nurturing space for our children to wonder, discover, grow and become enthusiastic lifelong learners.

Children learn and develop physically and emotionally, with sound cognitive and social skills, within an environment that encourages collaboration, communication and exploration. We offer a happy and stimulating environment, where play and learning is a joyful and rewarding experience, helping to build the foundations for increased confidence, self-esteem and a sense of worth within our children.

We are environmentally friendly, with a focus on nature, recycling and the importance of outdoor and heuristic play. We are all-inclusive in meeting the needs of our children, irrespective of religion, social or economic background, gender, ability, disability, or English being an additional language, promoting Christian core values.

PEDAGOGY

We do not follow one specific educational theory or way of thinking, we have created our own way of doing things, under the pedagogy of Learning through Play, forging our own exciting path, and creating our own blue print. We do not want to be held back/be bound in any way by following one school of thought and not being able to think out-of-the-box and do things differently. It is a unique mix of Montessori and Reggio Emilia theory and practice. *Please do ask us about our Reggio Emilia approach, Montessori influence and Eco-friendly focus..*

OPEN DOOR POLICY

Choosing childcare for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make. You are entrusting your child to the care of someone else. Trust is crucial. Openness and transparency a must have. We operate an Open Door Policy at Under the Son Home Nursery, where parents are encouraged to chat to us about anything that may concern them. We love to know when our families are happy, and equally we need to know when something needs to change. We are always looking to improve our childcare service in ensuring our children have the best start in life, in partnership with you.

SUPERVISION

We have an excellent adult:child ratio. Nappy use and potty training are carefully monitored. Parents provide their own nappies and wipes. Training is provided so correct hygiene practice is followed, for nappy changing and food preparation.

THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

We are firm believers in children having as much outdoor play and learning experience as possible. We enjoy water and sand play, our outdoor kitchen, creative activities, conduct messy experiments, gross motor exercises and games, and much more.

COMMUNICATION

It is crucial for the development of your child, that we work closely together and have excellent communication between us at all times. We have an 'open door' policy regarding communication. At the start of the day, please don't forget to mention anything that might affect your child's mood or behaviour, such as a tricky night's sleep. It is also a good idea for us to chat regularly about the progress of your child. We have annual parent evenings, but you can also arrange a meeting to speak with a teacher during work hours. A progress report is completed for your child, indicating where your child has reached their developmental milestones.

COMMUNITY

At Under the Son Nursery School we encourage community support and awareness from an early age. We value the African proverb "*it takes a village to raise a child*", and endeavour to see what local childcare need there is and the possibility of us filling that need.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Grandparents tea parties; Stay and play sessions; Career and cultural visits; Community involvement and a Christmas nativity sing-a-long celebration; Local collections eg: for Zandspruit (we are a permanent drop off point for them), and the Baby Lighthouse Shelter.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

We have a variety of policies and procedures in place. They are fundamental to how Under the Son Nursery School runs on a day to day basis. Our policies and procedures are available for viewing by parents at any time.

C. S. Lewis

"The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts".

STAFF AND TRAINING APPROACH

It's crucial that we not only have the head knowledge and the relevant qualifications and experience, but also the right heart for our important role. We offer a personal service, and the love and care we have for our children (and families) is paramount.

Under the Son Nursery School is not only a welcoming and stimulating environment for the children in our care, but an enjoyable and fulfilling place to work. Being an Early Childhood Teacher or Assistant is a vibrant and challenging career, where there is huge scope for professional (and personal) development, whilst working with, and making a difference in, a child's life. Having a recognised love and passion for children in early years is fundamental in our staff team.

Jen is a highly qualified (Britain qual) and experienced teacher and principal. We have another experienced teacher (1 year qualification), and 2 teaching assistants, who are studying for their Early Childhood qualifications. We also have a full-time nursery cleaner. Staff are all fully vetted and security cleared (Police Clearance), have external Paediatric First Aid training, and undergo in-house training (*Jennifer is a Consultant Trainer for Early Childhood*) on a wide variety of childcare and child development topics eg: food safety and hygiene; nutrition; safeguarding and child Protection; health and safety; AoL (Areas of Learning); the first 1000 days of a child's life; neuroscience and the child's brain; schemas; the importance of block play; numeracy; childhood illnesses; the important of engaging with children etc. On the job training is very much valued too. *An empowered, happy, challenged and valued workforce is our aim!*

ALL INCLUSIVITY

We are all-inclusive, where everyone is most welcome. We celebrate diversity and difference! We represent an exciting variety of cultures which sits well in the melting pot that is South Africa, where many children do not have English as their first/second language.

We have specialised training and experience with children with special needs and/or disabilities. Jennifer specialised in, has worked with, and cared for, children with Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome, Hard of Hearing, Haemophilia, Global Delay, Autism, Aspergers and a variety of other additional needs, eg: a child with a feeding tube catheter. We meet the needs of our children, irrespective of religion, social or economic background, gender, ability/disability, or English being an additional language, promoting Christian core values. We provide a safe, fun and nurturing environment for our children to wonder, discover, grow and become life long learners.

SECURITY

We have a very secure nursery school. Staff have easy access to panic buttons and emergency numbers. We only allow visitors on the property that we know, or are expected. Jennifer conducts all showarounds for prospective families, who are never alone with the children. We are connected to CSS 24/7 security, which includes their 24/7 ER Emergency paramedic. We have 24/7 CCTV, which monitors the entire property, internally and externally.

ABOUT US

Lance and Jennifer McQuillan are the owners of Under the Son Early Childhood Education (Pty) Ltd. They have been married for 18 years, are parents to 3 year old sons (twins), and have 2 basset hounds they dote on. They met in Cape Town in 2000 (where Lance grew up), married and moved to London, where they lived for 15 years.

Lance worked in Maintenance and Facilities Management in London. Prior to this he worked in his father's renovation and pest control company. Jennifer qualified as a Graphic Designer at Wits Technikon in 1995 (University of Johannesburg). She worked part time in her mother's nursery school in Ferndale during this time (Chatterbox Nursery School). With her move to Cape Town, she worked in design, manufacturing and publishing, continuing in this industry in London.

Answering the pull to work with children again in 2007, she opened a small registered childminding setting, and went on to gain her Early Childhood Teacher qualification at Battersea Training College. She specialised in under 8s and children with additional/special needs. Due to increasing demand for the quality of care and unique educational approach at Jenniflowers, Jennifer and Lance went on to expand 3 times, opening a home nursery, a day nursery and a preschool. With their unique approach to childcare and education they won various local and national awards and accolades in England. It was with a heavy heart that they sold their London childcare company, but the call to move back to South Africa, to be near family and to adopt, was strong.

Jennifer's role is teacher and principal at Under the Son. Lance maintains the property, makes wooden resources (eg: latch boards and outdoor kitchens), fixes equipment and ensures that health and safety is upheld at Under the Son.

EARLY CHILDHOOD QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

Being owners of a business delivering services for children means that the directors need to have training too, whether hands on in nursery each day, or not. Jennifer also delivers much of this training internally to staff, and on an external consultant basis.

Jennifer (Co-Director, Principal, Teacher):

- Updated clear Police Clearance
- Form 30 (Not on Child Sex Offenders Register)
- Early Childhood Teacher (0-8 yrs) British Qualification, Battersea Training Centre (2012-2015)
- Play with a Purpose (6 month course), Preschools 4 Africa, Muldersdrift (*for training teachers in impoverished areas*) (2018)
- Safer Recruitment
- Advanced Paediatric First Aid
- Health and Safety
- Aiming for Outstanding
- EYFS – Areas of Learning
- Food Safety and Hygiene
- Nutrition
- Special Needs and Disabilities
- Prevent (Terrorism/Extremism police training)
- Safeguarding Children and Child protection
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage
- The 2 Year Progress Check
- Behaviour Management
- Childhood Illnesses
- Fire Safety Principles and Awareness
- Manual Handling
- The Importance of Messy Play
- The Importance of Risky Play
- Attachment and Babies
- Understanding Babies Being Heard
- Maths Garden
- Phonics
- Sleep Training
- Superheroes
- Keeping Good Records
- Staff Supervisions and Appraisals
- Staff Management

Lance (Co-Director, Maintenance, Health & Safety):

- Updated clear Police Clearance
- Form 30 (Not on Child Sex Offenders Register)
- Safer Recruitment
- Paediatric First Aid
- Health and Safety
- Aiming for Outstanding
- Food Safety and Hygiene
- Prevent (Terrorism/Extremism police training)
- Safeguarding Children
- Fire Safety Principles and Awareness
- Manual Handling
- COSSH and Working Safely (IOSH)
- Practical Use of Fire Extinguishers
- Business Ethics

***A LOT of training has happened during lockdown. Please read our Covid-19 info for details.*

COVID-19 COMPLIANT

It is important that certain measures are implemented and maintained to ensure the safety of our children and community. For that reason, we have implemented various plans, protocols and policies in order to facilitate the safety of our staff, parents, children and babies.

The Government's SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) are aligned with our Covid-19 protocols, policies and procedures. They were released on 24 June. We were legally allowed to re-open on 6 July. We re-opened on 13 July. Jennifer was on two of the DSD workstreams for ECDs to re-open, Protocols being one of them. The other was Care Packages. We had our DSD Covid-19 compliancy inspection on Wednesday 29 July, and we passed with flying colours.

We are grateful that young children are not classified as part of the most vulnerable group, however, we are nonetheless dedicated to employing all measures possible to ensure their health and safety.

SCREENING & PROTOCOLS – to ensure the safeguarding of UTS staff, parents, children and babies:

- We have traffic cones in use to ensure social distancing in our handover queue.
- The temperature of all staff and children/babies is screened (*using wrists NOT foreheads as initial photo shows*) at the nursery entrance every morning, at lunch time, as well as just before pick up every afternoon. *The same applies to staff.*
- Parents sign a declaration, and are asked COVID-19 risk related questions for their family.
- The children's hands, shoes and bags are sanitised/cleaned before the children are handed over to a staff member.
- Parents (and visitors) are not allowed into the nursery school for the foreseeable future.

RISK ASSESSMENTS AND PROTOCOLS

- An appropriate and comprehensive risk assessment has been conducted in every room (*inside and outside*) to identify, prevent and control possible infection. We have these in place already at UTS, but we have redone them in view of the heightened Covid-19 protocols and procedures.
- We have robust systems in place to determine, prevent and counteract the risk of COVID-19 infection.
- We ensure that sufficient resources and materials are available to facilitate the prevention of the infection.
- Where our two classrooms historically often socially mix at meal times and for special celebrations, we will ensure this does not happen for the foreseeable future, keeping the children in their class 'bubbles'. *This is a preventative control measure.*
- As we are a small school we do not need to stagger arrival times.
- Each child has his/her own sleep time mattress/cot at school. They are placed a good distance apart from one another – the one's head at the other's feet (*mattresses and beds on which the children sleep are disinfected daily*).
- As each classroom has their own dedicated outdoor play area, we do not have to curb our children's outdoor play time at all.
- We co-ordinate social distancing during structured times using hula hoops that are spread apart, when the older children are doing puzzles or activities on the floor/grass, and spread apart high chairs for the little children.
- Personalised, individual lap desks have been bought for the older children, instead of using shared tables, during meals and activities

TRAINING

- Our staff have been amazing and have given their full co-operation in exercising the school's infection precautionary measures.
- Regular, applicable training is in place for all staff; this includes Prevention and Control of Infections, Covid-19 training, Food Training and Safe Handling, First Aid (refresher), Trauma training, Washing hands training, PPE training, Child protection and Safeguarding, The importance of risky play, messy play, sensory play and role play. *They have been completed/refreshed during lock down.*
- They are also trained on the following: conducting medical screening, managing classes (*including new hygiene rules for the playgrounds; cleaning of the premises and handling of food*).

CLEANING

- We have a full-time cleaner who cleans, sanitizes and disinfects everyday already... this has been increased even more.
- The nursery is deep cleaned daily, and has been de-cluttered as a precautionary measure.
- We have a thorough cleaning program/rota in place for the entire premises.
- We maintain a high standard for cleaning and hygiene on the school grounds, toilets, classes, etc.
- All apparatus and resources are cleaned and disinfected after use by specific disinfectants.
- An emphasis is placed on sanitizing high use areas and objects, such as door handles, door frames, bathrooms, taps, telephones, electronic apparatus, toys, exterior game apparatus such as swings, bikes and bike handles, baby beds, mattresses and furniture, etc.
- Sufficient hand washing facilities and soap are available (*inside and outside*), with posters illustrating effective hand washing all over UTS.

- Staff inform the children of the importance of washing hands regularly.
- We ensure that class rooms continue to be well ventilated at all times. *We do, as part of our usual daily program, spend the majority of our time outdoors anyway. This is healthier for children.*
- Good record keeping is in place to ensure what needs to happen, does happen. And is evidenced by each staff member.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP US WITH THE FOLLOWING

- Please sign our multi-choice declaration, answering various things, e.g.: whether you have traveled out of the province, or come into contact with someone who has suspected or diagnosed Covid-19, etc.
- We kindly ask you to supply your child's own bed linen for the foreseeable future.
- Bedtime blankets/sleeping bags will be sent home weekly for washing (*Blankets should therefore fit into a plastic bag, that can be kept in your child's locker the whole week*). Please do remember to bring it back to school on Monday.
- Please bring enough clothes on a Monday for the week (*for mess/accident changes etc.*), to prohibit clothing going to and from nursery and home each day please.
- Please do not bring a toy (*of any kind*) to school from home.
- Please do not bring in the usual items you bring in for our creative use – cereal boxes, loo rolls etc. This is not allowed for the foreseeable future.
- Children who feel sick **MUST** stay at home when showing or experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. Please isolate for 10 days (*it was 14 days previously*). If tested, please inform the school what the Covid-19 test results are. *We in turn will trace contacts (and inform), and deep clean the school as need be.*

INDIVIDUAL

- No hand tools, toys or equipment may be shared in the school, playground or classroom environment.
- We have made each child a personalised activity/stationery box, which remains in their locker, when not in use. It contains bubbles, chalk, crayons, scissors (older children), various containers with coloured play dough, and a plastic knife and cookie cutters for the play dough etc. *We change this regularly, and disinfect it daily, after use.*
- After playing with toys/puzzles etc., they are disinfected immediately.
- No fur-type soft toys are allowed (*like teddy bears/puppets*), except when used as part of your child's stimulation and care where need be, and are made from machine-washable cloth. *It is then washed immediately after use.*

COMMUNICATION

- We will continue to communicate with parents telephonically, via our dedicated whatsapp family group, or via emails.
- As and when needed, meetings will be conducted on-line. Where an appointment requires the physical presence of the parties concerned, measures will be implemented to ensure that social distancing protocols are adhered to. *Meetings on the school premises are by appointment only.*

DUE CARE

- It is so important, now more than ever before, to have healthy habits such as washing hands, not touching our face, eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, how to cough/sneeze into elbows etc.
- Please dress your child(ren) with warm clothes. It is winter and it is chilly, and we do spend a large amount of time outside in the fresh air. We also love the warm winter sun on our back.



HOUSE KEEPING

- We are a small nursery school (*circa 20 children*), with a high staff:child ratio. This is perfect for ensuring Covid-19 protocols are safely kept.
- Our staff travel by car, not taxi, to school in the morning.
- Staff are fully screened, sanitise and change upon arrival at work. They have a travel mask and 2 other 3 layered masks, provided by the school. They have also been provided with two face shields.
- As we are so small, control is high, very doable and SAFE.

PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW IF SOMEONE IS SICK

- We will see to it that children, babies and staff who develop symptoms during the normal course of school are attended to in the prescribed manner, and that the parents of the child are immediately notified.
- The situation will be treated with the utmost confidentiality to protect the child/staff member.
- We will strictly adhere to our protocols (*SOP guidelines*) re what to do if we suspect a child/staff member has symptoms, and this will be well documented.
- Children, babies or staff who become sick/show symptoms at school, or arrive sick at school, will be sent home as soon as possible.
- Sick children, babies or staff are kept safe and separate from everyone else, until they are collected. The child will be isolated (*with a teacher who has a mask and a face shield*) in our quarantine/isolation area.
- Our isolation room is in a separate room, away from the school. It has a mattress, sheets, blankets, books, puzzles and a few toys. As well as a First Aid Kit, a non-touch thermometer and two medical masks. There is a sink with clean drinking water and bathroom facilities for use as well.
- When the child has been collected, the items and entire isolation area will be disinfected.
- The parties concerned will have to be tested by their medical doctor, and self-quarantine for 10 days discussed.
- The relevant parties must immediately provide a complete list of people with whom they have been in contact in the past two weeks.
- The school will let the Department of Health know about any positive cases
- Communication will be provided to parents regarding the way forward, as soon as possible.

COMORBIDITIES

- If your child/baby has certain underlying medical conditions (*comorbidities*), he/she is regarded as high risk and more vulnerable in developing complications in case of being infected with COVID-19.
- Children/babies with comorbidities will not be allowed to return to school unless a medical doctor has given written authorization.
- The return of a child is **voluntary** and at the sole decision of the parent/guardian.

COMMUNICATION

- There needs to be open and honest communication between parents and the school at all times.
- People who become sick (*positive for Covid-19*), and who have had contact with other individuals, must be followed up to combat the virus as far as possible. *Your cooperation to protect our community is absolutely imperative.*
- It is the responsibility of parents and staff to answer enquiries as accurately and comprehensively as possible.

Any new/updated information received by the school is communicated to our parent body as soon as possible.



AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Listed below are various awards and accolades received personally, or at at Jenniflowers. Ofsted is the education regulatory body in England. After selling their childcare business in England in January 2017, they moved to South Africa in September 2017.

Jennifer continues to write for South African and British publications (online and print), over a range of Early Childhood topics. She also trains nursery school teachers in townships/locations and conducts nursery school audits/inspections in Gauteng, with the aim to make the nursery school an education centre of excellence for children.

2016

November Received a Good Grading awarded by Ofsted in May at SW18 preschool and day nursery

October Received a Food Hygiene rating of 5 (the highest rating) from the Wandsworth Food Standards Agency

September Jennifer spoke at the Birmingham Early Years Conference, about SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and the implications of the 30 hours delivery on families with children with additional needs, and childcare providers

July Jennifer was appointed Project Director for the Save Childhood Movement, UK

April Jennifer was nominated for First Women Business Awards in 3 category nominations: *Public Service, Entrepreneur and Business of the Year Awards*

April Received an Outstanding Grading awarded by Ofsted at SW19 home nursery

January Jennifer spoke as the Wandsworth Family Friendly Business Winner 2015, at the New Directions Seminar at the Wandsworth Town Hall, with Her Worshipful Mayor of Wandsworth, Cllr Nicola Nardelli, re how local business can become more involved in aiding Parent Champions and families in the communities with family members with additional needs.

2015

December Wandsworth Business Awards (Borough/Municipality Award): *Best Family Friendly Business Award – WINNER*

December Wandsworth Business Awards (Borough/Municipality Award): *Entrepreneur of the Year Award - Highly Commended FINALIST*

September Nursery World Awards (National Award): *Business Development in England Award – WINNER*

September Nursery World Awards (National Award): *Best Pre-School of the Year in England Award – FINALIST*

August Jennifer spoke at the round table discussion with the Pre-School Learning Alliance and the DfE (Department of Education) re 30 hour funding and the sustainability of private sector nursery schools and preschools in England

July Jennifer featured in Nursery World magazine, re *Baby Room Stress and the strategies we have in place (for the children and staff)*

June Jenniflowers Preschool and Day Nursery featured on the BBC News Broadcast (at 6pm and 10pm), where Jennifer was interviewed about the 30 hour election offer and how it affects the PVI (private/voluntary/independent) sector in England

April Jennifer was nominated for a Merton Community Award for administrating the 15,000+ SW19 Mums Network online group - a local lifeline for many mums far away from family support, plus for ongoing work in the community at Jenniflowers

2014

May Received a Good Grading awarded by Ofsted in May at SW18 preschool

March Jennifer met with the Department of Education's Minister Elizabeth Truss at a round table discussion about *Childminder Agencies* at the DfE

2013

August Jennifer featured in an Optimus Education article, re *The Age Two Progress Check in Practice: Interview*

January Jennifer featured in 'Who Minds', NCMA's national childcare magazine, re *Positive Relationships*

2012

September Jennifer featured in the Home Childcarer Magazine, re *Govt. Childcare Commission, Ofsted's inspection changes and the Revised EYFS that came into play on 1st Sept 2012*

March Received an Outstanding Grading awarded by Ofsted at SW19 home nursery

2011

August Jennifer featured in 'Who Minds', NCMA's national childcare magazine, re *Outdoor Play*

2008

July Received an Outstanding grading awarded by Ofsted at SW19 home nursery. Jennifer was the second person in the history of the Wandsworth Borough to gain the highest Ofsted grade on first inspection.

MESSAGE FROM JENNIFER

"I take my role as a childcare provider, teacher and employer seriously. The responsibility of caring for children is huge.

Our wish for our little ones is that their childhood memories are ones of discovery, learning and joy, where they learn about compassion, sharing, being loving, kind and responsible, thinking of others and being of strong and sound character, and learning through play (child led and teacher facilitated). We encourage out-of-the-box thinking, independence, being creative, social and emotional development, instilling important life skills.

Our focus is not on getting a child 'school ready', but 'life ready' - helping to equip and nurture skills and a strength in character that will serve them well in life. The early years are fundamental years - laying critical foundations for so much in life - relationships, attachment, self confidence, appreciating the environment, self care, being self and community aware, and so much more.

I love my job and am humbled by the enormity of the role we play in the lives of our families, community and team. It is a privilege to be able to make an impact in a child's life and this responsibility is never forgotten or taken for granted. I have an open door policy and value your feedback."



Jennifer and Lance, with twin sons, Jonah and Noah.

We have been on an amazing journey as preschool nursery school founders and owners of Jenniflowers in England, and are excited about the African journey we have now embarked on with Under the Son, which opened in February 2019.

We thank you for your interest and we hope to welcome you into our Under the Son family in the near future.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to email underthesoneducation@gmail.com or call Jennifer on 072 1644 939.

*Many thanks,
Lance and Jennifer*

UNDER THE SON NURSERY SCHOOL

REGISTRATION FORM

Please note that this is NOT a childcare contract, it is a Registration Form. Once a childcare contract has been completed, and the deposit paid, your child's place at Under the Son is secured. We then discuss settling in dates. You can start any month, however we would suggest you start at the beginning of the month for ease of fee payments. If there are siblings, each sibling will need a separate Childcare Contract. Please let us know if you have any queries.

I/we would like to enrol my/our child at Under the Son Nursery School, Randpark Ridge.

Today's date: _____

Child's name: _____

Child's date of birth: _____

Child's age at enrolment: _____

Name/s of parents or guardian/s: _____

Address: _____

Telephone contact details:

HOME: _____ HOME: _____

WORK: _____ WORK: _____

CELL: _____ CELL: _____

Date you would like your child to start: _____

Is this start date flexible at all? Yes: _____ No: _____

Half day, full day or combination of days required? _____

Number of full days per week required (please tick): 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____

Preferred days: Monday _____ Tuesday _____ Wednesday _____ Thursday _____ Friday _____

(We will try our best to provide your preferred days, this is subject to availability).

Have you visited our nursery? Yes: _____ No: _____ *(If not, please can we set one up. Thanks!)*

Have you paid the deposit? Yes: _____ No: _____ Amount paid?: _____

(Bank: FNB, Name: Under the Son Education, Acc. No.: 62772908821, Branch code: 250655, Type: Cheque)

How did you hear about Under the Son Nursery School? _____

Any comments? _____

We thank you for your interest in Under the Son Nursery School, and look forward to being of service to your family soon. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask Jennifer.

Email: underthesoneducation@gmail.com

Tel: 072 1644 939