

# Food and Drink for Babies Policy

Our babies range from birth to 12 months and have individual feeding patterns and requirements. Our policy is not to provide food for babies until they reach the age of 12 months. Consideration may be given to supply food for babies from 9 months at the request of the parent/carer:-

- (a) only at the discretion of the nursery manager;
- (b) providing the child has already been introduced to 'mashed' food which contains all the ingredients on our menu on the days they attend nursery, and
- (c) after the parent/carer completes our consent form.

Just before each babies first birthday a copy of the nursery menu will be sent home. If the child has tried all the food on offer and the parent/carer is happy for them to eat nursery food from the nursery menu they should give written consent stating any dietary needs or requirements and any allergies that are known.

Jars of baby food or homemade food should be supplied by Parents/Carers. Homemade food should be labelled with the contents and will be heated up and the temperature checked to make sure it reaches a minimum of 75°C

All food and bottles must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

Rice is a known food poisoning risk when re-heated therefore any rice brought in for any children will be given cold and we will never re-heat it, unless instructions on the jar or packet instruct us to do so.

## **Feeding bottles**

If your bottle feed is a powder feed we would ask you to measure out the quantities of powder and water and then we will mix the feed together for heating and feeding to your baby.

The nursery staff will discuss the child's needs with you at your first visit.

We ask you not to let your child bring sweets or chocolate into nursery.

Due to the serious effect that nuts can have on children that have an allergy to them, we will not offer foods that contain nuts to any child and we ask you not to bring in any items of foods that contain nuts, for example peanut butter sandwiches.

**Other related documents: Food Policy (Pg 50)  
Nursery Menu**

**All policies are subject to regular review  
This policy was reviewed/updated: June 2014**