



Parent Handbook

Green Apple Nursery LTD



Welcome to Green Apple Nursery

Dear Parents,

At Green Apple Nursery LTD, we believe that every child's early years are a unique and precious time – a time to nurture curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning.

We provide a safe, caring, and stimulating environment where children feel happy, valued, and empowered to explore the world around them. Our dedicated team of early years practitioners work in partnership with families to support each child's individual development, helping them grow socially, emotionally, and intellectually through play-based learning.

Whether it's a child's first step into nursery life or the next step in their early education journey, we are committed to making it a positive and enriching experience for both children and their families.

We look forward to welcoming you into our nursery community, where every child's story begins.

Warm regards,



Nicola Wilson

Area Manager, Green Apple Nursery LTD.

About us

At Green Apple Nursery Ltd, we are proud to provide high-quality early years care and education across our three nurturing settings in Hamilton, Airdrie, and Carluke. Our journey began in 2012 when we opened the doors to our very first nursery in Hamilton. Following its success, we expanded to Airdrie in 2018 and Carluke in 2019. Over the years, we've grown in size and experience — but our commitment to providing exceptional care has remained at the heart of everything we do.

We set high standards across all our nurseries, and this is consistently reflected in our Care Inspectorate reports, which highlight the quality, dedication, and passion of our teams.

While each of our nurseries shares the same core values and practices, they are each unique in their own way — shaped by the children, families, and communities they serve. Together, they form a strong, supportive network where every child can thrive, learn, and grow.

We believe that every child deserves the very best start in life — and at Green Apple Nursery, that's exactly what we strive to deliver.





Our Vision

At Green Apple Nursery we aspire to provide a home from home nursery environment powered by high quality staff who are passionate about providing nurturing, curious, creative and challenging learning experiences for children and families. By providing a rights based approach to care and learning we ensure children's well-being is individually cared for by promoting independence, confidence and increased self-esteem through attachment led practice and child led learning.

Most importantly our settings are safe, fun and enjoyable.



Our Guarantee

We have safely recruited and selected the best childcare professionals with exceptional knowledge, experience, and passion. To ensure your child's time is not only spent enjoying a variety of cognitive and physical developmental learning experiences but is also a very happy and fulfilling journey through the early part of their lives.

- An extensive secure garden providing excellent learning opportunities for all ages.
- High level of security using our secure door entry system.
- Safe & Secure Environment
- A home from home atmosphere
- Highly qualified & experience staff team
- Highly qualified and experienced management team
- 10% sibling discount
- Successful settling in procedures
- Parents evening twice per year
- Quarterly newsletter
- Key worker systems
- Full curriculum of learning opportunities for all ages
- Nursery FAMILY App to keep up to date with news and events, messaging feature and
- Child development tracking.

Our Aims

Great staff

Staff at Green Apple are passionate about their role in child development. Staff are driven to continually develop their practice through actively seeking training opportunities to improve outcomes for children and families in our care.

nurture

Nurture can be found throughout Green Apple through interactions with staff and peers. Ensuring transitions are based on nurture and support with key workers being instrumental in ensuring positive transitions from home to nursery or throughout the nursery environment.

Learning to play, playing to learn

We believe play is the best form of education for our apples to support them on their journey to school.

Respect

At Green Apple Nursery we are respectful of each other. By using a rights-based approach we ensure the rights of the child are considered in every decision that is made for them. By respecting children's opinions and choices, we ensure a child-led approach of learning.

Attachment

Children are supported through their key workers. Each staff member ensures attachment-led practice plays a fundamental role in ensuring children are supported by staff they feel safe and comfortable with by creating trusted bonds with staff children have the tools to learn.

Extending to outdoors

We are an all-weather group of nurseries meaning our children access learning through nature in various environments in their local community throughout the whole year.

Environment

At Green Apple Nursery we aim to provide a high-quality home from home environment where children are welcomed into a warm and inviting playroom. Children are challenged, supported, and nurtured in an environment that feels safe and secure.

Positive Relationships

At Green Apple we aim to create positive relationships with our children and their families. By creating opportunities for parents to spend time with their children in nursery through stay and plays or various events as well as regular updates through our nursery app.

Encouraging Creativity

Children are inspired to get creative through open-ended creative play. Using loose parts, engaging in the outdoor environment, encouragement to explore and investigate through a range of experiences and tools to promote independent thinking and problem solving.

Preparing skills for life

At Green Apple we promote independence through providing experiences that promote problem-solving skills, personal hygiene, emotional and social development.



**FUN
FACT**

Did you know our
aims spell out GREEN
APPLE

Our Nurseries

Green apple nursery is committed to ensuring the security of children, families, and staff at all times with secure entry systems and a requirement to interact with staff before being granted access to the building. The nursery staff are highly trained with at least 80% of staff qualified to SVQ level 7 social services (Children and young people) or HNC Childhood practice. Staff are continuously accessing a range of relevant training and working hard to continue to up skill.



Green Apple Nursery Hamilton
est 2012



Green Apple Nursery Airdrie
est 2018



Green Apple Nursery Carlisle
est 2019

Learning environments/ Facilities

Little Pips 0-1 years old

The baby room incorporates a sensory area where the babies will be able to explore the excitement of sound, sight and touch as part of their early development.

The Little Pips staff team will provide a gentle and loving environment in a homely atmosphere with expert care and encouragement. Learning through play will help develop confidence and independence



Little Seedlings 1-2 years old

A child's curiosity has no limits as they become active, mobile and want to explore the world around them. The nursery encourages an interactive environment where babies can explore and build confidence in their abilities. Staff will teach and encourage children to start to become more independent in a range of activities including walking and feeding.



Learning environments/ Facilities

Little Blossoms 2–3 years old

The nursery staff are now starting to notice the key interests of all children at this age. Staff allow children to develop at their own pace, exploring the special delights of discovering the world around them. Children are becoming independent in toilet training and developing their own little personalities, which staff will support.



Little Apples 3–5 years old

The nursery staff promotes an interactive approach to learning. Staff allow children to learn from their own experiences through risk assessing and teaching them to try new things, ask questions and experience many new learning opportunities including active learning strategies. The staff promote an ethos of learning and development in a safe and encouraging environment.



Our Curriculum

Your child's learning journey at Green Apple Nursery is:

- Child-led and responsive to their needs
- Play-based with plenty of time for curiosity and creativity
- Supportive of emotional and social development
- Grounded in the best practice guidance across Scotland

We're always here to talk more about your child's learning and how you can support it at home. Please speak to your child's key worker or the nursery team if you'd like to know more!

Realising the ambition

Realising the Ambition: Being Me is Scotland's national guidance for supporting children from birth to 8 years. It builds on previous guidance like Building the Ambition and aligns with the Curriculum for Excellence. It provides a practical and inspiring framework for supporting children's development, learning, and wellbeing.

Together we can and we will

The "Together We Can and We Will" document is a guidance framework developed by South Lanarkshire Council to support early years practitioners working with children aged 0–3 years. It aligns with the values and principles of Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence, emphasising a holistic approach to child development

Curriculum for excellence

For Pre-school children staff use the "Curriculum for Excellence" to plan experiences and outcomes for individual children to help them develop into Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors and Responsible Citizens.

Staff have a focus on the three national priorities – Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing but also promote the development and progression in Technology, Expressive Arts, Science, Social Studies and Religious Education.



Family App



At Green Apple Nursery, we're proud to use the Family app to keep you closely connected with your child's day, development, and nursery experience. Family is a secure, easy-to-use platform designed for early years settings. It helps us to build strong partnerships with families and keep you informed in real time.

💡 What You Can Do on the Family App:

👤 See Daily Updates

- Photos, videos, and notes about your child's activities
- Nappy changes, meals, naps, and general wellbeing updates

📝 Read Observations and Learning Stories

- Insight into your child's progress, interests, and achievements
- Linked to the curriculum, so you can see how they're learning through play

📅 Stay Up to Date

- Nursery announcements and reminders
- Events, closures, and special dates
- Send and receive messages with the nursery team

📁 Manage Your Account

- View invoices and bookings (if applicable)
- Notify us of absences or holidays easily

🧩 Why It's Great for Families

- Strengthens communication between home and nursery
- Gives you a window into your child's day
- Helps support learning and conversations at home
- All in one place, accessible from your phone or computer

🔒 Safe and Secure

Your privacy is important to us. Family uses encrypted and secure technology to keep your data protected at all times.

Terms and conditions

Parents will be supplied with a copy of Green Apple Nursery terms and conditions on enrolment of their child to the nursery. Please note that Green Apple Nursery reserve the right to change the Terms and Conditions at any point. However all service users will always be notified of any changes through Famly, parents notice board and monthly newsletters.

Green Apple Nursery has a comprehensive set of policies and procedures which parents are encouraged to read and follow at all times. All policies can also be found on the nursery app (Famly).

Fee Policy

On completion of the placement application form, a deposit of £100 is required to secure the start date for your child. £75 is refundable when your child leaves nursery (T&C apply)
(£25 registration & admin fee is not refunded.

Late payment of fees may result in a late payment charge being applied.

Forest Adventures



A Nature-Based Learning Experience for Your Child

At Green Apple Nursery, we believe in the power of outdoor learning to nurture confident, curious, and capable children. Our Forest School programme provides hands-on experiences in a woodland setting, where children can explore, create, and connect with nature in meaningful ways.

What Happens During Forest Sessions?

Each session follows a gentle, consistent rhythm:

- A warm welcome poem
- A clear outline of what we'll be doing
- A recap of forest rules and boundaries to keep everyone safe

Children take part in exciting, nature-based activities that encourage imagination, problem-solving, teamwork, and emotional wellbeing.

Activities Include:

- Exploring the woodland and creating sound maps
- Learning about forest safety and playing the whistle game
- Making animals from natural materials and sharing stories about them
- Building dens and learning what animals need for a safe habitat
- Creating bird feeders and learning about wildlife needs
- Learning about fire safety and cooking on a fire
- A special parent-child session where families join in the forest fun

What Will My Child Gain?

- A strong connection to nature
- Increased confidence and independence
- Opportunities to work together, solve problems, and express themselves
- An understanding of how to care for the natural world
- Experiences that support wellbeing, resilience, and creativity



Contact us



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