

Introduction to Busy Bees

Busy Bees is an English school created in 1987. It is an integrated part of La Clef, a cultural and social association situated in St Germain-en-Laye. The setting offers an educational experience for Anglophone children from 3 to 6 years of age. The class sizes vary from 8 to 16 pupils.

We offer both morning (09h15-12h15) and afternoon (13h15-16h15) classes:

- Maternelle 1: Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon.
- Maternelle 2: Wednesday morning and Saturday afternoon.
- Maternelle 3: Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning.

It is recommended to attend two sessions per week to accelerate their development in English language and their enthusiasm for learning.

It is imperative that all pupils have solid English support at home and attend the classes regularly. **All classes are specifically designed to support and develop English speaking children.**

Busy Bees offers a variety of activities, focused on - communication and language skills; personal, social, and emotional development, physical development, literacy, and mathematical skills, understanding the world and developing expression in art and design. These activities include :

- Modelling (with play dough etc.)
 - Construction
 - Singing, music and movement
- Imaginative activities in the role-play area
 - Painting and drawing
- Show and tell, conversation and stories
 - Drama (puppet shows, role play...)
 - Tuff spot table
 - Water and sand play
 - Educational board games

Busy Bees follows the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' (EYFS) curriculum adopting a **learning through play** approach in conjunction with the multi-sensory synthetic approach of **Jolly Phonics**. These methods facilitate whole-class teaching, whilst encouraging parents to be involved through the linking of a home/school partnership.

Younger children begin by mark-making and using tactile resources for strengthening their fine motor skills to develop pencil control. Older children are encouraged to follow activities focusing on letter sounds and blending, progressing to reading and writing.

Busy Bees provides a safe, happy, and stimulating environment for your children, developing their potential through to the next stage of learning.

All children must be toilet trained.

Parents are regularly updated through the home/school partnership regarding the class sessions and themes, including current and future events. It is expected that parents provide a commitment to their child(ren) by speaking English daily at home. Library books must be read and discussed regularly in a relaxing atmosphere. Homework and reading/discussion tasks for Maternelle 3 should be completed regularly.

Entrance application forms are now available. See link below. All applications must be completed and submitted before 31st March 2024. An English language ability assessment will be carried out in class for all applicants in due course.

For more information contact busybees@laclef.asso.fr