



Introduction to Busy Bees

Busy Bees is an English preschool, created in 1987, and 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 2½ to 6 years of age. The class sizes vary from 8 to 18 pupils and are run by native British teachers.

We offer morning and afternoon classes. Morning classes run from Wednesday to Saturday from 09.15 to 12.15 and afternoon classes are held on Wednesday to Thursday from 13.15 to 16.15. Attending two sessions per week will accelerate and broaden English language skills. Children who attend once a week must have solid English support at home.

Wednesday afternoon classes are specifically designed to support English speaking children from 5 to 6 years old, supplemented by an additional class on Saturday morning.

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 active and child friendly systems facilitate whole-class teaching, whilst encouraging parents to be involved through the linking of the 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 and the transition to school life.

There are no facilities for looking after your child during lunch, but there are suitable eating areas in reception and outdoors if you choose to stay on site. Younger 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. In addition, Klassy is used as the communication app for families, providing an update of their child(ren)'s activities with recent photos and events. It is expected that parents provide home support for their child(ren) by speaking English daily.

There are excellent international schools in the West of Paris and most children from Busy Bees obtain places in these schools.

We are recruiting now for the 2023-2024 school year. Entrance applications are open until the end of March 2023.

For more information contact busybees@laclef.asso.fr