

LITTLE  
BLUE  
VAN  
NURSERY

30 Hours Pilot

# Introduction

- Located in Hertfordshire
- Open in excess of 30 hours each week
- Up to 32 children per pre-school / nursery session
- After school clubs until 6:00pm Mon – Fri
- Holiday Clubs

# 30 Hours Pilot

- Why did we join the pilot?
  - Already offering over 30 hours per week
  - Had lots of children already using 30 hours+
  - Sessions already set-up for full days (good transitions, new opportunities, resource changes at each session)
  - Mitigate the drop in numbers during the autumn term
  - A lot of interest from working parents / parents looking to return to work
- We decided to take 5 (now 8) children on pilot

# Children on Pilot

- Eight children currently using 30 hours under the pilot scheme
- 7 of the 8 children using 30 hours between 9:00am and 3:00pm, Monday to Friday
- One child using 21 hours of nursery time and 9 hours during after school club.
- One child EAL















# Impact to Children

- Confidence has increased
- Have made a wider circle of friends
- Improved communication / language skills
- Significant progress against EYFS

But.....

- Are sometimes tired – needed phase in of hours
- Initially more toileting accidents

# Impact to Nursery Business

- Good increase in autumn term revenue
- Slight increase in spring term revenue
- Overall annual return still being looked at
- No space available for new children from middle of spring (some went elsewhere)
- Placed one nursery assistant on flexible hours that 'ramp up' during the year to limit staff costs

# Applying for 30 Hours

- 30 Hours application process can be confusing
- Clear communication required to inform parents about TFC, 30 Hours options on application & ensure they supply 11 digit code, NI number, etc.
- Regular updates in newsletters to keep parents / carers informed
- Use of Childcare Choices Website recommended

# Concerns

- Transitions need to be managed well (between providers, and internally between sessions)
- Forecasting next term's take-up is difficult
- Limited visibility of who will become eligible / who ceases to be eligible for 30 hours – extra admin!
- Being fair with distribution of hours when space is limited – i.e. those turning three later in the year
- Consider changing admissions policy to clearly define how hours will be allocated
- Bringing in children under three to prepare for following September – holding sessions if affordable

# Parent / Carer Comments

- “We speak Polish at home, but with the extended hours, my child’s English language, communication and confidence has improved significantly”
- “I now have more career opportunities as I no longer need to worry about childcare”
- “The 30 hours pilot has allowed us to change the way we manage childcare. Instead of having a nanny, we have used the 30 hours and changed working hours slightly, allowing my son to spend more time with his mum, dad and sister”
- “As a single parent, the pilot has been quite literally life changing. The financial benefit has improved our quality of life considerably and we can now do things together that were previously unaffordable”

Questions?



Thank you!