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## Acorn Early Years Nurseries

Milton Keynes

*Sam Jones - Recruitment & Onboarding Manager*

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Nursery Senior Practitioner
£14.50-£15.50
Perm - Year round
<b>Start date:</b> 01/06/2026

### **About our School:**

As a thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to making Acorn a safe, nurturing and fun place for our children to be, we offer:

- Payscales that are competitive, transparent and reviewed annually
- 65% Childcare discount Pro-rata according to contracted hours
- Generous family leave
- Christmas closure
- 25 days of annual leave, plus bank holidays (and the option to buy more)
- 4 dedicated training days and individual development plans
- Enhanced pension scheme
- Cyclescheme
- Techscheme
- Length of Service awards
- Summer and Christmas parties
- Pay advances for when times are tough
- Employee assistance wellbeing programme

Acorn Early Years Foundation (originally Acorn Childcare) began as a single nursery in 1989 in the village of Castlethorpe in Milton Keynes, where the organisation is still led by the founder and Chief Executive, Zoë Raven. Driven by a desire to create a nursery which combined professionalism with a personal touch, Zoe and her family lived above the original nursery for ten years, and the organisation grew slowly and organically, first in old Victorian buildings, then on school sites, and then including purpose-built buildings. Now, over 35 years later, there are 18 nurseries across three counties, several out-of-school clubs, extensive forest school provision, a catering service and a training centre.

Acorn has always specialised in outdoor play and learning, the use of natural resources, healthy food, and an emphasis on the professional development of the staff.

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## **About the Role:**

### Senior Nursery Practitioner

If you are offered a Senior EYP role, you will receive a £1000 recruitment bonus after successfully completing your 3 month probation period.

Must have level 3 Early Years Qualification

Acorn Early Years – Milton Keynes & Surrounding Areas:

Acorn Early Years is seeking enthusiastic, experienced and passionate Senior Nursery Practitioners to join our teams across Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas. This is a fantastic opportunity for an early years professional who is ready to take on a leadership role while remaining hands on in delivering high quality care and education.

### About the Role

As a Senior Nursery Practitioner, you will work in partnership with the Nursery Manager and Deputy Manager to support the effective day to day running of the nursery. You will lead practice within your designated room or area, mentor and support staff, and help drive a high quality, holistic EYFS curriculum that meets the needs of every child.

You may also take responsibility for the nursery in the absence of senior leaders when required.

### Key Responsibilities

#### Leadership & Management

- Work closely with the Nursery Manager and Deputy to ensure effective nursery operations
- Lead and manage your designated room/area and be accountable for standards and outcomes
- Support the nursery when required in the absence of the Manager or Deputy
- Mentor, coach and support staff to develop their practice
- Carry out and contribute to staff supervisions, peer observations and appraisals
- Cascade information, updates and expectations to your team
- Role model professionalism and Acorn's ethos, values and policies at all times
- Quality of Practice & Curriculum

- Deliver and support a holistic, child centred approach to the EYFS
- Ensure high quality interactions based on children's individual needs and stages of development
- Promote and embed planning in the moment across practice
- Carry out high quality observations and assess

**Closing date for applications: 30/06/2026**

**Alternatively, you can apply here:** <https://acornearlyyears.eyrecruit.co.uk/?source=careers>