



Childcare centre 'De Platanen' is located in a beautiful building on Elandsstraat, right in the middle of the 'Jordaan' neighbourhood.

### *Educational vision*

Our educational vision is inspired by the theories of Loris Malaguzzi, an Italian educationalist who lay the foundation for the famous educational philosophy and childcare centres of Reggio Emilia, a town in Italy. We learn and share new ideas and insights, and we use these to give children more scope to discover what they enjoy. The central idea in our approach is that we see young children as strong, creative and social beings: producers rather than consumers, who create their own things and have their own ways of thinking.

Children can be seen as each other's 'first child psychologist', and yet, an adult's relationship with a child is equally essential (as 'second child psychologists'). It is our task as professional childcare workers to support and enrich this process. Everything we do starts by observing the children and listening to them, and it is essential that we are also prepared to learn from the children. The quality of the children's environment (the 'third child psychologist') is also of great importance; space, light, materials: everything has an effect on how children work together and play together.

### *Show the world who you are!*

We follow the children in their ideas and interests, and we intentionally offer them new experiences. In this way projects are formed, which we record in pictures, writing, and sometimes also in sound, so that we can look back together with the children and their parents at what has been created and how the children's development can proceed from there.

### *Together with the parents*

We believe it is vital that there is good communication between staff and parents, and that we keep each other well informed. This is essential to build trust, and as a result parents are happy to leave their children with us at our childcare centre. Of course there is the daily contact with the parents when the children are dropped off and picked up, but we also regularly organise parents nights and coffee mornings during which parents can get to know each other better. Moreover, we have an active parent group. We think that it is very important that parents participate in this group, as it gives them the opportunity to influence what is happening at the childcare centre. Dutch law states that parent groups have the right to give advice on several topics, for example the centre's educational policy, food, and health and safety.

### *Making a voyage of discovery during lunch*

Four days a week our cook prepares a hot lunch. On the two remaining day we prepare a healthy meal, which may consist of soup, salad or a boiled egg, just what the children fancy that day. We make sure that the children eat a well-balanced diet, using mostly organic ingredients. At 'De Platanen', while eating lunch, children make all kinds of new discoveries!

### *Our team*

The team of childcare centre 'De Platanen' consists of twelve professional childcare workers, one manager, one cook and one visual artist. During holidays or in case of illness, we make use of a regular pool of substitute childcare workers. Our team is versatile and highly trained, and our professional childcare workers are there to assist you in raising and guiding your child.

### *Practical information*

'De Platanen' has two baby groups, each with 9 children aged 0-2 years, and two toddler groups, one with 15 children and one with 16 children, both aged 2-4 years. There are two professional childcare workers in each group.

Opening hours: 'De Platanen' is open on work days from 7.30 AM to 6.30 PM. The same building also houses after-school day-care centre 'De Platanen'.

You are very welcome to come and visit our childcare centre. Please contact our manager Erna Verhoog to arrange a visit, and we will make sure that we have plenty of time for you.

T 06 43 54 13 93  
E e.verhoog@ijsterk.nl

### *Enrolment*

You can enrol in our childcare centre via this website, by clicking the red square 'Enrolling directly' on the homepage.