

# PHILEAS FOX

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MULTILINGUAL NURSERY SCHOOL



**Your child's first  
educational adventure**

Little Venice · London · Est. 2015

# Every great explorer needs the right start.

From the moment your child walks through our doors, something magical happens. Eyes widen. Curiosity sparks. A little voice tentatively tries a word in a brand new language — and succeeds.

At Phileas Fox, we believe the Early Years are not a waiting room for “real” school. They are the most extraordinary chapter of your child's life — and the foundation upon which everything else is built.

We've spent a decade in the heart of London crafting an environment where children feel completely safe to take risks, make mistakes, ask endless questions, and grow up confident, curious and globally-minded.

This guide will give you a sense of who we are and what makes us different. But honestly? Words only go so far. We'd love to show you in person.



# A nursery like no other.

Phileas Fox is one of a very small number of nurseries in London offering genuine, full-immersion multilingual education from as young as one year old. This isn't a weekly language class bolted onto a standard programme – it's woven into every moment of your child's day.

Your child will spend equal time in English and in their chosen language – French, Mandarin, or Russian – taught exclusively by native-speaking teachers. Research consistently shows that early multilingual exposure doesn't just build language skills; it builds better brains. More adaptable, more empathetic, more creative thinkers.

We layer this with a Montessori-inspired approach and a curriculum designed with Generation Alpha in mind – children who will grow up in a world we can barely imagine, and who need to be ready for it.



# A space designed for wonder.

Our nursery occupies a beautiful detached building in St Mary's Square, Little Venice — one of London's most charming and tranquil neighbourhoods. It is a place designed not just to be safe, but to be inspiring.

Inside, bright and spacious classrooms are filled with carefully chosen resources that invite children to explore, create, and discover. Every corner has been designed with intention — from dedicated language rooms where immersion comes alive, to quiet reading nooks where a child can lose themselves in a story.

Beyond our doors, our large, secure garden offers something increasingly rare in central London: genuine outdoor space. Children dig, climb, plant, splash, and simply breathe fresh air every single day — because we believe outdoor learning is not a luxury, it is essential.



# Your child's day.

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, the gold standard for early years education in England. But we go far beyond the basics — enriching every element with multilingual learning, creative arts, technology, and the kind of child-led discovery that ignites a genuine love of learning.

A typical day at Phileas Fox might include:

- Circle time in English — building vocabulary, confidence, and community
- Focused learning activities tailored to each child's stage and interests
- Immersive language sessions in French, Mandarin, or Russian — led by native speakers
- Child-initiated play — because curiosity should never be scheduled
- Stories, songs, outdoor learning, and creative arts

Every child's journey is captured in their own online learning journal — a beautiful, living record of their progress, filled with photos, videos, and observations that you can access anytime.



# Not just learning a language. Living it.

The science is clear: the window for acquiring a second language naturally — effortlessly, the way children absorb their mother tongue — is open widest in the first five years of life. We take that seriously.

Our full immersion model means your child spends half their day in English and half in their chosen language. Their language teacher isn't a visitor who arrives for a 30-minute session — they are a constant, warm presence throughout the day, switching seamlessly between languages during meals, play, stories, and routines.

Languages are brought alive through music, art, books, games, and cultural celebrations that connect children to the wider world. By the time your child leaves us, they won't just know another language. They'll feel at home in it.



# An education that goes further.

We believe that great early education is about the whole child – their body, creativity, and imagination, not just their mind. Our weekly programme of enrichment activities brings specialist teachers into the nursery, so your child experiences the joy of learning in its fullest sense.

- Live piano music and multilingual songs
- Yoga, dance, and sports
- Age-appropriate IT sessions – building early technology literacy through play
- Performing arts and creative expression

These aren't extras. They are part of what makes a Phileas Fox education genuinely different.



# The people your child will love.

We could tell you about qualifications and training – and all of that matters enormously. But what really sets our team apart is something harder to quantify: they genuinely love what they do, and children feel it immediately.

Every practitioner at Phileas Fox is carefully selected not just for their expertise but for their warmth, their patience, and their ability to see the world through a child's eyes. They create the kind of environment where a shy child slowly blossoms, where a confident child is thoughtfully challenged, and where every child knows they are seen and valued.

We maintain low staff-to-child ratios – 1:3 for our youngest children and 1:4 for older age groups – because we believe that close, individual attention in the early years changes everything.



# Nourished to learn, nourished to grow.

We take food seriously. Children who are well-nourished are more engaged, more settled, and more ready to learn – and we ensure that every meal is something to look forward to.

We partner with an award-winning nursery specialist catering company to provide freshly prepared, organic lunches every day. Morning and afternoon snacks are healthy and wholesome, fruit takes the place of sugary desserts, and fresh water and milk are always available.

Every dietary requirement and allergy is carefully accommodated – our kitchen team works closely with families to ensure every child is well fed and completely safe. We operate a strict nut-free policy throughout the nursery.



# Flexible enough for real family life.

We offer sessions from 8:00am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday, during term time – giving families the flexibility to build a schedule that works for them. Minimum attendance requirements apply to fully benefit from our programme.

Session	Start	End
Morning*	8:00 to 9:00	13:00
Afternoon	13:00	16:00
Full Day	8:00 to 9:00	16:00
After-School Club	16:00	17:00/18:00

\*Drop off between 8:00-9:00am. Children arriving before 8:30am are served breakfast.



# An investment in your child's future.

A Phileas Fox education represents outstanding value for what it offers: native-speaking language teachers, small group sizes, award-winning organic catering, specialist enrichment classes, and a decade of expertise in early multilingual education. Morning sessions include breakfast, snack, and lunch, plus all weekly visiting teachers.

## **Government funding**

We welcome the government's funded childcare entitlement. From age 3, afternoon sessions are provided free of charge through the Early Years entitlement. Eligible families may also qualify for funded hours through Working Parents Entitlement. We are happy to guide you through what you are entitled to and how it applies to your chosen sessions.

## **Registration & deposit**

A non-refundable registration fee of £150 is payable upon application. A fully refundable school deposit of £3,500 is required to secure your child's place (returned in full when your child leaves, subject to notice period). Fees are payable termly in advance.

**Please enquire for the current fee schedule. Full T&C are provided upon registration.**



# When does it all happen?

Please see our term times for the **2025-2026 academic year**.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Autumn	Wednesday 3rd September 2025	Thursday 12th December 2025 (at 1pm)
Spring	Tuesday 6th January 2026	Thursday 2nd April 2026 (at 1pm)
Summer	Tuesday 14th April 2026	Friday 17th July 2026 (at 1pm)

## **INSET days (school closed for children):**

Monday & Tuesday 1st–2nd September 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 13th April 2026

## **Holiday Activity Weeks (additional fees apply)**

Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July 2026 - Friday 31st July 2026

School is closed on weekends, Bank Holidays and inset days listed above.



# Secure your child's place.

We welcome children from 12 months to school age. Given the nature of our programme, we ask families to commit to a minimum number of sessions per week – this ensures the consistency that makes language immersion truly work.

## Minimum Attendance Requirements:

- **Ages 1–2:** 3 mornings or 3 afternoons
- **Ages 2–3:** 5 mornings or 5 afternoons
- **Ages 3–4:** 5 mornings + min. 2 afternoons

## The journey to joining Phileas Fox:

- Book a visit – come and experience the nursery for yourself.
- Submit an application form with a £150 registration fee.
- Receive your offer – typically made a year before your child's entry.
- Secure your place with a deposit – and welcome to the Phileas Fox family.

We always recommend registering early. However, we also welcome last-minute enquiries and are happy to discuss short-term placements subject to availability. Please note we are unable to accept registrations before your child is born.



# Their adventure begins with a conversation.

We know choosing a nursery is one of the most important decisions you'll make for your child. We don't take that lightly – and we'd never expect you to make that decision based on a brochure alone.

Come and visit us. Wander through the classrooms. Watch a language session in action. Meet our teachers. Ask us everything. We promise you'll leave knowing whether Phileas Fox is the right fit for your family – and we hope you'll feel that it is. We would be delighted to welcome your child on their first great educational adventure.

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