



Go your own way

At childcare centre 'Jor & Daan' we promote children's independence, which is symbolised by the many play areas in our building. These offer children the space they need to choose their own way and to start exploring in a safe and secure environment, while still keeping the other children in mind.

Our childcare centre, in the middle of the *Jordaan* neighbourhood, was founded more than 30 years ago and is located in a characteristic building that was specifically designed to be a childcare centre. The special design, which includes two outside play areas, makes it an exciting and challenging building for children to be in.

'Jor & Daan' has an educational vision of the learning of young children that was inspired by the educationalist Célestin Freinet and the psychologist Thomas Gordon. Independence and equality are central concepts in the educational vision of our childcare centre.

Challenging activities

Most of the activities at 'Jor & Daan' are centred around culture, music and movement. For example, we regularly sing together, we are visited monthly by people from outside who introduce our children to musical instruments and dance, and we always take part in the annual national Play Outside Day. During our creative activities we pay a lot of attention to aspects of every day life, including the neighbourhood, the seasons, festivities, and household chores in the childcare centre. Every year each group goes on an outing with the children and their parents. Popular destinations include Artis Zoo, Linnaeushof, Sprookjeswonderland (Fairy-tale World) in Enkhuizen, and 't Hemmeland in Monnickendam.

Food

Three days a week our cook prepares a healthy hot meal or snack, for example pasta, bubble and squeak, soup or salad; these dishes are often vegetarian and our cook uses mostly organic and fresh ingredients. On the other days we eat healthy sandwiches for lunch, made with mostly fresh and organic ingredients.

Playing outside

Outside, we have two beautiful green play areas, one for babies and one for the older children. If the weather is good, we sometimes go to Westerpark or visit other play areas nearby; we go outside nearly every day.

Educational vision

The educational vision of childcare centre 'Jor & Daan' is based on principles formulated by Freinet, Gordon and Steiner.

Freinet's ideas are based on children's independence, the importance of the neighbourhood, and everyday life. This is why we offer children lifelike situations during our activities.

Gordon developed a communication method that emphasises equality and relationships, leading to an environment in which people can be themselves and take their own responsibility, always keeping the other person in mind. By applying Gordon's ideas in our childcare centre, children learn to deal with conflicts themselves and to identify emotions.

Steiner was the founder of anthroposophy. From him we have adopted the importance of rhythm and rituals, celebrating festivals, and paying attention to the seasonal changes.

Groups

All groups have been arranged horizontally: children of the same age and in the same developmental stage are together in one group. In this way we promote the children's independence. We have baby groups, toddler groups and groups for pre-schoolers. When the children move from one group to the next, we make sure that the children stay together as much as possible.

Continuity and security

Childcare centre 'Jor & Daan' has a close, experienced and knowledgeable team. We have stable groups with their own childcare workers, and this offers children continuity and security. In each group there are two childcare workers every day, who look after the children and guide them.

Practical information

Childcare centre 'Jor & Daan' has five groups: three baby groups, each of 9 babies aged 0-24 months and two groups of pre-schoolers, each of 14 children aged 24 months to 4 years.

Opening hours: 'Jor & Daan' is open on workdays from 8 AM to 6.30 PM.

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

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Enrolment

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