

## Support, methods and educational offer

### For quality support

Our goal for parents and municipalities is to ensure and continuously improve the quality of support for all the children entrusted to us. To achieve this, our Education and Care Services ("Services d'Education et d'Accueil" – SEA) have established active coordination across various fields of action.



Quality at the heart of our approach

### Non-formal education

In 2016, the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth introduced a reference framework for non-formal education of children and young people through the Youth Law. It outlines the fundamental educational objectives as well as the principles and characteristics of non-formal education in Luxembourg. All our structures comply with these guidelines. Non-formal education views the child as a competent individual, with pedagogical approaches supporting their development according to their needs and pace. The indoor and outdoor spaces of our facilities, as well as our play and learning materials, are selected and adapted to the needs and interests of the children.



Our pedagogical principles

### Our educational priorities

All children are unique individuals with the capacity to develop their potential. Our daily work in nurseries is based on the pedagogical approach of paediatrician Emmi Pikler (1902-1984). The founding principles of this approach are dialogue with the child, spatial arrangement, seamless continuity in caregiving, free motor skills, and autonomous play.



Our educational priorities

### For the inclusion of all children

Our institutions provide the opportunity for individual development. Each child is seen as unique and is given the opportunity to develop individually according to their needs and desires. Inclusion means ensuring that all children have the means to develop as valued, respected, and contributing members of their society. We adapt to each child's specific needs, giving them the chance to find their place within our institution.

### Partnership with external actors

Networking is very important in our institutions. That is why we consider collaboration with external actors essential. This includes networking and collaborating with social and medical services in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, enabling professional exchanges while focusing on children's developmental progress.

### Multilingual education

Aimed at children aged 1 to 4, the multilingual education program in our nurseries is provided by our qualified and specially trained staff (law of 29 August 2017 amending the law of 4 July 2008). It is a comprehensive approach integrated into daily life, including the recognition and support of the home language, the introduction to the Luxembourgish language, and playful contact with the French language.

*"An education and reception service provides the child with a supportive and respectful environment where they can feel comfortable, thrive, and develop according to their individual needs, pace, and interests. It is a meeting place for children and families that promotes coexistence within the community."*

*Véronique Schmit,  
Director of the Non-Formal  
Education Department of  
the Luxembourg Red Cross*





## Zwergenhaus nursery Lorentzweiler



Zwergenhaus nursery Lorentzweiler

### 1. Introduction to the nursery

Opened in 2005 as a daycare centre for children aged 0 to 6, “Zwergenhaus” was transformed into a nursery in 2009, accommodating 54 children.

In September 2023, the facility was expanded, and the Early childhood education and care service (“*Service d’éducation et d’accueil pour jeunes enfants*” – SEAJ) now hosts up to 106 children aged 2 months to 4 years, divided into 8 groups. The 4 groups of children aged 2 months to 2 years accommodate 9 to 12 children each, while the 4 groups of children aged 18 months to 4 years accommodate 16 children each.

The educational team consists of 30 staff members with various qualifications (graduated educators, certified educators, personal care assistants, nursing assistants, social-family assistants, and socio-educational assistants).

The SEAJ is located in the municipality of Lorentzweiler, in the building of the primary school cycle 1.

### 2. Functional spaces

The nursery has four group rooms for our little ones aged 2 months to 2 years. Each group room has a sleeping room with a bed for each child. The group rooms are divided into dining areas, rest zones and play spaces.

In the play area, the educational staff prepares an environment adapted to the needs and interests of the children.

Our four group rooms for children aged 18 months to 4 years are set up with various multifunctional corners: construction area, role-playing corner, and rest area.

Our facility is complemented by a large outdoor space with a playground and separate terraces for our baby groups and two groups aged 18 months to 4 years.



Functional spaces

### 3. Free choice

Children’s free choice is essential to our work. When children are able to follow their interests, they will learn more. To achieve this, the child must find a well-prepared environment that supports their development and desires. Observing the children’s play is a significant part of our work, allowing us to respond appropriately and adjust the environment according to the children’s interests. For the child to develop their play freely and safely, the elements of this environment are always arranged in a consistent manner.



Area for free play options

### 4. Motor skills development

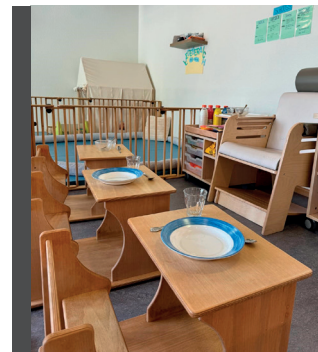
As well as play, free motor skills is a key aspect of our pedagogy. We provide a spacious and safe area for children to move and develop at their own pace. It is important to us that young children discover and explore their own mobility through play, and we respect their developmental rhythm. This way, the children learn how to sit, stand, and take their first steps on their own, which reassures and encourages them in their development.



Motor skills space

### 5. The importance of care

Mealtime and diaper changes are essential moments in the SEAJ’s daily routine. We take the necessary time to be one-on-one with the child and organise the situation according to their needs. This precious moment allows us to engage in dialogue with the child and respond to their verbal and non-verbal cues while letting them actively participate in the process. These moments of care are significant for us as it helps build fundamental trust.



The importance of care



Multilingual education

### 6. Plurilingual education

Two educational specialists (one for the groups of children aged 2 months to 2 years and one for the groups of children aged 18 months to 4 years) who have undergone specific training with the National Youth Service (“*Service national de la jeunesse*” - SNJ) have been designated to ensure the implementation of the plurilingual education concept.

The daily language in our nursery is Luxembourgish. French is introduced playfully through songs, stories or activities in French. The children’s home languages are valued by displaying “hello” and “goodbye” in the languages of the children attending the SEAJ. Close cooperation with parents is important to us, as it helps us understand specific words used by the child.

### 7. Inclusion

Our concept allows us to respond to the different needs of children. The rooms are arranged to respect the diverse needs and interests of the children and enable them to develop their potential.

Two “inclusion” educational specialists (one for the groups of children aged 2 months to 2 years and one for the groups of children aged 18 months to 4 years), who have received specific training in the matter, coordinate the implementation of the inclusive concept in the facility and support the team throughout the process. Furthermore, the entire team is required to undergo training on inclusion. To offer these training sessions, we work closely with Incluso, a pedagogical and formative resource centre specialising in inclusion.

## Zwergenhaus nursery Lorentzweiler



### NURSERY

#### Contact

+352 26 33-681  
zwergenhaus@croix-rouge.lu  
www.croix-rouge.lu

#### To come and visit

12, rue Jean-Pierre Glaesener  
L-7358 LORENTZWEILER

### Opening hours

During school terms and holidays:  
Monday to Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.