

Liberec Language Kindergarten



Welcome!





Mr. Jiří Šoltys
Member of the Board

A second language is a gift for life

"Pre-school age is a unique period in a person's life, when we can learn a foreign language in a completely natural way, just like our mother tongue. The English / Czech kindergarten allows children to play, develop, and think in two languages simultaneously. A team of experienced Czech teachers and qualified native speakers is there to work with the children. In addition to the standard Czech pre-school education programme, the children also have the opportunity to meet, play with, and learn from a native speaker on a daily basis. Now, you can give them a gift they will appreciate and use for the rest of their lives: the ability to communicate and think in another language."

Who are we?



- an English / Czech **kindergarten with traditional values and exceptional results**
- on 1. 9. 2008 we were included in the **Register of Schools and School Institutions of the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MEYS)**
- we employ only **qualified native speakers and Czech teachers**
- teaching English is done in line with the well proven **Wattsenglish method** accredited by MEYS
- we have established a **creative, friendly and motivational environment** for children
- we offer a natural **bilingual environment**
- we apply a highly **individual approach**, eight children per one teacher
- we provide a varied, fun, and creative programme for children, while preparing them for **the entry to year 1 of primary schools**

Continuity of tuition in primary schools

Continuity of English tuition in year 1 of primary schools is ensured through cooperation with Wattsenglish Ltd. and selected Liberec schools. Children have the opportunity to continue learning English with native speakers at the primary school Husova (a school with an extended language tuition) and at the private primary school Na Perštýně. The feedback we receive only confirms that our pupils do very well indeed in further education, thanks to the highly creative environment of our kindergarten.

The kindergarten as a methodological centre of Wattsenglish in the Czech Republic

The Wattsenglish methodology, a comprehensive system of teaching English to young children, was first applied, tested and developed in our pre-school. The methodology was developed in cooperation with psychologists, teachers, and paediatricians. It is based on learning English naturally, through fun games and activities. We actually create a communication framework for the children, which is similar to the one in natural bilingual families where both parents speak different languages. Children adjust very quickly to the bilingual environment and their achievements are truly exceptional. The Wattsenglish methodology, including many specific teaching methods and activities, was published by the Ministry of Education as the only comprehensive methodology for teaching English to pre-school children.



The programme of teaching English for each year of attendance

1st year (age 3–4 years)

Children find very quickly that an English speaking environment is as friendly as a Czech one. The more they begin to understand, the more their self-confidence grows. They can describe their surroundings using simple phrases and express their opinions or feelings. They particularly acquire a feeling for the language, meaning that they “listen into it”. They gain a deeper passive knowledge of the language, not just of individual words, but of the way sentences, questions, etc. are structured, even though they do not use them just yet.

2nd year (age 4–5 years)

Children enjoy participating in physical games and various activities where they can actively use the vocabulary they have acquired. They have no problem using new language tools in spontaneous responses. They begin to play with the language, and when they want to say something, they make most of not only what they know, but look for ways of saying things in their own way. Mutual communication in English among the children is not unusual.

3rd year (age 5–6 years)

In the third year, the children’s active participation in the conversations can be attributed to all the aforementioned processes that develop language skills. Much of the passive vocabulary begins to change into active. Children’s problems with communicating in an English environment diminish, as parents can see for example during holidays abroad.





Our daily programme

The entire English / Czech programme follows a daily routine, so the children know what will follow and quickly get used to the fluent change of activities under the guidance of their Czech and English teachers. The programme encourages conditions, where children fulfil themselves during free play.

- 07:00–07:30 Free play in the presence of a Czech teacher
- 07:30–08:00 Free play in the presence of a Czech teacher or a native speaker
- 08:00–08:30 Introduction to the new day – games under the guidance of a native speaker assisted by a Czech teacher
- 08:30–09:00 Snack
- 09:00–10:30 Main English teaching block (3 x 30 min.) – children are divided into groups according to their language skills; Czech programme in line with the School Educational Programme (curriculum) runs simultaneously, led by Czech teachers
- 10:30–11:30 Time outside in the presence of native speakers and Czech teachers. Games, activities in the garden or a walk.
- 11:30–12:15 Lunch
- 12:15–14:00 Preparation for relaxation, listening to stories, sleeping, and a stimulating programme for older pre-school children
- 14:00–15:30 English teaching block (2 x 30 min.), snack. The afternoon programme takes into account children's lower concentration levels and includes more playful games and repetitive activities in English language.
- 15:30–17:00 Free play in the presence of a Czech teacher





Clubs and other activities

As well as the main English / Czech programme, we also offer recorder and judo classes for children. Regular sports activities in the PE hall with an active participation of Czech teachers and native speakers complement the programme.

We celebrate children's birthdays and namedays, hold a traditional carnival and organise performances for parents. We also take trips to the theatre, zoo, botanical gardens and other attractions.

Multicultural education

A bilingual environment provides children with the opportunity to compare similarities and differences between Czech, British and other cultures. In the Kindergarten, we celebrate Halloween, Christmas, Easter and other international festivals. We encourage children to be tolerant and open minded when learning about the world and its different cultures.

Travellers programme

We annually organise so called 'travellers days' inspired by a selected country or city in the world. Through creative activities we explore customs, nature, interesting sites, cuisine, and other aspects of the given place or country. Parents often participate in this event, and as children frequently travel with them, they have their own experiences which they can share with others in this way.

Our team



Qualified native speakers

Native speakers undergo several stages of a thorough and demanding selection procedure and regularly receive training under the guidance of the methodologists from the British Wattsenglish Ltd. Company. Tuition takes place in English blocks, where children are divided into small groups according to their language level. However, foreign teachers are in contact with the children during the routine programme of the kindergarten, when they play, sing, and practice sports together.

Qualified Czech teachers

Teachers work with the children in line with the School Education Programme created on the basis of the Framework Education Programme for Pre-school Education. They assist the children in developing their key competencies through creative and educational activities. They help to create a relaxed environment and favourable conditions for children's social and personal development. They prepare children for their enrolment into year 1 of Czech primary schools. Given that there are only eight children per one teacher, the pre-school creates a well-balanced environment, which enables the teachers to fully devote themselves to the children, while maintaining an individual approach.

An individual approach and cooperation with parents



- we recognise every child as a **unique personality**
- we strive for the child's development with **regard to his/her age, needs, talents, interests, abilities and skills**
- we encourage children's **self-confidence** and emotional well-being
- guidance and education is carried through alongside **close contact with the family**
- we bring children up in a **multicultural environment** and encourage them to tolerate and respect other cultures



Parent's comments



"Our Klárka joined the pre-school just after her third birthday. Of course we were very worried about how can a small child manage almost 8 hours a day in the kindergarten. However, after just one week we knew that we could not have chosen better. Loving care and individual approach to children is a matter-of-fact there. And English? After three years in the kindergarten, Klára speaks fluently without any inhibitions."

Lucie a Bohumil Machačkovi

When looking for a kindergarten for Honzík, a personal approach respecting a child's individuality was very important for us. A kindergarten, which not just children, but also the staff like attending, and who enjoy working with little ones ... As well the sensitive attitude of the entire kindergarten team has helped overcome Honzík's initial adjustment to a new regime. And as we remained happy with the set up, our younger son Jindříšek joined the kindergarten two years later. Even though there is a financial requirement associated with our sons attending the kindergarten, we believe the 'kindergarten fee' to be a good investment into our sons' readiness for their future development."

Petra Kupská

"When we moved to Liberec, we were very sceptical when it came to English pre-schools due to our previous experience. But then we found the Liberec Language Kindergarten. Immediately we were absolutely sure that they really cared about children. We met the teachers - professionals, who through their attitude created the necessary boundaries for children, but with an open heart and loving approach. And English... that's a subject in its own right! Not forced, but taught in a playful way. After only a few days in the kindergarten our daughter began to recognise vocabulary and a half a year later she was able to put sentences together."

Petra a Petr Horovi

"When we were deciding whether to drive our daughter 30 km to a kindergarten every day, we weren't sure if we were right. Now we can say that we couldn't have chosen better. After about six months in the kindergarten we went on holiday and Eliška was able to communicate there in English without any problems. Nowadays, she often doesn't even notice that she's watching a DVD in English. The kindergarten exceeded our expectation and in two years time our second daughter will reunite us with the people we very much respect for what they do and how they do it."

Petra a Václav Polmovi



Who we work with

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Wattsenglish Ltd.

Pedagogical Research Institute in Prague
Secondary Vocational Pedagogy School Jeronýmova
Husova Primary school with extended language tuition, Liberec
Private primary school Na Perštýně, Liberec

Where can you find us

The kindergarten is situated in pleasant surroundings of Letná, in Jabloňová Street No.445. on the premises of a former nursery school pavilion with its own attractive garden. It is a quiet location, shielded from the main roads, yet only a ten minute drive from the Liberec city centre. It is easily accessible to local residents via public transport, and for people outside Liberec there is a conveniently located highway exit nearby.

Financing

The Liberec Language Kindergarten was established as a non-profit organisation in the form of a publicly beneficial organisation. The source of our funding comprises of parents' contributions (kindergarten fees), grants from the Liberec Region, and sponsorship contributions from corporate bodies as well as individuals.

Contact

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Hi, I am
Steve **Watts**

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