



## Dear children and families,

(edited April 24, 2024)

Welcome to Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen – We hope that your time with us will be safe, fun and developing – We will do what we have to do to make you feel comfortable. We know a lot about children, so if you wonder something, don't hesitate to ask us – both when it comes to the big and the small things.

We look forward to getting to know the whole family.

### Who are we?

**Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen** is a newly built self-governing daycare center located in the lovely area by Sluseholmen, where we have good access to the good facilities the immediate area offers. We will open our doors to the first children on **1 April 2024**. From the start, it will not be full, but it is our expectation that the house will be filled with happy children in a little over a year's time – you will therefore also be able to meet new people on an ongoing basis, as in addition to the super strong team that we have already hired, we continuously add new pedagogical staff. Sjællandsbroen is part of the Danish Day Care Organisation (LDD), which handles our administrative matters. On a daily basis, it is manager Anders Jerger and a team of team coordinators who set the professional direction. As an independent institution, we need to set up a parent board – **we plan to hold elections at the end of May**. The board includes both staff and representatives from LDD, and until the summer of 2025 it has been decided that Nana Nyhuus from LDD will be the chairman. The Zealand Bridge has a profile where we want to have a special focus on body, senses and movement. We will therefore put together an everyday life where we utilize our good facilities with these areas in mind. If you have a seat, or if you just want to visit us, you are welcome on our visit day. This takes place on the first Thursday of the month – At 10 am there will be an introduction to the house, after which you can see the house on your own until 11 am.

### Who can you meet with us?

**In Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen** you will from day one be able to meet a strong team of professionals, who are all looking forward to getting started working with your children, and everyone has ideas on how to develop the best children's house of all time. In addition to management, we currently employ 6 pedagogues, 1 pedagogical assistant and 4 skilled assistants. In addition, we have Pia employed in the kitchen, who is an experienced kitchen employee with a focus on ecology and own production.

### A little about everyday life the first time:

During the start-up period, your child will be assigned to a group, and it will be the staff from there who will receive you. During the period when we start new groups and therefore have many commissionings, it is the entire group staff that you should count as your contact persons – **The first year in Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen we will** open up groups over three rounds – The first groups will come in April-May. Next groups from mid-August-September, while the last groups are scheduled to begin December 2024.

When we open new groups, it is certain that you will experience more families than you may have heard of from other institutions – typically established nurseries receive 3 – 4 children a year, while kindergartens receive 5 – 8. However, the new groups must be established within a certain period of a few months, and during that period there are many start-ups. Therefore, it is also crucial for us that you as families prepare



for a slightly different process, where the staff, in addition to you, must also pay attention to the children who have started the weeks before, or those who begin in parallel with you – We ask those of you who choose us to take this into consideration, and that you show up with a good deal of flexibility and patience – Of course, we prioritize good commissioning, to the extent that the framework allows us. It is also important that you as parents listen to the staff when they decide it is time for you to leave. It often affects the whole group and becomes self-reinforcing when there are too many adults gathered in the room. Of course, I will contact you if we assess that your child is not quite at the top, but we find that they very quickly become happy again once they are with their group and you have left. Finally, it will be a great help for us if only one parent is involved in the first time.

In general, you will experience an everyday life where we divide the children into smaller groups, to the extent that everyday life allows. We want to take advantage of the good local facilities and look forward to a daily life at our new playground, where we will hopefully before too long tear down the fences that currently protect the planting.

### **The practicality:**

- **Start-up** - When you have said yes to the space, please contact us on **20 83 00 79** (feel free to leave a message if we do not answer the phone). You can also write to us on **info@bhsb.dk** - Here we will show you to a group, and it is with them that you agree on the process of running-in. What you are talking about with them is all the practicalities such as meeting times, well-being, expectations, etc. We know that it can be difficult to hand over your child to a stranger. It should be. If you find it challenging, please let it go. We have lots of good advice to make the experience easier for you parents.
- **Opening hours** – We are open every day from 6.30 – 17 (16 on Fridays).
- **Closing days and holidays** – The Zealand Bridge follows the City of Copenhagen's general closing days. You can read more about these here [Closing days in daycare centers and leisure institutions | Copenhagen Municipality's website](#) – In addition, there is co-fitting in a not yet announced institution during the summer holiday weeks 28, 29 and 30 – It is possible that we hold additional closing days for, for example, pedagogical staff days, but these must be agreed with the board, and will be announced with a minimum of 3 months' notice, and will otherwise meet the other criteria for these. In addition, in agreement with the interim board from LDD, we have agreed that 1 May, and weekdays between Christmas and New Year are closed days.
- **Food** – Sjællandsbroen has a food scheme that is voted on by the board every 2 years. For this period, the board has voted yes to the scheme – This means that a well-prepared meal is served, which Pia prepares for your children. The scheme also includes a morning and afternoon meal. In the Zealand Bridge, we generally follow the City of Copenhagen's dietary policy and the recommendations of the Danish Health Authority – only medical assessments and not opinions are taken into account.
- We also offer breakfast until 7:30.
- In everyday life, sugar will not be served, but we would like it to be possible on special occasions. Therefore, you are allowed to include a single item that contains sugar on your birthday, just as we can also serve a goodie bag with chocolate or the like at Christmas or other holidays – We want to create a strong community among the children, and being able to share something with your peers supports this purpose, and it must therefore be an option with us.



- **Bring** - You must bring clothes for all conceivable weather conditions - In the Zealand Bridge you do not need to bring diapers. We expect you parents to keep an eye on whether there are various items filled up – We would recommend names in the clothes. We would like to mention that we see it as a natural part of a nursery and kindergarten child's development that they practice taking clothes off and on, which is why the clothes should be suitable for this. You may then also find that the clothes they have been wearing when they were handed over do not correspond to what is on when you pick up. The staff does not have time to run around looking for slippers, socks etc., so feel free to put a small surplus stock of this so that there is no missing.
- **Sleep** – The children sleep until dinner after lunch around 11:30 – 14:00. Children up to 2 years sleep in cribs/prams. After the 2 years, they come in and sleep on mattresses with their peers. We do not recommend bringing special sleeping paraphernalia such as teddy bears, blankets, etc. However, it can be helpful in the beginning if there is something familiar such as your own duvet or your own pram. If you go to kindergarten and need a nap, this is also something that we can find out.
- **Prams and Christiania bikes** – As the house is built, it is not possible that you can park your own prams/strollers or Christiania bikes at the entrances of the house or elsewhere – We have noted that there is a demand for this option, and have forwarded this wish to the City of Copenhagen, which is the developer of our children's house – We cannot guarantee that that there will be a solution to this.
- **Communication** – We don't want our time to be spent on too much phone talk. We therefore have a few phones – After a small detour, we expect that by the beginning of May, we will have AULA up and running. Here you can announce illness, holiday etc. – you can also write to the individual room and request a call. We are of course ready with a chat in everyday life if you need it. As long as it is met with understanding that we cannot always leave a group of children to talk to you individually.
- **Dialogue** - We are seeing a large number of English-speaking families. The Zealand Bridge is not approved as an international institution, and you should therefore consider us a Danish institution where you meet Danish-speaking staff. Our welcome leaflet is published in an English-language version, but this does not mean that we guarantee an English-speaking staff – you therefore also have a task to be able to communicate with the staff yourself.
- **Conversations** – After your first time, the staff will talk to you about the start-up. Where assessed by the staff, you will be called to a meeting, but otherwise the idea is that these talks take place in a more informal room - During the first six months, we offer a talk with you about your child's well-being, where we will also introduce you to *Brain and the Heart*, which is the City of Copenhagen's transition material - We also offer conversations at the end of the nursery period, And before your child goes to school.
- **Toys brought** – We do not want the kindergarten to bring its own toys. It is not community-forming, and our experience is that it creates more conflicts than it creates relationships. If a toy is accidentally brought into the house, it will be placed in the children's place and must be taken home again.
- **Parking** – Right now, we don't know if there will be actual parking options when the construction on the other side is finished. We urge not to stay outside our house as there are many parking guards in the area. Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen is not responsible for any fines you may receive upon delivery or pickup. At the same time, it is important things about going to daycare that you help clean up and finish your activity. We expect your child to help with the cleanup, but unfortunately



we experience several times that there is no time, as there is parking in a place where it is not allowed.

Starting a brand new house from scratch is something we all staff as management are passionate about. We hope that the enthusiasm will be contagious, but we also ask for understanding if we should have missed a few things or there are elements that are not quite up and running from day one – do not hesitate to contact. We do not delude ourselves that we are flawless, and we will need help to uncover blind spots.

We hope that your time at Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen will live up to the expectation - We do what we can to make this happen.

Best regards

**Staff and management at Børnehuset Sjællandsbroen**