# 5.6.4 Does your university as a body have accessible childcare facilities for students which allow recent mothers to attend university courses?

# Bright Futures Nursery at UPES University www.upes.ac.in





The Bright Futures Nursery is an on-campus childcare facility established by the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES) in India. This initiative is dedicated to supporting students with young children, particularly recent mothers, by providing a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment for their children. Bright Futures Nursery enables student-parents to pursue their academic goals without the stress of balancing education and childcare.

# Features of Bright Futures Nursery

#### Free-of-Charge Childcare:

The nursery services are entirely free for UPES students, ensuring no financial burden is placed on parents.

This commitment reflects the university's inclusive and student-focused philosophy, enabling all students, regardless of economic status, to access childcare.

#### **Accessible and Convenient Location:**

Located centrally on the UPES campus, the nursery is easily accessible for parents between classes.

Its proximity to lecture halls and study spaces allows parents to drop off and pick up their children seamlessly.

#### **Professional and Caring Staff:**

Certified childcare professionals and early childhood educators are employed to provide expert care, ensuring the safety and development of every child.

A low child-to-staff ratio ensures personalized attention and care for each child.

#### **Safe and Stimulating Environment:**

The nursery is equipped with age-appropriate learning materials, toys, and a secure play area.

Indoor and outdoor spaces are designed to promote physical, cognitive, and social development in a nurturing setting.

#### Flexible Hours:

Bright Futures Nursery operates during university hours, including extended hours during exam periods to accommodate parental needs.

Flexible drop-off and pick-up times allow parents to tailor their schedules to academic requirements.

# **Parent-Friendly Amenities:**

Dedicated breastfeeding and quiet rooms are available to support mothers who need to nurse or spend quality time with their children during breaks.

Diaper-changing stations and child-friendly facilities make the nursery a convenient option for parents.

# **Early Childhood Education:**

The nursery integrates foundational learning activities into its daily schedule, preparing children for preschool and fostering a love for learning from an early age.

#### Benefits of Bright Futures Nursery

#### **Empowering Student Mothers:**

Recent mothers can attend university courses and focus on their education, knowing their children are cared for in a safe and enriching environment.

The nursery supports women's education and career aspirations, reducing the dropout rate among student-parents.

# **Promoting Equality and Inclusion:**

By addressing childcare barriers, UPES ensures that parenthood is not a hindrance to academic success.

This initiative aligns with the university's commitment to gender equality and inclusivity.

# **Fostering a Supportive Community:**

Bright Futures Nursery builds a community of student-parents, creating opportunities for networking and mutual support.

# Impact of Bright Futures Nursery

The Bright Futures Nursery reflects UPES's leadership in fostering an inclusive educational environment. By providing free, accessible childcare, UPES empowers student-parents to excel academically while ensuring their children thrive in a nurturing environment. This initiative not only supports current students but also strengthens UPES's reputation as a progressive institution dedicated to holistic student well-being.