



# Teddy Tennis - Case Study

**The Park Gardens Nursery School wanted a FUN sporting activity to add to their daily routine.... and they turned to Teddy Tennis**

## The Park Gardens Nursery

The Park Gardens Nursery School, based in Wandsworth, southwest London, is part of the Gardens Childcare group which currently comprises four nurseries, over 70 staff and 400 children.

Their style is anything but corporate, but they pride themselves in having a very homely atmosphere and extremely happy, loved and well fed children.... and now well exercised too!

## A Variety of Activities, but not Tennis!

Every week the nursery organizes a variety of activities including dancing, music, singing, drama, cooking, gym, sport; not to mention lots of messy play with sand & water, play dough & clay, and paint & glue!

They were very happy with their programme of activities, but then they heard about Teddy Tennis which was being run at a nursery nearby. They were a little puzzled as to how a nursery without access to a tennis court could run a tennis activity. A little on-line investigation revealed that to play Teddy Tennis, a court was not necessary, just some space, indoors or outdoors.

## The Demonstration was an Instant Hit

Helen Wiffen the manager of the Park Gardens wanted to know more and contacted the local Teddy Tennis coach, Liam Kelleher who offered to come to the nursery and do a demonstration with the children.

Liam set up the demonstration in the playground using a portable mini net, 17" rackets, mini red balls, buckets, spots and of course the CD player as all Teddy Tennis lessons are done to music.

*"The demonstration was an instant hit" said Helen, "the children loved every minute of it; we were sold on the idea and it was just a matter of sorting times, dates and fees."*



## A Weekly Activity

Teddy Tennis is now a regular part of the weekly activities at Park Gardens and is played every Tuesday afternoon with around 15 children joining the programme.

*"Over a very short period of time, I was amazed to see how not only the tennis skills of the children had come along but how Teddy Tennis had helped to develop the confidence of all the children involved. Teddy Tennis is a very popular programme at Park Gardens, we are delighted that it is having such a positive impact,"* concluded Helen.

Following on from the success of Teddy Tennis at Park Gardens, the programme is now being run at the three other nurseries in the Gardens Childcare group.

## About Teddy Tennis

Teddy Tennis is a fantastic new FUN way to encourage children aged 3, 4 and 5 years to get active and learn to play tennis. It works by combining music, pictures and teddy bear stories into an interactive learning adventure that children love.

Teddy Tennis was conceived in London and is currently taught in pre-schools and nurseries as well as sports and tennis clubs in the UK, USA, Australia, Slovenia and Egypt.



