

## *News Release*

### **Glasgow Children's Nursery Chain Leaps into Scotland's Top Five With Purchase of Four Wonderland Nurseries in North-East**

Glasgow-based children's nursery business Little Einstein's has acquired the Wonderland group which operates four nurseries in Perth, Dundee and Arbroath, in a £3 million plus transaction. The purchase, which also includes a company, Thistle Training, which trains nursery nurses, makes Little Einstein's Scotland's second biggest independently-owned children's nursery group and puts it in the top five overall.

Little Einstein's, which started trading in October 2006, already owns two children's nurseries in Mansewood, Glasgow. It will now provide day care for around 425 children from 0 to 5 years of age at six sites, where a total of 120 staff are employed.

Managing director, Deepak Poddar, who also operates Everest Nursing Homes and whose family runs the Glasgow-based Lambhill Court chain of nursing homes and, in addition, organised last month's highly successful visit to Scotland of India's leading yog guru, Swami Ramdev Ji, said that the Wonderland acquisition represented a key part in Little Einstein's expansion strategy.

He said: 'Wonderland is a successful business which had the foresight to buy three out of the four properties we have now acquired. All of the staff are being retained and we hope to expand further this year at our premises in Thistle Street, Dundee where we have planning permission to build accommodation to provide day care for another fifty children as well as at 15 Hillside Road on the Southside of Glasgow where we expect to almost double the number of children we can look after'.

Mr. Poddar made it clear that he does not intend to stop there: 'this acquisition takes us into the top five of nursery businesses in Scotland, but there are further acquisitions we'd like to make over the next year. At the same time I am working with partners to identify opportunities to construct new-build state-of-the-art children's nurseries in strategic locations.

'There is a huge demand for high quality nursery day care in Scotland and we aim to fulfil that demand by expanding the choice of high quality children's nurseries available to parents throughout Scotland', he said.

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