

Whoop
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Our guide to hosting the perfect party

We love nothing better than hosting children's parties, in fact we've been perfecting it for years and have picked up lots of tips along the way. We understand the challenges of juggling busy life and party planning, which is why we're here to help you host the perfect birthday party. Read on for our expert tips and ideas which will help make your party the special day your child deserves;

Plan ahead and book early:

Set a date well in advance, to maximize attendance and ensure your children's friends are available. Contact Magpie Makes early to reserve your date as we do get busy and we'd hate for anyone to be disappointed.

We run parties on Saturday mornings and afternoons. Our activities last approximately 1.5 hours so we allow 2 hours for the party to give you time for party food and cake too.

The earlier you contact us the most likely it will be to get the date you want. If you have left it late then of course we'll do our best to let you know if there's a space somewhere.

We will ask you to pay a deposit to secure your date and then you can relax knowing it's all booked in.



Choose your party activity:

When you contact us with an enquiry we'll give you a menu of party activity options. Consider your child's interests and passions, whether it's painting, making, crafting, sewing, or cooking. Choose something you know they'll love - this will make the party extra special.

Discuss the options with your child to ensure their excitement and engagement throughout the planning process.

Our parties come with an age guidance - we've worked on these carefully so do take the ages of your guests into account when selecting your project.



Sending invitations:

Think about the number of friends you'd like to come. We think a really nice number for our parties is between 8 and 15 children. You need enough kids for a fun 'party vibe' but not too many so that it becomes crowded.

We recommend sending invitations at least 4 weeks before the party so when you have your date confirmed you can go ahead. When you book we'll send you a link to download our Magpie Makes party invite PDF which you can attach to a WhatsApp message or email.

Organise the party food remembering allergies:

When sending out invitations, ask parents to inform you about any allergies their child may have. This way, you can plan the party food accordingly, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. We endeavour for our studio to be nut free.

Many parents choose to bring a picnic style party tea, or organise takeaway pizzas. We advise allowing 30mins from the end of the party for any delivery. We don't supply party food for you just because we recognise everyone's choices are so individual - and we'll be busy creating with the kids whilst you lay out the food and drinks.

Order a cake or plan to make your own:

Of course we always stop to sing Happy Birthday and so a cake is a must have.

Our recommended local cake makers are

Amiya Sweet Vanilla - Monika Valatkeviciene 07843281096 - based in West Molesey





What to wear:

Inform guests and parents in advance that an arty or cooking party may involve messy activities, so it's best not to wear their best party clothes. We provide aprons to protect clothing during the creative sessions but still we'd hate anything special to get a mark on it.

Obviously if you're having a sewing party you don't need to worry about this and you can be as glam as you like!

Create a party atmosphere:

Add an extra splash of colour to the space by ordering a bunch of helium filled balloons. Our party studio is clean and white and will already be decorated with bunting and pom-poms but sometimes balloons make a nice personalised touch. If you bring balloons we ask that you take them home at the end please.

We have a bluetooth speaker in the studio so we'll play a kids party playlist. If you'd prefer to play your own music just ask, that's no problem.

Creative party bags:

All of our party projects make lovely keepsakes so you may feel you don't need party bags, but if you do want to give a little treat to your guests, skip the generic party bags and opt for our creative ones. Magpie Makes offers a range of party bags from keyring kits to small sewing kits - ask us about what's available and if you'd like them we'll include them in your order.



Pick the perfect party venue:

Our studio is situated half way between Esher and Kingston in Thames Ditton. We have off-street parking and a space that has been designed to be dedicated to creative workshops and parties.

We'd love to welcome you here for your special celebration soon!



What other parents are saying about Magpie Makes parties:

“Our daughter had a graffiti art party at Magpie for her 9th birthday, which she absolutely loved. The set up is really clean and smart and we could leave her and her friends to enjoy themselves without us parents hanging around. The steps were easy to follow but the end results were really impressive. Magpie made sure there was sufficient helpers who engaged with the girls really nicely. Overall it was really professional. Definitely recommend.”

“We’ve just had my sons 7th Birthday at Magpie Makes, as requested by him, as he adores the summer camps and classes here. This is by far his most favourite place, and he always comes back home with incredible artworks and a smile on his face. Kerry and Suzie work magic in inspiring creativity. I’ve also been to the Mother’s Day workshops and enjoyed these immensely as a bonding class with my son. The workshop space itself is also really bright and beautiful and a lovely setting to have a party.”

“Dear Magpie Makes team.

From an eternally grateful parent, thank you! My girls have both had the most wonderful birthday parties with you. Every time they come out with a beaming smile.

We’ve done unicorn wand making party, tshirt designs, decoupage, thrown some Harry Potter inspired ideas into the mix - basically Kerry and Suzie have gone to such amazing lengths to make sure it was the perfect party for each girl and all their friends. So many friends have then also had their own MM party so it must have been good.

They’ve each still got their decoupage animals proudly displayed and their art canvasses.

And they still wear their t-shirts. Winner winner.

Thank you again.”

“Held a fabulous 9yr old birthday party here. Team couldn’t have been more helpful and all of the kids had a wonderful time and all left with something they’d made themselves to remember the day with! Highly recommend!”

“What a lovely birthday painting party for our daughter and her friends. Fabulous feedback from all party goers. Thank you Magpie Makes”

“Thank you both SO much for making Mia’s birthday party so special. It was honestly one of the best parties we’ve ever had. The t-shirts were absolutely gorgeous (we especially loved the glitter!) and the activity was pitched perfectly for the age group/ability level. I wish we’d had more time, I could have stayed sewing sequins on all day! Mia was quite nervous beforehand but you made her feel really special. I love how you’ve made her feel confident about being creative.

Thank you again, you are both amazing!’