



Update 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Thank you for your patience and understanding throughout this very difficult time for us all.

The safety of our children, families and staff is our utmost priority. It is a major concern that the new strain of the virus is spreading so quickly with case rates in the 0-5 age range seeing a 268% increase in the last month and coronavirus daily death rates being the highest since the start of the pandemic, with a daily death rate of 1,564 deaths announced yesterday.

We have been reviewing our risk assessment to ensure we can keep the children and staff as safe as we possibly can. For the past two weeks we have been prioritising on site education for children with SEND/Disabilities, children whose families are frontline workers and children with family vulnerabilities.

We are doing all that we possibly can to include as many children as we can in nursery safely in line with our risk assessment and have contacted all families to ask whether they would choose to take up their child's place at the moment.

I am happy to say that we are in a position to offer places to all children whose parents have said that they would like their child to attend nursery, from next week (18<sup>th</sup> January) for their usual hours.

In order to reduce the numbers in each classroom and maintain ratios that are safer for our staff and children, we are using the community room as an additional classroom. This means that some children may be in a different room or with a different key person than their usual group.

Many of you have told us that you would prefer to keep your child at home during this most dangerous time of the pandemic. We understand this decision and this will not affect your child's place at nursery. When asked about nurseries on BBC Breakfast on Monday, Professor Chris Whitty the Chief Medical Officer said 'If you don't need to use it, don't use it.'

We will continue to make contact and provide online, remote learning activities via Tapestry. Please ensure that you access Tapestry daily, as new activities will be posted. If you have trouble accessing your child's Tapestry account, please contact Sue who will be happy to help. (Tel: 0121 464 3078 [enquiry@goodwayn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@goodwayn.bham.sch.uk))

We will also prepare activity packs for all children learning at home. We will be in touch shortly to let you know when you can collect your child's pack. This will ensure all children are able to continue to access their early education.

Key persons will continue to be in contact with all families through telephone calls and Tapestry.

We will continue to review our risk assessment and keep you updated through emails and the school website.

We hope you all stay safe and well.

With very best wishes,  
Beth



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