



22nd May 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

The government has indicated that it may be safe to open schools to more pupils from 1st June 2020. However, the late and changing guidance means that we will not be able to meet this timescale and will be offering places from Monday 8th June at the earliest.

We will increase our numbers in accordance with the priorities identified by government. This means that we will not be able to offer places to children in our 2-3 year old group (Daisies) in the initial phase of re-opening.

Children of key workers and those who have vulnerabilities will continue to be attend in line with current government guidance.

We have taken into account parent and carer preferences, as much as we can and have created a plan which will enable us to offer places, for reduced hours, to all parents and carers who have indicated that they would definitely like a place from the beginning of June.

We will not be able to offer places initially to those who have indicated that they are currently undecided, but will review our offer of places at the end of June, and make changes according to the latest government guidance.

We will not be able to offer wraparound care, in order to maintain separate 'bubbles' that minimise mixing with other children and staff.

We understand that this arrangement may not suit all families, but hope that you will understand that we are trying to keep everyone as safe as possible, following the guidance to keep children in 'bubbles'.

We are working on our Risk Assessment, policies and procedures, using government guidance, to enable us to provide the safest environment possible for our children, families and staff team.

Please be aware that if and when children come to school, their experience will be very different from how it has been. Nursery will no longer look and feel the same as it has in the past as we are doing all we can to reduce risk and protect the children and staff. We are aware this could be unsettling for the children and we will support them in every way we can.

Some of the measures we will be implementing as part of our Risk Assessment will include:

- Reduced hours for families who are not key workers to maintain safer levels of social distancing
- Staggered arrival and departure times to maximise social distancing
- Children kept in same 'bubble' of 8-10 children at all times
- Each bubble to remain separate, so groups will not mix - they will only be able to play with children in their own bubble
- Children will not necessarily be with their usual key person to ensure all bubbles are approximately even in number
- Children will only be able to play in their allocated classroom and zoned outdoor area
- Only limited resources will be available and these will be cleaned each day
- Staff may choose to wear PPE, including face masks, visors, gloves and aprons

We will be writing to individual parents and carers tomorrow with possible hours for their child from 8th June. This will however, be conditional upon our risk assessment showing that it safe to reopen further and the government Five Key Tests being met on 28th May.

Please look at the following guidance from the Department for Education and a statement from Birmingham City Council:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/news/article/618/statement_on_re-opening_of_birmingham_schools

We would like to thank you for engaging with our learning ideas posted on Tapestry and Facebook and we love seeing what you have been doing together on Tapestry. We will continue to provide online learning ideas and to make the regular telephone calls to children and families who are not in school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We are so disappointed that we are unable to offer our usual nursery education at the moment, and really do miss seeing you all.

Stay safe, and we hope to see you all before the end of the Summer term.

Yours sincerely,

Beth