

## Returning to Nursery

### How we will help your child return to nursery school

We realise returning to nursery school will be an anxious time for you and your child.

You will no doubt have concerns about how the school will work to prevent the spread of the COVID 19 virus whilst supporting your child's health, safety, emotional well-being and educational development. Our nursery school will look and feel very different in the coming term. I have listed the precautions the school will take to maintain a safe environment for children's development.

#### Learning Environment:

- Staff will clean resources daily with appropriate disinfectants.
- Resources are restricted to groups of children to reduce cross contamination.
- Surfaces, floor, toilets, hygiene, doors, and handles are cleaned daily by professional cleaners with appropriate dis-infectants and barrier solutions.
- All soft furnishings, soft toys, rugs, books, etc will be removed from the environment as they cannot be cleaned effectively.
- There will be allocated cleaning times in the nursery each day and a weekly deep clean. This means the nursery will be closed 1 day each week.
- We will restrict unnecessary visitors into the nursery. This means parents will be asked to hand their child over to a member of staff at an allocated space outside of the nursery building.

#### Social Distancing:

- Staff will support children in maintaining appropriate distancing, but this cannot be guaranteed. The unique nature of young children is that they are tactile and need to connect with others physically, emotionally, and socially to make sense of the world, which is an important aspect of their development. We know that children will want to play together which involves touching and sharing resources. Our only solution to this is we will be vigilant.
- There is a cap on the number of children allowed to attend in any one session. This is to ensure we can support social distancing.
- Each key group will be given an allocated time to start and finish nursery. This will differ across the groups to reduce gatherings of parents before and after school and help maintain social distancing safely. **Parents must leave the nursery area as soon as they have handed their child over to nursery staff.**

#### Protecting the Whole Community:

- We can only protect the whole community if we can work in partnership with you and your family.
- Parents need to adhere to social distancing outside the nursery and in their daily business.
- Clean clothes daily, to reduce cross contamination between school and households we are asking parents to make sure children have clean clothing each day.
- If your child is ill or if a member of your household is ill, you must inform the school and it is expected your child will not attend nursery for 14 days.

- If your child becomes ill whilst at nursery, there are procedures the school must follow. **Parents must collect their child immediately from the nursery to reduce the risk of the virus spreading to other children and staff.** It is essential we have up to date telephone and mobiles numbers from all parents.

### **Supporting Children's Emotional Well-being**

- Whilst in nursery, if your child becomes upset or hurt, staff will comfort them with a cuddle or the contact their need to feel safe.
- Your child will not return to nursery in their Key Group or with their friends or their Key worker. Instead they will have a consistent adult who will support them in an allocated group of between 8 to 10 children. These groups will not be allowed to mix and be restricted to designated areas in the nursery.

### **Supporting Children's Development**

- The early year's curriculum will remain the same. Children will be supported to play, participate in appropriate activities, and be involved in outside learning as much as possible. We will continue to have story, singing and group time but in much smaller groups.
- Books and the resources that cannot be washed and disinfected will not be accessible to the children.

### **Children with on-going health problems**

- Following Government and Medical Guidelines children with on-going health issues such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy or any respiratory problem **must remain at home safely.**