



Newsletter, September 2020

Dear Families

It has been wonderful being fully open again to all of our Grandpont families and the children have come into Nursery very happy and content.

Thank you for all of your ongoing support and myself and the Grandpont team are looking forward to working with you all over the coming year.

Best Wishes

Lisa Fern

Headteacher

Term Dates

All of the term dates, holiday club dates, inset dates can be found on the calendar on the website. <https://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk>

Half term week is the week beginning **Monday 25th October**. We will be open for holiday club bookings during this week. Please contact the office with regard to bookings towards the end of next week. Due to the covid-19 situation we will still need to consider our number of children and groupings. We will keep you informed about this in due course.

Communication

Please be aware that we communicate with you in the following ways:

- A monthly newsletter that is emailed to you through mailchimp and can also be found on our website.
- Mailchimp emails for other reasons may also be sent to you from time to time.
- Our website is kept updated and can be found on the link above.
- We also have a Grandpont facebook page and twitter account for ad hoc information.
- Texts- we have a texting service which we will use in emergency situations such as nursery closures etc.

If you are ever unsure about anything or have any questions then please email us on office@grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk

Changes to our Covid-19 arrangements

We have come across a couple of scenarios over the past week that have led us to review our risk assessment in light of the pandemic.



- **Children who are presenting as unwell-** We know that children get all sorts of colds and sniffles at this time of year so we have decided that if we start to have a concern about a child's health we will take their temperature. If this is high but the child still doesn't present with other symptoms we will call parents to let you know.

We will then take the temperature again approximately an hour later, if it is still high we will call you again and ask you to come and collect your child straight away and they will not be able to return to nursery until you receive a negative covid-19 test or they have self isolated for 10 days.

If the temperature has gone down we will keep the child at nursery and keep a watchful eye on them for the remainder of the session.

- **Children who are ill before coming to nursery-** It is important that you let us know if your child is ill by emailing or calling us. Our guidance is as follows:
 - If a child has a persistent cough and/or high temperature for a period of time, they will not be able to return to nursery until you receive a negative covid-19 test or self isolated for 10 days.

Drop off and pick up arrangements

Thank you for your patience and support with these arrangements. We are pleased with how these are now working.

Children's belongings

- Please bring named **wellies** into the nursery for your child and a waterproof jacket. We will be outside in all weathers and it is important that the children have appropriate clothing for the weather.
- **Suncream-** we are anticipating some more sunny days over the next week. We strongly recommend you put suncream on your children at the start of their session. Whole day sun cream is available in the shops and due to the current climate we recommend you use this so we do not have to reapply the cream at midday.
- **Packed lunch boxes-** Please can you ensure that your child's lunch box is visibly named on the outside of the box so we know who's box belongs to who!
- **Morning Fruit/snack-** We would also appreciate it if you could send the snack in separately to your child's lunch so we can find this quickly at snack time.



Nursery Lunches

I have spoken to several parents this week about the lunch situation at Grandpont.

There are two issues that I would like to explain more clearly to you:

1. If you have a child who stays all day in the nursery school you will be invoiced for the half hour addition to the day that is not covered in your 30hr entitlement

funding. In order to allow our staff time for a lunch break we need to employ additional staff to cover at lunch time. We have to do this to ensure that we remain within the legal ratios of adults to children. When we were offering a hot lunch we charged for the cost of the meal and the staffing. The cost of the meal has now been removed from this price and we now only charge for the additional staffing. If you have any other questions about this then please ask.

2. We appreciate that many of you would prefer us to provide a meal at lunchtime for your children and I wanted to fill you in on the current status of this situation. We lost our contract with the School Lunch Company during the covid closure, which was very disappointing. We are beginning to look at the various options for the future but one of the main barriers for this is the cost of the management fee we are charged by meal providers to use their service. We have to fund this from the nursery budget and there is no income to support this other than the cost we charge for the meal.

We will be exploring a couple of options, including using a different lunch provider or exploring the opportunity to have our own cook. If you have any suggestions or ideas we would love to hear from you as this could be an exciting opportunity for us.

Term time places for 2 year olds!

We have opened up a small number of places for two year olds and we have filled the majority of these sessions for this term. If you would like to register a child for this provision or would like more information, please get in touch with us.

Google Classrooms

Many of you will know that we used Google Classrooms as a way to interact with families during the lockdown. Our classrooms that were set up for last year are in the process of being closed down. If you log on to your child's classroom again you may have access to a new classroom. We are not using these classrooms at the moment as we are in the process of working out the best way to use them.



Google Classroom

Invoices

We have now sent out all the invoices for this term. If you have not received one or you have any questions please contact the office.

South Oxford Family Room (SOFR)

We are back open for stay and play sessions on a Monday and a Friday, but please book via the facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/SouthOxfordFamilyRoom/> where you will also find more information on what we offer.