

Cashmore Early Years Centre



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Dear Parents/carers

I hope you and your families are well and thank you for your understanding during the current situation.

We have completed our risk assessment and made some alterations at the Nursery so that we can safely begin to welcome back more children. In order to keep children, parents and staff safe and to follow government guidance we have had to put a temporary cap on numbers. This means that the maximum number of children that can attend Nursery will be 22 children a day.

As you are aware the school has continued to provide care for the children of Key Workers and other eligible children since 23 March. Since the Government announced that Nursery Schools should begin to welcome back more children from 1 June we have been making preparations.

We have now spoken to the majority of parents who have indicated whether they would like their child to return to Nursery and we will be allocating the limited number of places we have using the following criteria:

- Children of Key Workers (as defined by the Government) and other eligible children e.g. children with social workers, children with an EHCP, children with SEN who are in receipt of additional funding, otherwise vulnerable;
- Children of other workers;
- Children due to leave in July 2020 to go to Reception;
- Children due to return to Nursery in September 2020;
- 2 year olds.

If your child is allocated a space, then they will be placed in a 'household' group with 10-12 children. A household group is called a 'protective bubble' in government guidance. This group will be made up of children from across the school according to the criteria and children may not know each other. There will be 3 staff working with each 'household' group. This may not be the child's Key Person.

We have put the following in place:

- **The same group of children will always be with the same staff.** The children in the group will play together and share as normal because children this age cannot stay

2m apart (The Department for Education agrees with this). Also, children need close adult help with many things.

- **Adults and children do not wear masks/face coverings.** Masks are only safe when used for a short time, like shopping and stopping you from spreading the virus rather than preventing you catching it.
- **Staff will give more support to children to help with hygiene and ensure regular hand washing.**
- **Children will not meet children from other groups when they are in Nursery.** Please help us to stay safe by making sure they do not play with children outside your household family.
- **Children will not share toys and resources with another group.**
- Our cleaning staff have extra training to keep the Nursery as hygienic as possible.
- There will be regular thorough cleaning of furniture and toys.
- **Children will be able to play outside for most of the day.** There is good evidence that viral transmission is lower outdoors.
- **Inside, we will keep windows open for fresh air.**

If we are able to offer your child a space, then we will let you know next week.

We encourage any family who have reasons for requiring a place not covered by the above criteria to discuss, in confidence, with the Head Teacher or Deputy Head/SENCO.

Thank you again for your understanding.

Yours faithfully



Simon Holmes
Head Teacher