

8.1.21

Dear Parents and carers of all Nursery and toddler children.

First of all, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and very much hope that you managed to enjoy Christmas with your children, keeping safe and well.

A rocky start to the year as we know with government sending all children back to school on Monday only then to do a u turn and close schools for children other than those who have critical workers as parents or are indeed more vulnerable.

Maintained Nursery schools as Millfields is and other Early Years settings were told to stay open for all children, which is what we are doing here at Millfields.

I very much understand the confusion and concern around should I or shouldn't I send my child into Nursery school, it is a very difficult decision to make, added to which the Government hasn't been very clear on why this decision was made. Which I understand is not very reassuring for parents.

We are pleased to have welcomed many children back into Nursery and toddlers this week. We also respect the decision made by some of you to keep your children at home. These are very anxious times and you have to do what you feel is best for you, your children and families.

Here at Millfields we will continue to follow all guidelines and procedures to keep you, your children and staff safe as follows:-

Staff will wear masks to greet children and parents at the beginning of the session and at home time, we expect that you do this too when in school grounds too.

Children will be hand gelled on entrance and exit, throughout the session and will be encouraged and monitored washing hands regularly, staff will do the same.

Children remain in small consistent bubbles that do not mix.

All resources used by a bubble are thoroughly disinfected before being used again.

All areas of nursery are constantly disinfected including high contact areas, doors switches etc.

We have a fogging machine which disinfects all areas of the nursery including small, hard to reach areas.

We ask that parents do not congregate with other children and families when bringing and collecting children.

Please continue to follow the government guidelines in terms of staying at home where possible.

Please inform school if your children or any members of family or close contacts develop Coronavirus symptoms ie new continuous cough, high temperature and loss of taste and smell. We know some people do not have these typical symptoms so we need to be vigilant with any new illness or symptoms.

We will keep in touch with you with simple short ideas of things to do at home with your children.

All staff are in school and are here to support all of our children and families, if you just want to chat or ask anything please do ring, there will always be someone here who is happy to chat to you and answer any questions or reassure you.

I also understand that these are difficult times of challenge in terms of job security and finances. We are currently linked to a group who are able to provide food parcels to families, this could be needed due to finances or just simply that you can't get out to the shops.

Please call nursery and speak to myself if you think you would like to receive one of these, it will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Whilst this situation does at times seem never ending, we will get back to normal hopefully soon with the role out of vaccines etc.

There will be light at the end of the tunnel and we here at Millfields can't wait to return to a time when we are all back together, mask free and returning to normal.

In the meantime please keep safe, keep well and keep following all National guidelines,

With very best wishes for a better new year,

*L.Emery*

Lynne Emery (Headteacher) and all of the staff here at Millfields Nursery school.

