



Ark Ayrton
Nursery



Ark Ayrton
Primary Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your families are healthy, safe, and well.

As you will probably have seen, the Prime Minister has set out the Government's plan to begin to gradually ease the lockdown over the coming months. We are really looking forward to seeing all of the children back at nursery again but, most importantly, only when it is safe for them, and our staff, to do so.

We have reviewed the guidance and have begun planning for a phased and gradual return to nursery from the first week in June. The Government has stressed that all of the reopening plans are conditional and will depend on infection rates decreasing and it won't make its final decision on whether settings can definitely reopen until May 28th. This uncertainty makes planning difficult, but we will continue to develop our plans to welcome some children back into nursery if we can.

The safety, health and wellbeing of everyone in the nursery is, of course our highest priority. We are planning how to put into place the measures needed so that the nursery can be run safely, hygienically and with appropriate procedures in place whilst also maintaining statutory ratios. **In order to prioritise the safety of our pupils and staff, we may not be able to accommodate all of the children and age ranges at this time and so may need to apply criteria for selection of who may be able to attend.**

The Government guidance says we must maintain statutory ratios and groups of children and adults should not mix. We will therefore need to manage the number of children and staff that your children play and learn with whilst in setting. In addition, it will be important that we avoid large numbers of children and parents gathering at the beginning and end of the day. This will mean we will have to stagger the times that groups arrive and leave and have new arrangements for how we do with this.

The staff have contacted as many of the parents as they have been able to, to see if they are considering sending their child back to nursery at this current time so we can begin our planning for phased returns over the rest of the Summer term if we are able. If your child is already attending nursery because you are a key worker or for vulnerable children, they can continue to do so regardless of which age they are. If your child has specific health vulnerabilities, or they live with someone who is extremely vulnerable, they should not come to nursery.

I will write to you again next week when I can hopefully share with you specific arrangements and plans. Please do bear with us, I know that many of you will already have lots of questions, but I would ask for your patience and understanding as we continue to organise a possible return to nursery for some children in an ever changing time and whilst awaiting further guidance.

We hope that you and your families continue to stay safe.

Julie Ayrton
Nursery Manager

Mrs A H-Chapman
Head Teacher