



Covid -19 Newsletter

Ferring Funtime Community Preschool Newsletter for Parents & Children

3rd June 2020

We are back!

Pre-school has re-opened its doors and sessions are available for those in need. Of course, we never went away and have enjoyed maintaining a relationship with families over the phone during these difficult times. We shall continue to keep these channels of communication open for those who are not returning to pre-school and please keep telling us about what you have all been up to.

Reopening

Following the government's announcement, we have partially reopened pre-school for those who wanted to send their children back. We understand that a lot of families are unsure as to when the right time was and still to be, there is no right or wrong in this situation and each family needs to assess their own personal feelings on this. But when you're ready, we will be ready to support you in your child's return. With all this in mind we need to make you aware that we have, following guidelines, introduced a cap on the number of children we can take in session. This decision has been made considering the following important factors.

Infection Control

Lower numbers = lower chance of infection. It is near impossible (and unreasonable) to enforce social distancing for children attending an Early Years setting. The staff will maintain a safe distance from each other where possible, but we will be relying heavily on frequent cleaning of resources and surfaces along with regular handwashing. Our toys and resources have been reduced but still offer a range of learning and play opportunities.

Staffing

We have a reduced workforce due to the governments shielding guidelines. As we work strictly within Ofsted child : adult ratios, less staff means we can have less children. We rely on the government updates on these guidelines and will let this influence our decisions along with their safety when rostering staff.

Sessions

With many other important factors to be considered and constantly reassessed, we will need to handle parents' requests by priority. So, it is important that you effectively communicate with us the importance of your childcare needs. With working parents, especially keyworkers, we aim to offer as much stability as possible, but please be aware we cannot guarantee ongoing session reservations during a changing environment. There is thought out and fine balance with the children's and staff rota and to not follow it could throw the balance out. So, please be considerate with your sessions choices as non-attendance will have an impact on other children in session. If 2 children or less remain in a session due to non-attendance, we may have to close pre-school, which could have an impact on someone's work commitments. We understand that it is exceedingly difficult to give certainty during uncertain times, so we just ask for you to be as considerate as reasonably possible and we aim to continue to offer you the same in return.

Policies

While we are open during the outbreak there have been some changes on how we do things. We would like to draw your attention to our new policy that can be found on our website called '[Opening During the COVID-19 Outbreak Policy & Procedure](#)'. There are some important changes you should know, if and when you send your child back to pre-school. Some examples would be that you will now need to provide your child with a drink and snack during sessions and what we will do if we think your child is showing symptoms. Please take the time to read this document before considering sending your child back.

COVID-19 Page

We have tried to keep you all up to date as possible with our covid-19 page on our website. You can find lots of important information there along with some FAQ's and you can also keep us informed using the survey. This can be completed as many times as appropriate, informing us of your childcare needs.

Invoicing

For those of you whose children are attending unfunded sessions, we shall be invoicing on a weekly basis. This is to hopefully improve accuracy of sessions booked. Invoices will be raised the Friday prior and payment will be due by the end of the week invoiced. This is a temporary adjustment to our terms and from next term, if a level of normality resumes, we shall return to monthly invoicing.

Stay Safe
Sandy and the Team.