



Toddington Childcare
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Plans for Phased Reopening of Toddington Childcare Forest School.

(This information is provided to help you plan ahead. However, this may be subject to change dependent on changes in Government Guidance prior to 1st June 2020.)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Please find enclosed details of our planned phased reopening of Toddington Childcare Forest School. Risk assessments will be in place for our return, with best endeavours to minimise risks and ensure both our children and staff are kept as safe as possible.

Our proposed opening date is: Monday 8th June 2020 (Opening times: 9am until 3pm for children).

- We will begin with a phased return starting with any Giraffe children who attend our Giraffe Room only and do not normally transition between Toddington Childcare Forest School and Toddington St. George Ducklings Nursery. This is because guidance recommends children attend only one setting. We will also be welcoming our Zebra Room children back.
- We will operate from our Zebra Room, Zebra garden and Forest garden area and use these areas as our 3 'Learning Bubbles'. If the weather is very wet, we will utilise our Zebra Cloakroom area and zone our Zebra Room into two areas.
- We will group children in small groups of no more than 4 which will be known as 'Learning Bubbles' working on Early Years Foundation Stage ratios of 1:4 for 2-3 year olds. We will however have 2 staff members for each bubble to ensure we can work safely and provide care giving needs like nappy changing and help with toileting. All staff are Paediatric First Aid trained. We will endeavour to group children with either their Key Person or a staff member they are



familiar with. Children will be grouped with one friend or a familiar peer.

- We have planned activities including small group games like Sound Bingo, Musical instrument games, interactive stories, short listening games from our Lift Off to Language programmes, Forest school activities outside and physical play with hoops, balls, hopscotch and ride on toys outside. Additional resources will be provided to minimise risk of shared resources, e.g each 'Bubble' will have their own set of pencils, colouring pencils and Chubbi marker pens. Planning will be mindful of equipment and we will make our best endeavours to ensure resources, outdoor equipment and all 'Learning Bubble' areas are disinfected and cleaned down before another cohort moves into that area. We will rotate approx. every 20 minutes, as this will protect children from the sun if extremely hot. We will still have our favourites like Play dough, but each 'bubble' will make their own batch of playdough fresh at the beginning of that activity when they move into that area. Our children love making playdough and it provides many learning opportunities weighing, measuring, turn taking and imaginative and social play within their groups. All plastic cutting tools and rollers will be cleaned and tables and laminated visuals will be sprayed with disinfectant before the next 'Learning Bubble' moves into that area. This will be required for any resources we plan to use, before others use them.
- All soft furnishings will be removed in line with guidance, including large cushions and soft toys in our 'Snuggle Zone' area. We will still have a large gym mat available for children to sit on to read books or play small group games. No soft toys or toys in general are to be brought in from home please. Exceptions will be made for small comforters. These will be kept in children's bags and only used if necessary.
- We will continue to provide a small morning and afternoon snack for our children. This will be served in children's bubbles throughout the morning and afternoon sessions. Drinking water will also be made available throughout the day.
- Lunch time- Each 'bubble' of children will sit together around a table, at least 2 metres apart from other 'bubbles' with a member of staff. We will arrange tables accordingly and maximise space in the Zebra Room. If the weather is nice, we may be able to arrange areas outside for lunch time. Children will be required to bring their own packed lunch in a named box as normal. Can I please remind all parents/carers that we are a 'No Nut' setting. Please check all packaging for nut products or if home made, list ingredients used. We will continue to provide drinking water.
- Additional hand washing and personal hygiene will be incorporated into our daily routines and teaching, especially before snack and lunch time and after toileting. Children will be helped to wash their hands on entry to our setting and on exit.
- 5 additional hand sanitisers have been ordered and will be installed at entrances to all rooms and our main cloakroom for staff.
- Additional supplies of disinfectant spray, mild bars of soap for extra hand washing and Anti-Bacterial wipes have been ordered in time for our planned reopening as well as our children's Liquid soap dispensers in children's toilet facilities.

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

Toddington Childcare Forest School will **not** be permitting any parents/carers or visitors into our setting beyond our access ramps i.e no parent or carer will be able to enter our children's cloakroom or access our main office. For drop offs and collections, there will be signage and markings for a queueing system on our ramp, (similar to a supermarket queueing system) clearly marked 2 Metres apart. It will be a **one** parent drop off. A staff member will approach a parent and stand 2 Metres from them to welcome their child. We will endeavour that to be the child's Key Person or a member of staff they are familiar with for each 'Bubble'. If your child is upset and not willing to come forward. We will ask you as the parent if you'd like us to collect your child from you. Our Staff member would wear a face covering to minimise risk if this is required, as the staff member would not be able to remain 2 metres back from you. Children will be taken into our Zebra cloakroom one at a time, hang their belongings e.g bags etc and be taken into their learning 'bubble' inside the setting. Face coverings would not be worn by staff once inside our setting, as guidance states no additional PPE is required other than for usual care giving needs like toileting or nappy changing etc where staff wear an apron and gloves. To help with drop off in the morning, we will stagger times in 5 minute intervals. E.g Bubble 1 at 8.50am, Bubble 2 at 8.55am and Bubble 3 at 9.00am. Our numbers on registers are not showing any more than 12 children in any one session throughout the week, so there will be 3 x Learning Bubbles of 4 children in each, with 2 Early Years Practitioners supervising each Bubble. We will notify our parents who have responded which 'Bubble' their child is in and communicate this separately with each parent before reopening.

Please help us to help your child is prepared before they arrive.

- Please provide your child with a named sun hat or cap and ensure your child has had an application of sun cream before arrival. Named sun cream can be kept inside bags. If the weather forecast is wet, please ensure your child has named wellington boots and a waterproof jacket. We will be accessing our Forest Garden area.
- Please provide plenty of nappies and wipes, changes of underwear and clothing if toilet training. We do have a small supply of clean children's clothing, but children are more comfortable in their own clothes.
- Please help your children's independence skills by ensuring shoes or trainers are not laced. Velcro is ideal. No open toe footwear please.
- If possible, please tie long hair back.
- Talk about and show your children how to cough into their elbow, catch coughs and sneezes in tissues and how to place in a bin and then wash their hands. (Catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Practice handwashing for 20 seconds singing familiar rhymes at home.

Medical Considerations

- Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable should not attend pre-school.
- If a child becomes unwell and displays signs of Covid-19, e.g a high temperature above 37.8 degrees, a persistent cough or upset tummy, the child will be isolated in a ventilated area away from others with a First Aid trained staff member, who will wear PPE and a face covering.
- Parents/Carers will be notified and asked to collect their child immediately. The child should self-isolate at home for 7 days. Their fellow household should self-isolate for 14 days. For children under 5 years old, you will need to call NHS 111 and make arrangements for your child to be tested.
- If your child tests positive, it is likely that we will have to close our setting and children and staff self-isolate with their households for 14 days.
- If a staff member displays signs of Covid-19, they will go home immediately and begin to self-isolate for 7 days or until they are able to access testing. If tested negative, they may return to work. If positive, this may result in our setting closing and everyone self-isolating for 14 days.

I hope this explains our plans in more detail and reassures you all that we will do everything we can to ensure a safe return for our children and staff.

Please see guidance :

Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1st June: guidance for parents and carers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

Covid-19 :Implementing Protective measures in education and childcare settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Take care and stay safe!

Kind regards,

Rachel Turner

Setting Manager

