



The Lea Nursery School

Wexham Road, Slough, Berks SL2 5JW

Tel: 01753 536492

e-mail: post@lea-nursery.slough.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Miss Nikki Elsmore-Cary

Chair of Governors: David Maclsaac

Parent Information- COVID-19 Addendum

We have had to make the following adaptations to the normal curriculum and running of school in order to make Nursery as safe as possible for children in September. The adaptations will remain in place until government advice changes.

SCHOOL TIMES

We have had to adapt the session times to allow time for staff to clean the toys and other materials at the end of each session. Doing this helps us to ensure that all children are kept as safe as possible.

We have given a 15-20 minute window for drop off and collection to help you maintain social distance during these times.

Until further notice the following session times apply:

- The morning session starts at 8.35a.m. Please drop your child any time between 8.35a.m. and 9.00a.m.
- The morning session ends at 11.20a.m. Please collect anytime between 11a.m. and 11:20a.m.
- The afternoon session starts at 12.20p.m. Please drop your child any time between 12.20p.m. and 12.40p.m.
- The afternoon session ends at 3.00 p.m. Please collect anytime between 2:45p.m. and 3.00p.m.
- For children attending 30 hours the session ends at 2:35p.m. Please collect between 2:20p.m. and 2:35p.m.

If your child arrives after the times indicated above you will need to bring them to Reception. Please ring the buzzer and wait for an adult from the Nursery to collect them from you at the door.

ABSENCES

If your child is absent it is very important that you tell us the reason for absence. We need this information to keep all children and staff safe.

If your child or anyone that lives in your household has any of the following symptoms then he/she needs to stay at home for 14 days.

- a high temperature- this means your child feels hot to touch on his/her chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if your child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste.

If your child is absent please report it in one of the following 3 ways:

- Phone the Nursery on **01753 536492**
- Text the Nursery on the following number **07786 208889**
- E-mail the Nursery using the address post@lea-nursery.slough.sch.uk

If your child is absent and you receive a text please either reply to this text, phone or e-mail to let us know why your child is away.

STARTING SCHOOL

We are currently unable to let any parents into the Nursery building. This is part of the guidance issued by the government. We will however allow the parents of new children to come into the Nursery garden with them. Your child will be able to enter the Nursery classroom but you will need to remain outside. Please bring a book and sit on one of the chairs provided to maintain social distance from other parents and staff. **Please note that you will not be able to use your phone while in the Nursery garden.**

Some children settle very quickly and others take more time. Our priority is for children to feel comfortable and confident at Nursery. We will ask you to stay at Nursery until your child starts to feel more confident.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Parents are notified about routine closures by letter. If the school is closed due to an emergency, we will send you a text message on your mobile phone. This information will also be uploaded onto our website. **It is important that you update us if your mobile number changes.**

If the school has to close due to an emergency, we will ensure that all children are collected by a responsible adult. Children whose parents cannot be contacted will be supervised until collected or until the normal end of session.

Should we have a case of COVID-19 in the Nursery class or Kangaroo room then all of the children in that class will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days and they will not be able to attend Nursery. The staff working with those children will need to self-isolate too.

CLOTHING

Social distancing is easiest to maintain outside. Your child will therefore be spending plenty of time in the garden. Please ensure that your child is appropriately dressed for playing outside. This includes:

- A coat, hat, scarf etc. in cold weather.
- A sun hat and t-shirt with sleeves to protect from sunburn in hot weather.
- Welly boots and a raincoat in rainy weather.

We strongly recommend that you bath your child and wash his/her clothing frequently- this will reduce the risk of inadvertently transmitting COVID-19.

ARRIVAL

For children in the Nursery class (3-4 year olds):

Until further notice entrance to the Nursery will be via the garden gates. On arrival we will ask your child to sanitize his/her hands. Please say goodbye to your child at the gate wherever possible. If your child is new or very unsettled we will ask you to come into the Nursery garden. You will need to sanitize your hands too.

For children in Kangaroos (the 2 year old room):

Until further notice entrance to Kangaroos will be via the garden gates. On arrival we will ask you and your child to sanitize your hands. Please take your child to the Kangaroos door and say goodbye to him/her there. **Please do not leave your child in the Nursery garden with the 3-4 year olds.**

COLLECTION

For children in the Nursery class (3-4 year olds):

Please collect your child from the side gate. There will be an adult there dismissing children.

For children in Kangaroos (the 2 year old room):

Please collect your child from the Reception door. Please ring the doorbell and wait outside for your child to be brought to you. You can step away from the door as soon as the Receptionist acknowledges your presence.

TOILET TRAINING

For 3-4 year olds:

It is more important than ever before that children are toilet trained before they start at Nursery. This is to reduce the risk of your child catching COVID-19 as it is of course impossible to maintain social distance if your child needs his/her nappy changed.

Please work on this during the summer holidays. If you need support with toilet training we are happy to provide advice.

We will need to do a risk assessment for any children who are still in nappies in September and it may not be possible for children in nappies to stay for 30 hours, even if they are eligible for this.

For 2 year olds or children with Special Educational Needs:

If nappy changing is necessary then the staff member changing your child's nappy will need to wear an apron, gloves and if necessary a mask.

CURRICULUM

In line with government guidance we have had to reduce the resources available in the Nursery as all resources need cleaning/disinfecting at the end of each session.

We have removed rugs, cushions and other materials that could increase the risk of spreading COVID-19.

This means your child may not be able to play with materials such as sand and play dough.

We will be doing as much teaching/learning as possible outside.

PARENT MEETINGS

Until further notice keyworkers will not be able to have face to face meetings with parents. Should you wish to speak to your child's keyworker then please let the member of staff at the door/gate know so a telephone conversation can be arranged.

SNACK TIME

We will continue to allow children to eat/drink when they feel hungry/thirsty. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before and after snack time. Please reinforce this at home by asking your child to wash his/her hands before and after eating.

Please bring fruit to Nursery each week for children to share at snack time. This fruit will be thoroughly cleaned before it is served.

OUTINGS

We will unfortunately not be taking children on outings until further notice.

SPECIAL NEEDS

All children are welcome at Lea Nursery School however we currently need to do a risk assessment for children who bite or spit as these behaviours increase the risk of spreading COVID-19. Please be honest with us and let a Nursery adult know if your child bites or spits.

LIBRARY

We will not be able to visit the library until further notice.

TOYS IN NURSERY

We recognise that for some children having a toy from home can be comforting, however we are currently unable to allow this as all toys in Nursery need to be cleaned/disinfected daily.

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS

Celebrations and festivals are a valuable part of the Nursery curriculum and will help your child to develop understanding of the cultural variety in his/her community. We are unfortunately not able to invite parents to share our celebrations currently. We hope to reintroduce this in the future.

PARENT WORKSHOPS

We are currently unable to run parent workshops. We will reintroduce these again as soon as it is safe to do so.

OTHER ADAPTIONS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

As per government guidance we will be trying as far as possible to keep the 3-4 year olds and 2 year olds totally separate. Maintaining these separate bubbles will reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

We will actively be teaching children to wash their hands and to follow the catch it, bin it, kill it advice. Please reinforce this at home. We will ensure that hand washing takes place regularly through the session, especially before and after eating and after coughing or sneezing.

The Nursery will be cleaned at lunch time and also in the afternoon after the last child leaves.

In the case of a child becoming unwell we will have a designated area where this child will be taken and supervised until their parents come to collect. The staff member looking after this child will wear an apron, gloves, face mask and visor.

We will be asking you to self-isolate your child if he/she gets a high temperature or a new, continuous cough. If any other members of the family exhibit symptoms it is important that your child is self-isolated too.

We will not be offering a 'walking bus' facility as social distancing is impossible in this context.

I hope the length of the list outlined above reassures you that we are taking the safety of your child and all children (and staff) seriously. Please don't hesitate to talk to a member of the Senior Leadership Team should you have any questions or concerns.