



Dear Parent/Carer

Little Stars Messenger

3rd September 2020

Welcome back after the Summer break, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new children and their parents/carers.

Please can all Parent/Carers please make sure you book a meeting with your key person over the phone, to discuss your child's progress once they have settled back in.

Please can we ask for all parents to provide a main email address, as we have a new software called tapestry which will be sent home for you to see what your child has been up to during their sessions at Little Stars Pre School, this we enable you to reply and send photos to us if you wish to do so.

No face to face meetings will take place at all this term, if you have any thing you would like to discuss whether it be settling in or concerns this will be done over the telephone, please call 01293 510713 or 07975752798, if we are unable to answer please leave your name, contact number and your child's name.

We will be following strict guidelines with regards to government legislation.

Protective measures Little stars are taking in light of coronavirus (COVID-19)

First and foremost, it goes without saying that the safety of your child and of our staff is our top priority. We are working hard following the latest government guidance to develop and implement a number of new ways of operating. This will allow us to open as safely as possible, focusing on measures that will help limit the risk of coronavirus transmitting within our setting.

Some of the steps we are taking in readiness for reopening include:

- Asking that anyone who is displaying coronavirus symptoms, or who lives with someone who does, not to attend the setting. That includes children and staff who work here.
- We all have a responsibility to mix outside the setting and keeping yourselves safe and those you come into contact with and to adhere to government guidelines regarding self-isolation for 14 days should you suspect or have symptoms relating to Covid19. Please book a test. Please sent your test results **to office@littlestars-preschool.co.uk**
- Keeping our children in small bubbles with as much consistent staffing as possible, and minimising contact with other bubbles.
- Little stars is extremely lucky to have amazing space inside and outside, we have split the garden in to areas.
- Cleaning our hands more often than usual.

We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, as well as hand sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.

- Followed by a stamp, so we can then ensure hand washing is monitored well by the staff and the children themselves, teaching them selfcare.
- Ensuring our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including tabletops, door handles and play equipment.
- All equipment will be cleaned to the highest standard after each bubble has used it.
- Asking parents and carers to physically distance from each other and from staff when dropping off and collecting their children and to limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household.
- Please hold your child's hand on the school site and keep them with you until you hand your child over to the nursery staff.
- On entering the School site to Little stars please follow the blue lines to the back of the nursery and keep left, once you leave your child at the nursery gate a staff member from their bubble will support them with hand washing and then they are ready to play and have fun!
- Please do not let children bring toys, cups, bottles or other items from home to Little Stars.
- Little Stars believes an open-door policy is of the upmost importance in early years, however during these times no face to face meetings will take place with staff, unless a meeting has been arranged by the Manager of Little stars.

What can parents and carers do to help?

- Respecting the staff at all times with a courteous attitude as we are doing our upmost to keep you and your children safe, please keep two meters at all times from staff at drop off and pick up.
- While on the school site follow the social distance guidance.
- Leave promptly so we can ensure social distance for Little Stars families and The Mill

Primary families and should you need to address a concern or worry to contact via telephone.

- Please keep us updated if you change your telephone number via email.
- If you are arriving late please telephone us to let us know
- Only enter front office if it is an emergency.
- Please do not give your child medication and send them into nursery.
- Check your child's temperature before you leave to bring them to Little Stars
- Outline guidance on what to do if your child, or someone in your household has

coronavirus symptoms and that they should not come to Little stars. Please contact Little stars and update us if you have a sibling at The Mill Primary, you must also notify the school immediately.

- The protocol for responding to a suspected coronavirus case is to collect your child immediately should they develop symptoms while at Little stars. We would ask you to take your child and book a test and stay at home for 14 days.
- Parents and carers should provide reassurance to children facing changed routines and differences at Little stars.
- Please provide your child two clean outfits in their bag with their name on and putting them inside a plastic bag.

Sun hat with a name on it. Apply sun cream before attending. Provide nappies wipes if your child needs these.

- Parents /carers attending the Little stars are not to travel on public transport. Safer guidance Gov.uk, this will help to keep staff, children and their families safe.

Testing

Children who are attending a childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. The aim is to enable children to get back to childcare, and their parents or carers the need not to self-isolate any longer than is necessary, if the test proves to be negative. A positive test will ensure rapid action to protect other children and staff in their setting. We ask all parents and carers to ensure they organise a test for their child, in the event that they develop coronavirus symptoms, and notify us immediately of a positive test. Further guidance is available about [getting tested on Gov.uk](#).

Many of you will have watched the Prime Minister announce yesterday 28 May, that the government's five key tests for easing restrictions in England have been met. This enables more children to be welcomed back (if possible) to early years and childcare settings from Monday 1 June.

Testing for under 5's

Testing has now been extended to children under 5 years old in England who have symptoms of coronavirus. Children aged 11 or under cannot do the swab themselves so their parent or guardian will have to swab test them. You can [find out more here](#) about how to get tested.

We hope that this letter has given you the information you need to understand what arrangements we have made to enable children to return to us

Welcoming back and settling in sessions to support emotional well-being Littlestars will be offering your child reduced hours this term

We are looking forward to welcoming your children back and we hope that you are assured that we have taken all possible steps to ensure the safety for all Little Stars children and community.

If you have any questions or concerns, please drop us an email to office and we will give you a call.

Thank you

Kindest Regards
From us all at Little stars