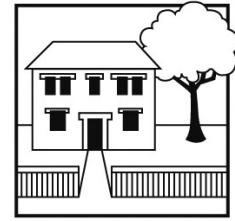


Balham Nursery School and Children's Centre

Executive Headteacher: Ms Emma Williams B.Ed (ECE)
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Dear Parents and Carers

CHILDREN ATTENDING BALHAM NURSERY SCHOOL – FROM 8th MARCH 2021

As many of you will know, the Prime Minister announced in his briefing last night that all schools will return to face-to-face education from Monday 8 March 2021. This is great news and we are looking forward to opening up more fully and seeing you all once again. This will require some planning and some changes to the way we are currently operating.

- All children will be invited to return back to nursery from either the 8th March or the 9th March. Your key person will be in contact with you to let you which date you can start from. Your child will continue in the pattern of attendance you had before lockdown – for example; mornings 9:00-11:25 with a full day Wednesday
- Children currently attending will need to revert back to their original type of place and their original class from the 8th March
- We are planning for all children to be able to access a school meal on their lunch day from the 8th March

In order to plan for the re-opening of the nursery in a successful and safe manner – we need to remind ourselves of some of the operational plans we had in place with the safety of children, staff and families at the forefront of our minds. Please take note of the advice below.

Operational issues:

- Drop off and collection times – there will be a 'soft' start and end to the day. This means that you can arrive between 9:00-9:20am in the mornings, 11:15- 11:25am for morning collection. 12:45-1:00pm for afternoon drop off and 3:00-3:15pm for afternoon collection. This is to minimise the amount of parents and children at the front area of the school. Lines have been be created on the pavement and front garden and we encourage you to adhere to social distancing protocols. Please DO NOT gather in the front garden. We ask that you please WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING in the front garden unless you are exempt.
- We will not be allowing parents into the building, (unless in exceptional circumstances), so this means that you will need to say goodbye to your child at the main front door or gate. Please talk to your child about this in preparation. If your child is not able to settle, we will ask you to take a seat on one of the benches in the front garden and a member of staff will be available to assist with comforting. If this does not appear to be working for your child, we may ask that you return home and try again the following day.
- You should consider adjusting your transport arrangements where necessary including walking or cycling where possible. You should follow the government guidance on how to travel safely to and from the nursery.
- Items from home – please do not bring in items from home such as toys etc. Nappies and a change of clothes need to be in a bag that your child can carry. Please ensure your child is wearing clean clothes and sensible shoes for nursery. In hot weather – they will need sunscreen applied before coming to nursery



- At the beginning of each session children will be taken straight to wash their hands thoroughly. Handwashing will also take place before and after eating and after sneezing or coughing. We will be encouraging the children not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose.
- Children, young people, parents, carers or any visitors, such as suppliers are not to enter the nursery if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus.
- We will be re-opening fully, which means that we will be in one bubble so that children can use the entire nursery space inside and outside.
- If your child is unwell for **any** reason, please do not bring them to the nursery. Please take the opportunity to remind yourself of the protocols we agreed at the beginning of the academic year

The following actions will be implemented across the school and guidance has been taken from the Department for Education

- Although handwashing with soap remains the most effective means to maintain good hygiene standards, hand sanitizer will be provided in every entrance into the school for staff/adults to use. Each class has been also been issued with hand sanitizer.
- Our staff will take two rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) tests each week at home to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission.
- Additional cleaning materials will have been provided for the classes and regular cleaning and disinfecting of items and resources that children are touching, such as toys, books, tables, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, door handles bannisters, and outside equipment will be undertaken more regularly than normal during and in between sessions.
- A 'disinfectant' clean will occur each evening by our contracted cleaners. Soft furnishings will be 'fogged' with child safe disinfectant at least 3 times a week.
- All adults and children will be frequently washing their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and drying them thoroughly.
- Encouraging and ensuring the use of a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze
- Ensuring that help is available for children who have difficulty cleaning their hands independently
- Visitors to the school will be kept to a minimum including contractors
- Signs/posters will be reviewed around the school and outside area where possible
- No external trips will happen
- Learning outdoors will be maximised so outside space will be fully utilised
- Good ventilation indoors will be encouraged
- PPE will be provided for any staff member dealing with child who is showing signs of being ill
- Staff will be encouraged to wear a mask/face covering when attending to the door or gate or when talking with you in the garden

It is vital that all the guidance contained in this communication is followed and you are fully aware of how the school will run. It will be amended as we take the plans forward and as issues arise.

I hope you found the information contained in this letter useful. Please do contact the school on **0208 672 4055** or email admin@balham-nursery.wandsworth.sch.uk for any further information or advice.

We look forward welcoming you back on 8th/9th March.

Best wishes

Emma Williams
Executive Head Teacher

