

Update on our planned ways of working for September

Following the Government's guidance published on Thursday 2nd July, we wanted to share with you the measures we will be putting in place from September to meet the new Covid guidelines

• In September, in order to minimize contact among our children, we will be continuing to have an 'older' and 'younger' group with their own separate spaces indoors and for the groups to alternate outdoor play areas with cleaning in between. Having worked in this way this term, we have found it does in fact provide many benefits for the children and so we are pleased to be able to continue in this way. Each group will continue to have its own toys and resources for a session and these will be thoroughly cleaned in between sessions

• We are able to return to single start and finish times but we will have procedures for arriving and collection which will keep the groups separate and socially distanced – we will share more details with you before we start back on September 2nd

- Our enhanced cleaning routine will continue
- Our response where a child is ill with suspected Covid will continue as before, so we will ask you to come and collect your child immediately if they display any Covid symptoms and ask you not to bring your child to the setting if they develop symptoms at home

• We will follow the Government's Test and Trace procedures. Testing will be available to children and families and we will be sending you further information on how you can access this. Where we have 2 or more confirmed cases in the setting within 14 days then the setting may be advised to close temporarily

• We will continue to update you over the Summer break so that you can feel confident about what will be happening when your child returns in September. Government advice for parents and carers can be found here (there is a section on Early Years)

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-andcarers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-andcolleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parentsand-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-andcolleges-in-the-autumn-term

Newsletter July 10th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers, this week's Newsletter is rather 'business heavy' and we hope you'll understand the need for us to share the updates with you. We will endeavour to send out something more fun and friendly next week! Playgroup fees from September

You will all we are sure appreciate that with increased staff costs and uncertainties with Covid it is more important than ever to act responsibly to keep Playgroup's future secure for our families and children. With this aim, your Playgroup Committee has agreed a rise in our hourly rate, to £4.95, with effect from September.

These rises are never agreed lightly, as we always strive to support our families and to keep our costs as low as possible. The fees rate only applies to unfunded hours and we are proud that we offer the full range of funded options across all of our sessions so that the vast majority of parents only pay fees for a limited time that their child is at Playgroup and for a limited number of sessions.

Revised extended hours from September

As part of our drive to provide the service that parents need but in a financially viable way, from September our extended hours will be slightly reduced. We have consulted with parents and we believe that this offer will meet the vast majority of parents' needs. We are sorry if you have been affected by this and we are happy to work with parents further to understand their needs. If you will need childcare outside these hours please contact us and we can advise on options for childcare around our hours.

Our revised opening times from September with corresponding fees are set out below.

Session Times and fees (to extent not funded) from September 2020		
Session options	Time	Cost
Morning	9am – 12noon	£14.85
Lunch club (own packed lunch)	12noon – 1pm	£4.95
Afternoon	1pm – 4pm	£14.85
Full Day	9am – 4pm	£34.65
Breakfast Club inc breakfast (Tu, W, Th only)	8am – 9am	£6.95
		(inc meal @£2)
After School Club inc tea (Tu, W, Th only)	4pm – 5pm	£7.95
		(inc meal @ £3)
Extended Full Day inc breakfast and tea (Tu, W, Th only)	8am – 5pm	£49.55
		(inc meals @ £5)

All session times can be included in funding: where funding applies, the only additional costs are meals, which are charged separately.