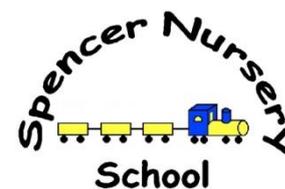


Headteacher: Mrs E Walford  
Deputy Headteacher & SEND: Miss N J Robins

*Federated with Hackbridge Primary School*



Spencer Road  
Mitcham Junction  
Surrey  
CR4 4JP

Tel: 020 8648 4126

Fax: 020 8648 7941

Email: [office@spencernurseryschool.org.uk](mailto:office@spencernurseryschool.org.uk)

Website: [www.spencernurseryschool.org.uk](http://www.spencernurseryschool.org.uk)

15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Considerations and planning for the government's suggestion that nursery and day-care settings may begin to reopen to some pupils from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 and information about continuing provision for children whose parents are key workers.**

Further to our letter of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May, we are writing to you again about the government's possible next steps to move the country forward from lockdown and their suggestion that it may be possible for pupils in nursery and day-care settings to return in some form from 1<sup>st</sup> June onwards.

The government has been issuing further guidance for schools and early years settings over the last few days, with likely more to follow as some questions remain unanswered, but we have started to make plans in accordance with this.

One of the government recommendations is for settings to survey parents about whether or not they intend to send their child back from 1<sup>st</sup> June and we have set up a short google form for this purpose (link at the end of this letter). However, we realise that in order to allow you to make an informed response, you do need to know some of what we are planning at this stage.

If the re-opening of schools and early years settings goes ahead from 1<sup>st</sup> June, we will re-open the Spencer Nursery School site.

The government guidance suggests that class/group sizes should be reduced and that groups should not mix with other groups, which will include the staff member(s) working in each room. In line with this, when we initially return we will be offering limited numbers of places in each room, meaning that the number of pupils to whom we can offer places will be reduced at that stage. This will be the case for the duration of the period that the government recommendations about having smaller class groups remain in place.

We also have to consider the circumstances of our school in terms of facilities layout, staffing availability and the number of key worker children who have needed childcare throughout the closure period and will continue to do so until school and early years settings return to full capacity. We have had to think about toileting facilities, playground/outdoor learning environments and lunch facilities for all. Each matter is being planned with the health and safety of our pupils and our staff in mind.

We will be considering how to best manage drop off and pick up times to maintain social distancing for families on their journey to and from the school sites.

In their guidance for schools and early years settings, the government states that "early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff" and say that they have taken this into account when choosing which year groups should return. We will continue to implement the practices that we had

established in the weeks before school closure; namely frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices, increased cleaning of high traffic areas (corridors, door plates/handles etc) and minimising contact and mixing. We will update our Covid-19 risk assessment in line with the plan to re-open to a greater number of pupils than we have seen in the last eight weeks.

We know that many of you will have strong and differing opinions on the re-opening of schools and nursery settings. We want to assure you that the health and safety of our pupils, parents and staff are at the forefront of our mind when making plans about what a return for our school will look like. The guidance is clear that school leaders and their governing bodies have the ultimate responsibility and duty to ensure that individual schools are able to operate in a safe manner regardless of the government's national policy and this is what we are endeavouring to ensure in our planning.

These are just our initial thoughts and may be subject to change as the situation evolves. We are in regular contact with the local authority also.

Key workers whose children have already been attending childcare places with us during the closure period can continue to attend following their usual agreed pattern from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

We will have limited capacity to extend the number of children accessing their nursery places from 1<sup>st</sup> June onwards. **Therefore, unless your child has consistently attended their childcare place over the last eight weeks of the closure period (not including one-off attendances), keyworkers along with any other parent requesting a childcare place from 1<sup>st</sup> June onwards will need to apply BY TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020 (this includes those who applied originally but did not then need to take up the offer of a place) – a new form has been sent out with this letter.**

Where demand for keyworker childcare places exceeds our planned for capacity, we will need to prioritise offers, which may in turn affect the number of non-keyworker childcare places that we can offer from the 1<sup>st</sup> June.

We will continue to review our practices and work in line with government guidance, where we feel it is safe to do so, in the anticipation of being able to open the nursery again fully when the science allows. We will continue to keep you as informed as possible along the way.

Those returning to their childcare places will resume the payment of their usual attendance pattern and fees. Those who we cannot offer a place to due to limited capacity will continue to pay the previously agreed daily retainer fee.

If you wish to read the guidance for schools you can find this at:

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

**We would ask all parents/carers to click this link to complete the short survey for our school. Link to survey: <https://forms.gle/BwGT3vZJuNre2Amu9> Please complete the form separately for each child that you have in the nursery.**

We will write to you again as soon as we are able to share more details about what a return on 1<sup>st</sup> June will look like.

Thank you again for your continued support; it is greatly appreciated by all of the staff. Keep checking our google site today and over the next few days for continued new content and videos from our staff team.

Yours sincerely



Emma Walford  
Headteacher