



Shrewsbury Nursery

Summer (August) Newsletter 2020

Welcome BACK to our 2020 Newsletter.

We hope that you and your families are all well and now that Lockdown has eased life is returning to a new kind of "usual".

In this newsletter we aim to give you an update on what's been happening in the nursery and our plans for September 2020.

Re-opening update

Since the government announcement regarding nurseries re-opening for all admissions from 1st June we have worked hard at our nurseries reviewing the measures we had in place and implementing new measures to make sure we could meet the new government guidance for the sector.

Please do have a read of the guidance document, as parents / carers. We are

really happy to discuss this with you and continue to take on board your views and suggestions:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

We have also attached a link for the latest guidance on all children returning to education in the Autumn term - there is a particular section on early years/nurseries.

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

As you know we have been open at Shrewsbury throughout Lockdown for keyworker children and vulnerable families. From June 2020 we implemented a phased return at both our nurseries for all our registered and new families who wanted to return, gradually increasing our roll to allow children to re-join the nursery in a safe and planned way.

From September 2020 we plan to implement a similar system for all those families who have yet to return. Our team will be in touch with you in the next week to discuss your return and get an update on your current situation.

Re-joining Nursery

On re-joining the nursery, all children will be placed or remain in a year group bubble

with a consistent team of staff.

We recognise that children under 5 years will have a limited understanding / ability to social distance and therefore as a team whilst we will actively encourage less direct contact and teach about social distancing and the importance of hand washing, for instance, we recognise that we need to be able to physically care for and support your children if they need to be comforted, picked up if they fall over, or carried and feed directly if they are a baby. We continue to do this as usual, acting on your instructions and with your knowledge about what your child needs to provide the same level of warmth and care for your children.

In order to do this we must ask all parents and carers to contract with us and agree to the following to keep us all safer. We must ask that you:

- Do not enter our buildings if you or anyone in your family is displaying **any symptoms** of coronavirus and to follow the COVID-19 guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection
- Call to let us know at the earliest opportunity if the above applies and contact 111 to book a COVID 19 test
- Inform the nursery manager of the results of the test as soon as returned:
 1. *If negative: arrangements can be made to attend the nursery the next day*
 2. *If positive, the nursery manager will need to instigate a control procedure and advise all people in the contact network (year group bubble) to self-isolate*
- Maintain 2 metres from next person where possible and or wear a face covering
- Children will be encouraged to socially distance from each other and understand the space needed by putting their arms outstretched to the sides

and whilst staff will limit contact with other children outside of the year group bubbles, as far as is possible; we cannot expect early years age children to remain 2 metres from each other or their key person(s)

- Drop-off and collect your child(ren) only at the agreed times. If you are late contact the nursery to agree another time, **do not just turn up**
- Only 1 adult to attend per family group to drop off and or collect. If there is a queue please line up at 2 metres apart. Where possible this should be the **same person** to maintain the same social bubble
- Wash your hands, and your child's hands, before entry at the sanitiser point by the main door and before touching the buzzer or door handle (we will also re-wash their hands on arrival in the room)
- Accept that if your child becomes unwell with symptoms like that of Covid 19 whilst in our care, we will contact you to collect your child from the nursery, to self-isolate and to book a test as above
- Staff will generally not be wearing PPE but will only wear PPE if there is a risk of contact with bodily fluids i.e. nappy change, toileting, first aid, or if they are looking after someone who displays possible Covid 19 symptoms
- In these cases, PPE will be disposable gloves & aprons. They may also be wearing a clear visor and face mask
- Children will be allocated a large enough space for their bubble to play in. This will be a shared space for every child in the bubble
- We have removed all forms of paper exchange and using an online system called Tapestry (see Tapestry section for further information)
- Whilst we are always happy to be asked and answer questions, please ask us to arrange to call you rather than wait in reception at drop off and collection times.



Fees / Invoicing

As a reminder and further to our email communication of 6th June 2020:

- Fees must be paid within five days of invoice to avoid your child(ren)s place being suspended or withdrawn. From **1st September all accounts** will be reactivated without further notice, with invoicing in August for advance payment. Unless we have received at least **4 weeks prior notice to cancel/amend** your child(ren)s place, we will ask that all outstanding payments are made, in line with our terms and conditions.

Summer/Life Cycle
This term Focus Areas: Physical Development, Communication & Language, Understanding the World & Mathematics

Personal, Social & Emotional Development: Discussions about staying safe in summer. Water dangers and how to play safely near and in water. Opportunities for covering up fruit salad. Discussions about changes in season. Planting and growing indoors/outdoors. Sun screen, sun hat, sandals, sun glasses. Discussions about Spiky, dry and keeping fit. Discussions about possible behaviour/feelings.

Physical Development: Go on a colour hunt by drawing a rainbow and placing the matching colored items in the garden. Toilet Training. Independence in health/self-care – dressing to put coats, shoes and clothes on. Sports Day (Link in with Father's Day). Continue to self-regulate (school readiness).

Understanding the World: Noticing the changes in season and time of summer. Create a summer holiday scrapbook of everyone's summer holidays and trips. Have discussions about sun and water safety. Different Celebrations: Eid al Fitr, Father's Day, Sun Awareness, International Family Day, Graduation Ceremony. Grow vegetables: egg peas and carrots.

Mathematics: Measuring liquids with rulers and measuring tapes. Cutting vegetables in different play areas like an ice cream stall or beach shop items with labels. Looking at shapes in the Making for tables. Add summer desserts using and following recipes. Using mathematical language (more, less, heavier, lighter).

Communication & Language: Changes to oralatives. Discussions about things that have happened, eg Lockdown (everyone staying at home), feelings. Talk about life cycle of different animals e.g. Chicks, Frogs, Butterfly. Discussions about upcoming celebrations have stay and play sessions. Have discussions about children's summer plans, holidays, noticing time and weather changes and school readiness, safety of summer weather.

Expressive Arts and Design: Making puppets, flashcards. Junk modelling with boxes, creating rainbows and recognition of colours. Home corner create a summer farm/ship e.g. beach, farm shop. Baby Journal flashcards. Petals, leaves and grass to create nature picture. Large road marks in the garden. Drawing boats as they grow. Making bird nests with coloured spaghetti.

Literacy: Gardening magazines/pictures. Seasonal books, summer words/picture cards, owl babies flash cards. Singing animal related songs e.g. 5 little ducks, old McDonald had a farm.

Key words: Chicks, Quack Quack, chick chick, Blue Bird, Bird, Chip, moon, Chip, Chip, pig, small, splosh, sun.

Core Books: The Hungry Caterpillar, Enormous Turnip, We're going on a bear hunt.

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Key words: Ice cream, Hot, sun, sand castle, sun glasses, beach ball, melting, water, sun, lotion, ice swimming, travel, Chicks, life cycle, seed, root, sprout, flower, shadow, clouds, hats, Glistening, Hatching, Growing, Animals, More, Less, Heavier, Lighter, Planting.

Medium Term Plan – Summer 2020
Date: April 2020-July 2020

Topic of the Term

This term we focused on Summer and Life Cycles. The children did lots of fun experiments on topic including staying safe through hand washing, sun safety etc. We have grown plants and vegetables (some more successfully than others!). We've had lots of outside fun in the garden having picnics, painting pictures, the fences and finding bugs. We have read the; The Hungry Caterpillar, Enormous Turnip and We're Going on a Bear Hunt. In the Pre School Room we travelled to the moon for our holiday! In the Toddler and Baby Room we made a bus and went off on our holidays singing lots of songs as we went!

The areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) we focused on were Physical Development, Communication & Language, Understanding the World & Mathematics, with lots of running, jumping, mark making, conversations about the numbers and counting in the environment - "wow look two ladybirds - how many spots does she have", "shall we count how many jumps".



Tapestry

We mentioned earlier on that we have gone PAPERLESS and we are using a

system called Tapestry to do this (see link below for further information). **Tapestry** is a secure online **Learning Journal** which records photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us. We are also able to record all other aspects of your child's time at nursery, from the meals we provide, what your child has eaten, to their sleep time records, nappy changes and any accidents - you are able to view this information as and when you need to or are notified by the system once you have set up your account.

For further information about Tapestry please feel free to browse their website <https://tapestry.info/>

To enable us to set up your account so that you can access your child's learning journal and details of their day in nursery please click on the link below and complete the form.

<https://www.earlystartgroup.com/nurseries/tapestry-confirmation-form/>



Coronavirus info

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An easy-to-use and secure online learning journal helping staff and families celebrate their children's learning and development

Tapestry builds a very special record of a child's experiences, development and learning journey through their early years and primary education. Using photos, videos and diary entries, a teacher or early years practitioner, along with the child's parents, 'weaves' the story of the child and how they are growing and developing. The Tapestry platform then works seamlessly to enable these memories to be kept as a permanent record of each child's unique journey. All information held in the platform is stored securely, and can be downloaded and shared as required. Parents are able to view online their child's progress and how much fun they're having, whilst also uploading their own comments and media.

Reminders/Information

- When entering the premises you will be asked and need to tell us if other parents or anyone else is coming in behind you, as we will need to identify who is entering the premises for safeguarding purposes. Please remember you should be social distancing at all times. You will be asked the same question again at the main door, please do not hold the door open (due to social distancing). If you are leaving the building please do not hold the door open for another parent to enter (even if you know them) this is for safeguarding purposes and in respect of COVID19.
- Please ensure you keep your child's details up to date, so if you've changed your telephone number, moved house etc you'll need to let us know
- If there are any changes to your personal details please let a member of the management team know as soon as possible so we can update the system
- If you intend to leave the nursery (1 months notice is required), wish to change your hours etc...you will need to confirm your request via our website using the link below. Please do have a verbal conversation first with one of the management team, but it must be confirmed via the request to change nursery hours link.
 - <https://www.earlystartgroup.com/nurseries/request-to-change-nursery-hours/>

Health and Wellbeing

Supervised Tooth-brushing Programme: Due to advise from Public Health England we have suspended our tooth-brushing programme, replacing the time

slot with the Daily Mile. A ten minute physical activity session for all. We will resume the tooth-brushing as soon as the advice allows us to do so. In the meantime the Dental Wellness Trust will be providing us with tooth-brushing packs which we will be passing out to yourselves in September. Please do look out for our Oral Health display, which has some top tips and advice for tooth-brushing

Health Eating Award: Healthy eating is important for everyone, but especially crucial during the early years to support children's growth, development and learning. To ensure our nursery is providing suitable foods and providing a strong foundation for children we are working towards achieving the Bronze Healthy Eating Award.

The Nutrition Award recognises settings who demonstrate best practice through their nutrition provision. It compliments and enhances the statutory Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the Eat Better Start Better voluntary food and drink guidelines for early years settings.

Please do feel free to visit the Early Start Nutrition pages on our website below. They have some brilliant blogs and courses for families, with lots of advice and guidance, from introducing foods to fussy eating and much more.

<https://www.earlystartgroup.com/nutrition/>



Staffing

Update

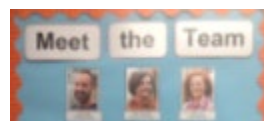
There have been a few changes to staffing over the last six months;

We welcome Martina Kempster (full-time) and Maz Georgiou (part-time) to the Shrewsbury Team in the roles of Nursery Manager(s), their expertise and input into the Nursery is greatly appreciated.

<https://www.earlystartgroup.com/nurseries/meet-the-senior-management-team/>

Congratulations to Zoinab who has welcomed a new addition to her family and will be taking some time out from nursery life, we look forward to her return in the not too distant future!

To those who have moved on we wish them all the best for their future endeavours and thank them for the valued contribution they have given to Early Start Nurseries. Please have a look at our updated staff board to meet the full team.





Finally, thank you so much for your support over this time, for thinking about and asking about us and for the kind words to our staff. It's been a tough time for us as a business and for our teams, as we know it has for many of you. And we keep going because of your thoughtfulness, kindness and for your wonderful children who have made us really smile over the whole period.

As ever we are happy to discuss the government guidelines and welcome your suggestions, as parents and carers.

Thanks again, take care and best wishes

Next steps:

You would of spoken to your nursery manager and agreed an admission potential time-frame in June and or already returned by now. If you haven't returned to nursery yet we will be contacting you from this week to agree your Sep return day, specific drop off and collection times. If we haven't managed to reach you please contact us via: sbnursery@earlystartgroup.com

Please do not arrive at Nursery without prior discussion and agreement with your Nursery Manager and an agreed drop off and collection slot, as we will not be able to accommodate you on the day.

**Term Dates 2020 to 2021 Academic Year:
Autumn Term term time children)
Tuesday 1st September to Friday 11th December**

Half Term (term time children)
Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

**Nursery Closed for Bi Annual Staff Training
TBA**

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Early Start Group

email: SBnursery@earlystartgroup.com

Tel: 020 8552 6281



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SBnursery@earlystartgroup.com

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