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Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly a huge welcome back to our children, for some it has been a while since we have seen you but we are very excited to see you all, and to our new starters this term a big welcome to the Pathways family.

This newsletter will explain in detail the measures we have put into place with accordance with government guidance with regard to COVID-19

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

Some of the steps we are taking are:

- Asking anyone who is displaying symptoms to self isolate for 10 days.
- Washing of hands on arrival and regularly throughout the day, including before and after mealtimes, with help from staff if needed. Staff also follow this practice.
- Promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach, ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins.
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles, play equipment and toilet facilities. These will be wiped down using antibacterial spray and disposable anti-bacterial cloths. After each meal time, all tables and chairs are wiped thoroughly before they are used again.
- Asking parents to continue to drop their child at the door and pick up this way, Parents **MUST NOT ENTER** the nursery. We know that this may be difficult if your child does become upset but please be assured there will be lots of cuddles for them once they are in if they need them, and you are also welcome to call and check how they are as many times as you wish throughout the day. Please be aware of

social distancing when coming to nursery and DO NOT enter the gate/door (nursery building) if someone is already inside. Please limit this to one parent or carer per household. If you need to speak to a member of staff on drop off or collection, then please say so at your allocated drop off time and a member of staff will come outside to talk to you - whilst maintaining social distancing. If we cannot do this at the time you are at nursery due to keeping in ratios then a member of staff will call you as soon as it is possible to do so to talk to you.

- Staggering the drop off and collection times to ensure this social distancing can continue. It is vital that you keep to your allocated times otherwise care may be withdrawn.
- No toys or items from home to be brought to nursery, this is essential.
- We are limiting the number of children that can be looked after at any one time within our setting to ensure the health and safety of all children and staff. This will be monitored closely and government guidance will be followed as and when this changes.
- Toys will be limited and on a rota system to ensure regularly cleaning of the toys can be maintained. This has worked well as the children have been more engaged with what has been provided for them.
- Doors and windows will be open where possible to allow for fresh air within the setting.
- Please ensure that after attending the setting you wash your child's clothes on a daily basis.
- We will keep Nursery and Pre-school children separate as much as we possibly can, school children will still use the pre-school room for their activities- which will be on a rota system to ensure regular cleaning of them.

We thank you for your cooperation during these difficult times and please understand that we are doing everything possible to ensure the health and safety and well-being of all children, staff and their families. We also trust that you as Parents and Carers adhere to government guidelines, which includes not holding or attending parties/celebrations where social distancing cannot be maintained. By you adhering to these guidelines you are subsequently helping us to protect all the children in our care. We are very grateful to you all for doing this, as we do not want to have to close the nursery due to guidelines not being followed. Pathways has remained open throughout the pandemic and we wish for this to continue with no issues.

More information can be found at

As always if you have any questions please ask and a member of staff will be happy to help.

Pathways