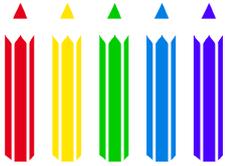


Green Lane Nursery and Childcare Centre



Green Lane
Barnard Castle
Co Durham
DL12 8LG

Tel: 01833 638581

6th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers

As you will be aware, the Government has advised all Early Years Settings to remain open and to continue to support our children.

The Early Years Alliance received the following guidance from the Department of Education:

Early years settings remain low risk environments for children and staff. 0-5 year olds continue to have the lowest confirmed rates of coronavirus of all age groups, and there is no evidence that the new variant of coronavirus disproportionately affects young children. Evidence shows that pre-school children are less susceptible to infection and are not playing a driving role in transmission. There is no evidence the new strain of the virus causes more serious illness in either children or adults and there continues to be strong evidence that children are much less susceptible to severe clinical disease than older people.

To date, the overwhelming response of parents and carers has been for children to remain with us. We continue to follow the strict regimes set out in our Covid-19 Policy and Risk Assessment; these are available on our website.

We are now asking all parents/carers to wear a mask when dropping off and collecting their child/ren.

Can we also remind you that

- only one parent/carer is permitted to drop off and pick up children
- you must adhere strictly to the social distancing rule of two metres.

We have received a number of enquiries as to whether parents/carers will be charged if their child temporarily remains off Nursery during the lockdown.

The Directors and the Management Team have a responsibility to ensure the business remains financially stable during this time and in the future. In addition to our usual outgoings, our running costs have increased significantly due to both additional cleaning costs and purchases of very necessary PPE. We continue to have to pay both staff wages and essential running costs. However, we have made the decision to reduce fees to 50% for those parents/carers who choose to keep their child/ren off Nursery. Directors and the Management Team will review this financial decision one month on from the date on the letter. They reserve the right to amend this arrangement at this time. Whilst we might like to waver the fees, this would jeopardise the future of our setting.

Should we be required or become unable to provide childcare, due to staff shortages, etc., you will not be charged.

We should be grateful if you would ring our works mobile, on 07919 358400 between the hours of 09:00-16:00, if you wish to temporarily remove your child from Nursery.

We will continue to do our very best to safeguard all of our children, staff and parents/carers.

We will also continue to make every effort to support all parents/carers, children and staff throughout the pandemic. We would like to thank you for your support and understanding throughout these very tough times.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate in contacting us on the telephone number above.

With our Best Wishes

Mel & Jemma

The Management Team