



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Hawthorn Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry. CV4 9LB
Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Askew

Tel: 02476 466655
Fax: 02476 695459
E-mail: admin@ourlady.coventry.sch.uk
Web: www.ourlady.coventry.sch.uk



8th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Nursery,

I am writing to give you more detail of the planned re-opening of Nursery.

We will be welcoming Nursery pupils back from **Wednesday 10th June**. Due to the restricted number of children we can have in Nursery, we must cap the number of children at 16.

Whilst we understand that it is very difficult to implement social distancing with Nursery children, we have taken a number of measures to ensure our Nursery children can safely return which include the following:

- If you, your child or someone you live with is displaying coronavirus symptoms, do not bring your child into school. We will be asking staff to do the same.
- We will be keeping our children in 'bubbles' of no more than 16 children and two adults. Within the 'bubble' children will be divided into two groups to limit contact with each other.
- We will be cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly.
- We will teach our children about good hygiene through a 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- We will be cleaning more often and more thoroughly, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment. We have removed any soft toys or difficult-to-clean items from the nursery.
- When you drop your child off or pick them up, we ask that you physically distance from other parents with their child, from staff, and that only one parent from each household drops off and picks up. Where possible, other children should stay at home.
- Children will not be able to bring toys or other items from home to school, unless this is essential to their health and wellbeing. We will not be sending things home with the children.





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- If a child displays symptoms at school, they will be isolated until a parent or carer collects them.
- If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the Nursery, parents will be informed and all children and staff will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.
- We will limit the number of people who can come onto the school site: parents will be asked to drop off and pick up at the gate and anyone coming into the office will need to phone in advance to make an appointment.

Your child will be able to see their friends but they may not be able to play with them as freely as they would normally do. Despite all these measures, you can be reassured that Nursery will still be a welcoming, fun and stimulating place for your child and that will benefit socially, emotionally and academically from returning to school.

When the children return, routines will remain as familiar as possible while allowing for more time for washing hands and discussing issues related to concerns they may have about the Coronavirus. All areas of learning will continue within smaller, social groups and will focus on Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and early reading activities. They will have daily phonics, maths, singing and story times. They will continue using the outdoor and indoor learning areas and will be encouraged to learn actively. Could you also send in a named sun hat, which will stay in school, and apply sun cream. Staff are not allowed to apply sun cream.

The children will be learning about the world through the topic of Minibeasts and later through the story of Handa's Surprise. Time will also be spent on preparing for next year, with virtual chats with their new teachers and talking about what they will be doing in Reception.

The following arrangements will be in place for dropping off and picking up your children. From **Wednesday 10th June**, parents will not be allowed on site so we are asking parents to queue on Hawthorn Lane, using the cones as a guide to social distancing. A member of staff will then take your child and they will be guided into Nursery by the Nursery staff.

Nursery children should be dropped off between **9.15am and 9.25am**. If you arrive by car and notice that there a number of parents queuing by the gate, please stay in your car until the queue has gone down.



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At the end of Nursery, the children will be taken up to the gate at **11.45am** where they will be released one at a time to their parent or carer. Again, we are asking parents to queue on Hawthorn Lane using the cones as a guide to social distancing.

We will only be open from Monday to Thursday (with the exception of the first week, when we will be open on Wednesday and Thursday) and will close to pupils on a Friday. This will allow staff necessary planning time and will enable a weekly deep clean of classrooms.

If your child normally attends more than one setting, the guidance is that in order to minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting wherever possible. Therefore, we will only be able to accept children who will only be coming to our Nursery each day. Please let the school know if this applies to you.

Please note that whilst we will endeavour to put in place every possible measure to safeguard your children (and our staff) on their return to school we understand that that very young children who have not seen each other in months are likely to struggle to understand or keep to these new 'rules'. As such, we cannot completely eliminate the risk in relation to the virus; however, we can assure you that we have done our utmost to put in place practical measures, together with new ways of working, which minimise the risk as far as reasonably possible. These will be under continuous review to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep your child safe.

Once again, let me reassure you that the safety of your child and the staff is, and remains, our number one priority.

If you have any concerns about your child's return to Nursery please contact the school by phone or email. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs Whewell via Dojo or email.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child back to Our Lady of the Assumption.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Askew
Headteacher

Mr M Sharkey
Chair of Governors

