



# Welcome back

We're reopening our doors again on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, and we can't wait to see you all.

The safety of children, staff, and families is paramount.

Following government guidelines, we've been preparing our facilities, activities, and staff to ensure we can all return to nursery safely.

This guide explains some of the steps and adaptations we have made to ensure our nursery is safe.

We recognise that this may not be an easy process for many children, parents and staff. However, please be assured that our expert staff will be focusing on your child's wellbeing, ensuring that they enjoy being back at Eureka! Nursery.

This is a learning process. We will be continuously evaluating the practices in place over the coming weeks and months to ensure the best implementation for our little ones' well-being, and that of parents and staff. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this please get in touch.

We are still open from 7:30am and we close at 6:00pm.

## Getting Ready for Nursery



There's no need to bring face masks or other protective items for your child.

Please keep personal toys, teddy bears, and blankets safe at home to reduce the risk of cross-contamination in nursery. We know this will be really hard for some children, so please talk to them about this before they return.

On your first day back, if needed, please provide a dummy for your child, that can stay at nursery. We will label it and keep it in a sterile container.

Please can you bring enough nappies to last a few weeks, so we can minimise handover.

Please do not bring spare clothes, we will be providing these for the short term.

## Travelling to Nursery



Parents are encouraged to travel as per the government guidelines which currently recommends that parents should travel to the nursery alone, using their own transport or by walking.

If public transport is necessary, the most up-to-date guidance on the use of public transport must be followed by families and staff.

Please leave buggies in the outside space provided.

## Arriving at Nursery



You will be given a 15 minute timeslot to drop off your child. This is to minimise the number of families arriving at once and enable you to socially distance. Upon arriving, you may need to wait to let other children in first, in those cases please keep a 2m distance from other families. There will be nursery markers on the floor to assist queuing.

Please be mindful of other parents waiting to drop off as only one family will be dropping off at anytime.

Parents will not be allowed in the building.

You will be asked to stay at the purple gate. A member of the team will greet you and your child.

A member of staff will ask for a verbal health declaration to ensure that nobody in your family is suffering from any COVID-19 symptoms before entering.

Your child will be asked to wash their hands at the outdoor sink provided before entering the nursery.

Once that's done a member of the team will take your child to their room.

Children due to move rooms in March through to August will start in their new rooms when they return.

## Staffing



We are taking a phased return approach to our staffing. We will be maintaining legal ratios at times, but are minimising the number of people in the building. We will not be allocating Key Workers to children until September. However, we, as always will be ensuring the staff working in the rooms build strong meaningful relationships with your child.

The children will stay with their friends in their room all day, minimising the number of people they come into contact with.

If your child is sad, or needs a cuddle, you can be confident that our staff will always be there to do this. It is recognised in government guidance that young children can not be expected to socially distance.

If you require a one to one conversation with a member of staff, we encourage you to do this over the phone or via zoom. If it cannot be done like this, then we will ask you to meet the staff member outside and ask you to wear a mask.

If your child is new to the nursery, some of the transition time may be spent outside with you, your child and a member of staff. We ask you to wear a mask please.

## Activities



Before we get on with our daily activities, children will be guided to the bathroom for a sing-along, 20-second hand-wash.

Toys, play surfaces and resources for activities will be cleaned and ready for play, within smaller groups, so children can still learn through play with friends.

All activities will have been risk assessed to ensure all resources can be hygienically cleaned.

Messy play and sand will be available in personal trays due to the risk of cross infection.

## Meals



At mealtimes, children will be seated with their friends within their rooms. For the short-term meals will be preserved onto individual plates to ensure food is not shared.

## Sleep



Each child will have their own personal bed linen, which will be washed daily. Children's sleep matts will be separated at a 2m distance for sleep time.

## Outdoor play



Children will play in the garden as usual with their friends from their room.

Whilst children are out of their rooms, the rooms will be thoroughly cleaned down by staff using antibacterial and antiviral cleaning solutions.

Outdoor surfaces will also be cleaned down before the next group take their turn to enjoy the garden.

A portable sink will be placed in the outdoor area for regular hand washing by children and staff

## Exploring our Community



Outside activities, such as trips to the park, can only be done in small groups, ie 1 staff member and a couple of children.

We may visit the museum IF there is space, as they are limiting visitor numbers.

External partners such Spanish lessons have been postponed until we are advised it is safe to invite our partners back to the nursery.

## Staying Clean and Healthy



Staff and children will take frequent breaks for handwashing whilst discussing the importance of cleaning away germs, to stop the germs from spreading.

Tissues will be readily available, and the children will be taught the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach to germs. Foot operated pedal bins have been provided in all room, solely for the collection of used tissues.

All surfaces, play equipment and resources will be cleansed regularly.

Gloves will be available for changing nappies, but our policy of washing hands immediately before and after each nappy change is still recommended as the preferred approach.

Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools and early years settings is not recommended in government guidelines. However, PPE is available to staff should a child become ill during the nursery day.

## Feeling Unwell



If your child or anyone in your household becomes unwell and / or experiences any of the COVID-19 symptoms, we ask that you please do not come into nursery and call us to make us aware.

This is a crucial step in helping us to look after other children, families and our staff.

In the instance where a child's health changes during nursery time, staff will protect themselves with PPE, guide the child away from the other children where we will conduct a safe assessment.

Parents will be contacted to collect their child and expected to come immediately.

You must engage with the NHS Test and Trace process. Details of this can be found on our website.

## Home Time



You will be given a 15 minute time slot to collect your child. This is to minimise the number of families arriving at once and enable you to socially distance.

When collecting your child, please wait, at a 2m distance from other parents, until it is your turn to collect your child. There will be nursery markers on the floor to assist queuing. Whilst collecting, please be mindful of other parents waiting to collect as only one parent will be collecting at any time.

Once all our little ones have said goodbye and return to their homes, we shall again clean the nursery for the following day of safe play.

**We are so excited to be welcoming you back to Eureka! Nursery.**

**We've missed you all!**