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11 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The government has issued direction that all early years settings and nurseries should remain open during the current National Lockdown.

However, as you may be aware, the rate of positive cases in our area is currently very high (Stretton 782/100,000). Matt Hancock and Chris Whitty have both given clear messages that wherever possible people should stay at home. We are currently in 'the most dangerous time in the pandemic'.

I am writing to inform you that as instructed by the government, we plan to look at reopening our Nursery. This may be by restricting the numbers of pupils within the Nursery space, in order to maintain smaller groups and reduce risks. As we move forward, we may also be working with staff shortages, so we may have to restrict the number of children in the setting at any one time for this reason.

Although some evidence suggests that the virus less affects younger children, Boris Johnson has described schools as vectors for transmission. You may therefore decide that it is safer for your nursery-aged child to stay at home with you (if that is possible) and to help the community effort of reducing the transmission and therefore, spread of the virus.

If you do decide to send your child back to Nursery we will continue with the infection control measures of hands, face, space and ventilation. It is however, impossible to practise social distancing in early years settings as very young children do mix closely.

Please consider this information carefully and inform us of your decision via the Google Form that will follow.

Kind regards

Mrs J. Cutbush
Headteacher

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs J. Taylor & Mrs S. Clamp

