

Partial Closure and Key Workers

Dear Parents & Carers,

Throughout this unprecedented period; we were hopeful that organisations in the childcare industry would be permitted to continue trading and offer parents and carers our valued services. However, the rapidly changing state of events has led to a partial closure of schools' and nurseries from Monday.

It is our intention to be open from Monday for any child(ren) who has a parent that falls into the group of key workers, and who still needs to work. We have not been informed yet, exactly who is in this group, but if you feel that you might fall into it, then please can you reply to this email urgently, so I can put the right provision in place. I have been informed that it might include the list below, however this is not official. Obviously, the more families that it applies to, the more staff that can remain working.

- National Health Service
- Armed forces
- Teachers and childcare staff
- Care workers
- Social workers
- Police officers, community support, civilian staff
- Prison officer or other probation staff
- Firefighters
- Local authority planners
- Environmental Health Officers
- Highway Agency Traffic Officers
- Supermarket Delivery Drivers

With reference to Shooting Stars, we will drop off and pick up from all schools that require us to do so, within the local area. One suggestion has been that later down the line, it might not be all schools open, rather a small number, catering to all children within the area. If this is the case, we will simply go to that school - so long as it is within walking distance.

There will potentially be a change to our locations - we will not be operating from both the Cricket Club and the Scout Hut, but we cannot give clarity on that until we know numbers. We are fortunate that we can also use the nursery, if needed for breakfast club, as the numbers there will be significantly reduced too. I also believe we will be able to offer more flexibility, so if you need to change days or add sessions, because you need to work more, especially on the frontline, then please do not hesitate to let me know.

For planning reasons, it would be helpful to know if your child will definitely not be in as of Monday. We have a difficult task to ascertain which parents and carers fall into the key worker groups and do not want to assume wrongly.

Vulnerable children are also able to attend. Please contact me if you think this might apply to your family.

I would like to assure you that we are doing all we can to prevent Covid-19 at the nursery and Shooting Stars. We are cleaning madly - I cannot keep up with purchasing Zoflora and both the staff and the children are washing their hands frequently. As of the weekend, we are making it mandatory for our employees to follow the government advice and reduce social contact at every opportunity. We will also be collecting children from the door, so that parents and carers do not have to enter. An adequate handover will remain very high on our priorities.

At the moment, we still intend to run the Easter holiday club for the key worker families.

All visitors to the nursery have now been stopped.

I look forward to hearing from you, but in the meantime please take care and look after yourselves,
Kind Regards

Jayne
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