



Worple Road, Epsom, KT18 7AA

Registered Charity Number 1155711

01372 721111

March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of the steps that the staff team are taking in response to the Coronavirus outbreak.

The pre-school is monitoring the situation closely and will respond to advice and guidance issued by central government or the local council. In line with our policy, if the pre-school should need to close, parents will be given notice at the earliest opportunity. The closure will be advertised via our website, and where possible, notices will be displayed at the pre-school. Parents will be contacted directly via email and telephone if necessary. Please be advised that you may be informed of closure at very short notice. We will do our best to ensure that you are informed directly but please keep an eye out for communication from us.

Whilst the Pre-School remains operational, we have already taken extra steps to reduce the spread of germs. We have always expected and ensured the children wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. We are making use of our daily group activity sessions to talk to children about hygiene, such as catching a cough in a sleeve, using soap, germs and singing the birthday song when washing hands.

Additionally, whilst the pandemic remains, children will not prepare or self-select food and drink. The snack bar is always closely supervised; however, whilst the pandemic remains, an adult will serve children food and drinks. Children will use a disposable napkin as a plate for their food. Adults thoroughly wash cups and utensils.

We will carefully consider the risks presented by materials/resources which may harbour germs before offering messy activities; however, there will always be a certain level of risk where any material/resource is shared. Currently, we have decided to continue access to the outdoor sand pit. We have decided not to offer water play, playdough (or similar) or cooking activities at this time. Whilst the pandemic remains, we have decided not to send our fabric doll (Jamie) home. We will look into an alternative which may be kept clean more easily.

Please keep a close eye on guidance from government and make sure that you follow all safety measures. Please do not bring your child to Pre-School if they have had a high temperature in the preceding 48 hours, or if they are suffering with a cold, cough or runny nose. Similarly, we will ask our staff not to come to Pre-School if they have a cold, temperature, or cough.

Some of our staff may wear a face mask if they wish to do so, to offer them some protection against sneezes or coughs. Please can you let your child know to expect this, so that they are prepared before they come to pre-school.

The Pre-School staff have already introduced a routine to ensure that resources and environment are regularly cleaned. However, we are continually reviewing our procedures to ensure cleanliness and hygiene are stepped up.

If you have any concerns at all about your child at Pre-School, please do let us know.

Finally, please remember that it is always important to let us know if your child is not going to attend. We understand that the children may not always attend their usual sessions, but we need to know that they are safe and we have to record the reason for their absence.

Kind regards

Hayley Dawson

Manager



St Martin's Sure Start Children's Centre, Worple Road, Epsom, KT18 7AA

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