



Lancaster Road Nursery
Lancaster Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5TH

Tel: 01524 401271
Website: lancasterroadnursery.org.uk
E-mail k.blackburn@lancsroad.lancs.sch.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

As many of you will be aware, the government have now issued guidelines for Early Years Settings regarding the possible reopening on June 1st 2020. This document is complex and requires lots of thought to ensure that if the setting reopens, we can do this in a way that keeps staff and children safe. The Government have issued guidance for parents and carers regarding this situation and if you prefer, can read the guidance online through the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

To summarise the guidance as we understand it:

- If the 5 key tests set by the government justify change then the government plans to move to Step 2 of their adjustment plan not before the 1st June. At this step the government plans to include the phased return of Early Years Settings.
- Early Years Settings are to continue providing care for priority groups such as children of keyworkers and vulnerable children.
- Children do not have to attend and can be kept safe at home.
- Children who are extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding should NOT attend.
- Children who live in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable or shielding should only attend if strict social distancing can be maintained.
- Settings are asked to reduce contact between children and staff to the best of their ability and this may result in small groups of children being formed alongside a member of staff.
- Early Years Settings have been advised that the usual staff to child ratio groups identified in the Early Years Foundation Stage will suffice. This is 1:8 for children aged 3-4 years and 1:4 for children who are 2 years of age.
- Early Years Settings are to prioritise Pre-school aged children before younger aged children.
- The advice states that these smaller groups are not allowed to mix with other groups and where possible the same staff should remain with the same group. These groups must use the same room for each session.
- Timetables and sessions usually attended may alter due to accommodating these smaller group sizes.





Lancaster Road Nursery
Lancaster Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5TH
Tel: 01524 401271
Website: lancasterroadnursery.org.uk
E-mail k.blackburn@lancsroad.lancs.sch.uk



Within the guidance, Early Years settings are expected to make adjustments to manage risk and rate of transmission alongside the use of smaller groups. Some examples include:

- Open ventilation in each room, doors open where possible.
- Cleaning of rooms after each use. Groups to have their own resources where possible.
- Consider staggering arrivals and pick up times for families.
- Make use of outdoor space for learning as much as possible.
- Frequent cleaning of surfaces and areas of high use.

There have been several documents released that Lancaster Road Nursery needs to take into consideration whilst forming a plan of how to move forward. We are in the process of creating a risk assessment and a plan of how these requirements might impact the way in which we deliver care to your children. Through discussions we are considering the way in which we might need to adjust, including:

- Which children form the smaller groups we will need to implement.
- The impact these smaller groups may have on the overall availability of sessions offered and how we might do this in a way that is fair to all.
- How our staff will fit with each of the groups, this may mean that children are not placed with their usual keyworker.
- Staff available to work within the setting or those that we need to support working from home due to their own shielding or clinically vulnerable needs.
- The rooms that we can use to support each group safely.
- Resources that we can continue to use when our children return or those that we might need to remove to reduce transmission.
- The outdoor environment and how this might need to change to enable the high level of cleaning necessary.
- The ability to social distance whilst in the setting. Unfortunately this is just not possible between our young children who would be grouped together.

I am sure there are many more issues that will appear as we continue to create a more substantial plan and we aim to tackle these with the care, safety and well-being of you and your children at the forefront of any decisions. As soon as we have a plan and we are fairly certain there will be no more major announcements from the government regarding Early Years Settings, we will share with you how reopening will look for Lancaster Road Nursery.





Lancaster Road Nursery
Lancaster Road
Morecambe
Lancashire
LA4 5TH
Tel: 01524 401271
Website: lancasterroadnursery.org.uk
E-mail k.blackburn@lancsroad.lancs.sch.uk



I am sure that many of our Parents/Carers with children attending school in September are concerned with how transitions will occur. The majority of our staff, whilst working from home, have been completing transition documents ready to transfer to the relevant schools. These transition documents will prove invaluable to the children's new teachers as they begin to understand how your children play, learn and express themselves.

We are in the process of confirming transition meetings with the relevant schools. Through these meetings we will work with the schools to best help support transitions for your child. This might be in the form of videos or photos of the setting and/or staff who will be working with your children, however we would need confirmation from each school before we can give you a definitive answer. Just know that Lancaster Road Nursery wish to ensure as smooth a transition for your children as possible, especially during these uncertain times.

If you have any concerns or questions, need any support or wish to contact the nursery then this is best done through our email nursery@lancsroad.lancs.sch.uk or our contact telephone number 01524 401271 (08:30am-4pm Monday, Thursday and Friday).

We will update as soon as possible,
Stay safe,
Lancaster Road Nursery.

