



Lancaster Road Nursery
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Dear Parents/Carers,

16th June 2020

Another week, another update! We have been working hard to stay up-to-date with information for early years settings in light of the pandemic. Whilst waiting for the decision from Lancashire County Council, we have spent lots of time considering feedback from parents over the last few weeks and also what experiences children would have in returning to the setting.

Yesterday, Lancashire County Council announced that, if settings were able and felt comfortable doing so, schools and early years settings could reopen for the remainder of the summer term. If you would like to read the full statement then please check out this link;

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/news/details/?Id=PR20/0172>

Unfortunately, Lancaster Road Nursery have made the difficult decision to remain 'closed' for our extended children and families for the remainder of the summer term. We will continue to provide childcare for keyworkers and vulnerable children.

This is not a decision we have come to lightly. We have listened to the majority of parents who have decided not to send their children back, expressing that this is confusing for the children. Many children feel like they have already left and are waiting excitedly to start their school journey. We have listened to parents when they have said they would like to send them back but do not feel that it would be a 'normal' environment they would be returning to. We have also listened to those who have decided they would like to see their child return. We have approximately 95 families who access the setting, so far, only 5 have chosen to send their children back to us.

We have thought about transition and well-being. We work hard to help our children settle when they start with us, this can take a few days to a few weeks depending on the child. For many children, this process will start again if they return, yet find themselves leaving us again in just four weeks for the summer holidays.

Lancaster Road Nursery are proud to offer a safe, secure and stable environment for the children in our care. We feel that we would not be meeting this stability if we were to reopen in the capacity the guidance allows. Children would be attending limited sessions, for only four weeks before leaving us again, some to go on to school and others to come back to us in September.



We know that children feel secure and settled when they have consistency and uninterrupted routines. By bringing children back for such a short period, then breaking up for summer and then coming back in September, we feel this would set the nursery as a place of uncertainty for our children, impacting on their well-being and mental health.

We are all disappointed that our time together has been cut short this year and that we have not had the chance to do some fun end of year activities. We will stay in touch throughout the summer with any relevant information or updates. We hope you have a lovely extended summer holiday with your families and make some fabulous memories!

If you need to access childcare and think you fall into the keyworker group or have any questions then please contact the nursery.

Email: nursery@lancsroad.lancs.sch.uk

Telephone: 01524 401271

Regards,
Lancaster Road Nursery