

29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 Opening

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Over the past few weeks, we have received and acted upon Government guidance daily, including information on how to operate safely during the crisis and most recently how to *start planning effectively* for the potential opening of all nurseries on 1 June 2020. *This date was conditional on the 5 steps that have been outlined in the government's plan and MUST be in place for us to open to more of our parents.* We were informed by the government on the 28th May that nurseries can now start to open to other children.

We are aware that the Government's proposals to send children back to nursery from 1st June is a concern to all parents/ carers. I can share with you the scientific advisors published information, please see link below, that states there is no such thing as a "no risk" scenario but it does seem to appear that risks to children in nursery are extremely low.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/885631/Overview\\_of\\_scientific\\_advice\\_and\\_information\\_on\\_coronavirus\\_COVID19.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/885631/Overview_of_scientific_advice_and_information_on_coronavirus_COVID19.pdf)

According to the Children's Commissioner, Anne Longfield, there has been a small number of Covid-19 cases resulting from nurseries currently open on hospital sites. The Children's Commissioner's own survey stated that three out of 57 hospital nurseries reported a confirmed case, but none reported transmission within a nursery.

At Kamelia Kids we know that there is no such thing as a zero risk, it is about minimising any risk and taking control of managing that risk. We have put in place our COVID-19 Policy and Procedures and have carried out a detailed risk assessment, both of which sit alongside our existing policies. Both documents are attached, and are on our website, and we welcome any feedback. In addition to our plans and procedures being in place we have been guided by a very recent government publication, dated 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Planning guide for early years and childcare settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-early-years-and-childcare-settings-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-early-years-and-childcare-settings>

We have planned our nursery rooms with no more than 8 children in a group to allow for physical distancing. We have prioritised vulnerable children and children of critical workers, then 3- and 4-year olds, and those who will be transitioning to reception in September 2020, followed by younger age groups.

We have put in place a separate entrance for Bluebells, accessed through the staff carpark. A video of the access and how children and parents/ carers will be welcomed can be found on these links or on our website.

Video 1 - Bluebell children entrance - Introduction

<https://www.facebook.com/KameliaKids/videos/709003366519084/>

Video 2 - Bluebell entrance - approach to gate

<https://www.facebook.com/KameliaKids/videos/682730815630081/>

Video 3 – Bluebell entrance – Entrance to nursery

<https://www.facebook.com/KameliaKids/videos/603529143702459/>

Additionally, Bluebells has been split into two groups, **green** and **red**. The children have been split according to sibling, friendship, key person, SEND, session attendance days and times and will stay in this group for the duration of the current government guidance. The Bluebells team will inform you and your child of their group when you arrive next week.

Daisy and Poppy will continue to drop off and collect from the main nursery entrance, one parent/ carer only allowed access to the inside of the main entrance. Daisy and Poppy will continue to be split across the two rooms.

For the returning children we ask that parents complete the attached 'All About Me' form. This will support the staff to know about any changes in development and help with settling back into nursery.

We have also put in place several changes to our 'normal' practice to mitigate the transmission of the coronavirus. These are shown below:

- 1) We have staggered arrivals and collection times.
- 2) Children should wear a clean set of clothes each day into nursery.
- 3) Sun hat will be provided for each child.
- 4) Spare clothes should remain in the nursery in a named bag - *not plastic carrier bag* - and this is to be left at nursery.
- 5) Staff will request replacement clothing as required.
- 6) Soiled or wet clothing will be placed in a nappy sack and handover at collection.
- 7) Children can bring a comforter into nursery - these may be washed in nursery i.e. muslin cloth.  
**Please - NO soft toys or toys from home, we will ask you to take them home.**
- 8) Staff and children's water bottles will stay in nursery - these will be washed by hand or in the dishwasher. If a bottle is not provided, we will use our supply of cups/ beakers.
- 9) Staff and children's lunches to be brought in a named sandwich bags - where they will be stored in our fridges. Any food not eaten will be binned and not returned home.

In addition to this and to minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting and parents and carers are encouraged to minimise as far as possible the number of education and childcare settings their child attends. We have, for the time being suspended the breakfast and after school Kool Kids club.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries about the contents of this letter.

Keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

*Suzanne Charlesworth*

**Suzanne Charlesworth - Nursery Manager**

For and on behalf of **Kamelia Kids Day Nursery and Beach School**