



The White House Nursery Alvaston Parent Newsletter – Summer 2020



Term Dates

Funded children will return to nursery on Monday 7th September after the Summer Holiday. They will break up again on Friday 23rd October for one week. Children will break up for Christmas on Friday 18th December and return on Monday 4th January 2021. Please remember that nursery will close at 5pm on Christmas Eve and that we are closed to all children between Christmas and New Year.

Contracts and Fees

Our annual fee increase will be effective as of September 2020. We have new price lists and academic calendars for September 2020 to September 2021. If you would like a copy of your calendar please ask a member of staff when collecting/dropping off your child, a printed copy can be given or you can have it emailed to you.

Funding Reminder

Please can parents whose children come into funding in January apply for the 30-hour code for funding before the 31st December 2020. If you do not apply for the 30-hour code, you will not be able to claim the 30-hour funding from January 2021.

Coronavirus Notice

We would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the fantastic work our teams have demonstrated over the past few weeks, as well as how brilliantly the children have managed returning to nursery and the support we have received from parents. It's been a challenging time for all of us, and we are extremely proud of how everyone has come together to pull through and get to where we are now.



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Bake sales, stay & plays, nursery events and off-site trips will be put on hold for now as a precaution, in the interest of limiting exposure and the spread of the virus. We hope to resume these activities soon and we will keep parents updated as and when this is decided.

Flexi Furlough

We would like to make parents aware that we are operating a flexi furlough system for staff members across all of our settings. Therefore, you may notice some changes in the days/times your regular room staff are working, and we are doing all we can to ensure this causes as little disruption to children as possible.

CPD For Our Practitioners

Although our in house training academy is taking a break for now, our practitioners have continued to develop their CPD by taking part in online training throughout the 'lockdown' period. We have also secured dates for staff to attend Paediatric First Aid Training later this year.

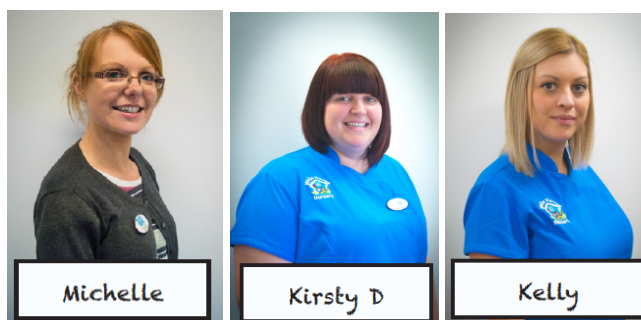
Confirmed Staff Updates

Michelle is currently on furlough and will be going on maternity leave.

Kirsty Doyle is now Acting Nursery Manager.

Kelly will be joining the team as Acting Deputy Manager from 1st September.

We will be having some staff move rooms due to numbers and needs across the nursery - please keep a look at for updated posters and memos to provide you with this information.



Malleable Activities

As you know here at the White House Nursery, we love nothing more than to provide wonderful opportunities for children to experiment, explore and develop through messy, malleable 'hands on' activities. We delight in providing a range of different materials and resources which include sand, water, play dough, cornflour to name but a few. We know how much the children gain from these materials and activities and how much they miss being able to access these and would love to be able to do



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so again soon. Our practitioners also miss these activities and ask when they can have them back out in their rooms. However, in line with Government Guidance and Health and Safety good practice during the COVID-19 pandemic we removed all these resources and opportunities to adhere to guidance and ensure the health and safety of all our children and staff. We continue to review and evaluate the guidance and complete risk assessments to consider when it is safe to reinstate these opportunities. Unfortunately, having looked at options and logistics we feel in order to maintain our high standards for infection control, safeguarding and wellbeing of all the children and staff it is still too early to reintroduce these opportunities. To do so would risk the stringent good practice we have in place which has kept our children and staff well and our nurseries open and functioning. We understand this is disappointing but want to ensure we do everything we can to keep our nursery environments COVID free. Please be reassured we will continue to assess this and reinstate as and when we feel it is safe to do so. Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding during these difficult times.

Preschool Graduation Celebration 2020

It's that time of year again where we say goodbye to our preschool children and wave them off to big school soon! This is always a very special, exciting, proud and emotional time for us here at The White House Nursery, especially for those children who've attended since they were babies. This year's Graduation celebrations have been fantastic and we hope the children have enjoyed having fun with their friends.

Safeguarding

A reminder to all drivers that we are a nursery and not a racecourse. Please be mindful of other uses within the carpark, children walking etc. The drive can also be a blind area due to how tight this is.

Important dates

In November if your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 your school admission packs will be with you in time to start and think about that next chapter.

Memos and reminders

We thank you for your patience regarding dropping off and collecting your children at the main nursery doors. We understand lots of you are friends and may want to have a catch up as you pass each other in the car park please can we ask that you do this away from the main nursery doors to help with smooth drop off and collections for all of our families. Thank you for your understanding. If you are unsure of our door policy please call nursery beforehand and we will explain.



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Please can we ask all parents and carers to discourage their children from bringing in toys from home unless this is used as a comforter.

Please can we ask all parents and carers to ensure that your child has a nursery bag with enough spare clothes in for the day. We do have some nursery clothes for emergencies, but these are also running low. If you have any nursery clothes at home, please can you return these to nursery.

The ALL NEW Parent Zone: Important Info

We are pleased to tell you that Parent Zone has had a major overhaul and a brand new version of the app has been released! The new and improved Parent Zone app has a completely new design and takes advantage of lots of your phone's native features - like fingerprint or face ID login pinch and zoom on photos. To download the new app head to your app store and search for 'Parent Zone'. Once downloaded, you can access the new app with your existing login details. The old Parent Zone app will be switched off and removed from app stores on 30th August, so please ensure you download the new app soon!



Keep a look out on our website and social media channels for information on how to get the most out of your Parent Zone app

Grandparents Day

To celebrate Grandparents Day which is on Sunday 13th September 2020 we would like to ask our parents to send in some photographs of grandparents so we can share these with the children and talk about the special people in their lives. If you wish to send us a photograph please email it to alvaston@whitehousenurseries.com or upload it to your child's Parent Zone.

Talk Derby Day

Thank you to all of our parents who supported us with Talk Derby Day. We did lots of lovely activities with the children and we hope that you got to view some of these on our Facebook page. If you would like to find out more information about talk derby and what this is also about then please visit <https://talkderby.org.uk/about/>

Talk Derby also have their own Facebook page which includes lots of tips and ideas to support speech and language at home.