



The White House Nursery Oakwood Parent Newsletter – Summer 2020



Term Dates

Funded children and term time children return back to nursery week commencing 1st September. October half term is week commencing 26th October for funded children only.

Christmas Holiday Dates

Funded and 44 week contract children break up on Friday 18th December and return to nursery week commencing 4th January 2021.

51 week contract children break up on 24th December and return on 4th January 2021

Funding Reminder

Please can parents whose children come into funding 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. Please ask if you need any advice or information regarding funding.

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.



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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.

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.

Car Park & Social Distancing

All parents and visitors to the nursery are required to park in the bottom large car park only. (Not in the drop off or pick up area, staff are currently using this area to park). This is to facilitate social distancing when collecting or dropping off your child. You will see the signage and markings on the foot path as you approach the nursery, please follow this accordingly and respect these procedures.

Collection & Drop Off

We are continuing to meet and greet our children and families at the door upon collection and drop times. This significantly reduces the amount of footfall we have through the nursery and helps us to minimise the spread of infection. We thank you for your support, patience and cooperation with this.

Parent Zone

We ask that as parents and carers you regularly log onto this system and keep up to date with not only how your child is learning, progressing and developing at nursery, but any other information.

The staff may send you messages or other information that may not be appropriate to discuss and the front door with other parents waiting.

Preschool Graduation Celebration 2020

It's almost that time of year again where we say goodbye to our preschool children and wave them off to big school in September! 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 did go ahead although we made some changes from past events to ensure we could do things safely. Thank you for all the children that came and celebrated with us, it was lovely to see the children and we wish them well at school we will miss you all.



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Confirmed Staff Updates

Sam has just started her maternity leave in August we wish her well her baby girl is due at the end of August. Marta will start her maternity leave at the end of December. Marta will continue to work in the pre-school room throughout her pregnancy; we also wish her well for the safe arrival of her baby girl that is due at the beginning of January. We look forward to welcoming the full staff team back in September. Chloe from the Alfreton site will be temporarily joining us at Oakwood to cover this Maternity leave.



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.

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!





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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.

Nappies and Wipes

Please ensure your child always has a supply of nappies and wipes at nursery as we do not supply these. You may wish to keep extras in your car in case our nursery supply gets low so we have some to use until you can bring more in.

Weather Appropriate Clothes and Sun Cream

At the moment, we are not offering the option for you to buy nursery sun cream, so please ensure you include a bottle of factor 50+ in your child's nursery bag so they can continue to enjoy outdoor play in sunny weather. Please also remember to pack a labelled sun hat for your child.

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 so again soon. Our practitioners also miss these and ask when they can have 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.