

The 'Campaign'!

Nursery school supplementary funding is due to run out at the end of this financial year. There has recently been a zoom meeting with the minister for Early Years Vicky Ford in which this issue was raised. The minister said that they would be looking at Early Years funding as a whole to ensure it is 'fair'. A 'fair' system is what led to the necessity of supplementary funding in the first place. We are in touch with Jack Dromey MP and will keep pushing.

COVID-19 works

Birmingham City Council (BCC) Education Infrastructure Team wanted to work with a maintained nursery school to get ready for re-introducing additional children from the 1st June following the guidance released.

We volunteered and had 3 BCC staff advise us on how to create safe 'bubbles' for staff and children and the work that needed to take place. Early years guidance did not expect children to maintain 2 metres distance from each other but expected settings to create bubbles of up to 16 children who needed to maintain 2 metres distance from other bubbles of children. As far as possible, staff and resources were to be kept within each bubble, The other steps we needed to put in place was an increased, thorough cleaning regime and additional hand washing.

While we waited for the work to be carried out, we could continue to receive the 32 key worker and vulnerable children and introduce two more bubbles of 16 children. As requested BCC we prioritised children due to start school in September. The two groups shared the Greenhouse with one bubble attending Mon to Weds and the other bubble Thurs to Fri. We cleaned thoroughly between the two bubbles and changed resources and staff. We were keen to have the work completed as we felt it was still important to return as many vulnerable two year olds too. When staff were not working with children, they have worked really hard improving the school environment.

We had work carried out to remove soft furnishings and structural changes to repurpose spaces and maintain 2 metres distance between bubbles of children. This was completed on Thursday 2nd July and so we welcomed another bubble of children back on Monday 6th July. See power point

COVID-19 Funding

We should be receiving funding for the Summer term based on the Spring Term Census from January. Any additional children we have received should be offset against children who are not attending the school.

BCC have made sustainability payments to PVI settings for provision made during lockdown. There will be some sustainability payments made to Maintained Nursery Schools (MNSs) and Nursery classes but hasn't yet been finalised.

MNSs are not entitled to access the government funding for schools for additional costs during COVID-19 and have not been able to access any of the business relief for PVI settings. We are in communication with BCC about this.

COVID-19 Support for families

We have been supporting a lot of families throughout COVID-19. We now have **80** children attending over the week. So far we have undertaken 51 support events.

We posted ways to access support on our facebook, twitter feed and website and were contacted by families outside our cohort who we could signpost to support.

Home learning - throughout lockdown we had a lot of different strategies to contact our children and families.

Each key worker sent ideas for activities via Tapestry to their key children. There were learning activities shared daily on the school facebook. Pam, our teacher, planned differentiated learning activities for our different learning Groups. We contacted every family either weekly or two weekly and encouraged them to post on Tapestry and if we could not reach them by telephone, carried out a home visit. We welcomed back all but 2 of our vulnerable children.

We created 4 differentiated resource packs that we handed out to all families.

We were asked to take 5 children, 4 of whom had SEND, when their PVI settings closed down.

Chart Title



Food Parcels CVNS	10
Erdington Food Bank Referrals	1
Compass Support referrals	1
COVID-19 Resilience Fund	22
Urgent Milk Supply	1
Referrals for Weekly Food Parcels CVCH	7
Vouchers	3

Food Parcels CVNS	10
Erdington Food Bank Referrals	1
Compass Support referrals	1
Referrals for Weekly Food Parcels CVCH	7
COVID-19 Resilience Fund	22
Vouchers	3
Urgent Milk Supply	1

Staff changes

I knew our staff were great but they have been absolutely amazing during COVID-19 - really stepped up.

We have had a lot of staff changes this term. We have had a part time teacher, Pam, retire. Our Deputy Head Teacher, Deb, emigrate. Our BSS left in February. One of our permanent level 3 staff due to start a Teaching Apprentice has decided to leave. We have 2 staff on maternity leave and one due to go on maternity leave.

We have just completed a recruitment process where all fixed term level 2s reapplied for a limited number of jobs. 3 of our team now have permanent contracts and 4 successfully gained further fixed term contracts. One of our team was also successful in gaining a permanent level 3 position. We are in a recruitment process for a Deputy Head Teacher and hope to successfully recruit for as soon as possible in Autumn Term.

Transition

We cannot carry out our end of term events as we usually would but we will do what we can for the children in school.

We have contacted all the feeder schools for children starting reception in September and am pleased to say that this year all of our main feeder schools will be using Tapestry so we can pass on the learning journals.

We have offered a download or printing service for Tapestry Learning Journals for leaving children.

September

After we received the updated government guidance to state that we do not need to 'bubble' children after 20th July, we have contacted all children due to return and on our waiting list.

Following the guidance, we will be able to carry out our play sessions with children as usual but will need to assess home visits in September. We are thinking to carry out show rounds and admissions meetings virtually.

Spring numbers (to be confirmed)	2020
Total number of children	151
Number of Free School Meals	47
Pupil Premium	47
Children entitled to 3 year old 15 hours universal funding	106
Of those, how many entitled to additional 15 hours (30 hours with code)	36
Children entitled to 15 hours 2 year old funding	42
2 year olds paying for hours	3
Children Topping up (extra 15 Hours £75per week)	9
Looked After Children (LAC) or post LAC - now called Children in Care (CIC)	6
Children with English as an additional Language (EAL)	7
Number of children who have deferred entry to school	0
Children subject to a Child Protection plan or Child in Need	9
Children with Early Help Plans	1
Children on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities register (SEND)	33
Children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)	1
Number of fixed or permanent exclusions	0

Current numbers for September			
A m	New 3 year olds	3	Am total: 83
	New 2 year olds	30	
	New Full time 3 year olds	7	
	Returner 3 year olds	10	
	Returner 2 year olds	4	
	Returner Full time 3 year olds	13	
	Returner full time vulnerable	16	
P m	New 3 year olds	0	Pm total: 57 Total children: 111
	New 2 year olds	5	
	New Full time 3 year olds	7	
	Returner 3 year olds	12	
	Returner 2 year olds	4	
	Returner Full time 3 year olds	13	
	Returner full time vulnerable	16	