



Mrs Katarina Bingham
Head of Centre

82 Lyndhurst Road
Reading RG30 6UB
Nursery: 0118 937 5577
Fax: 0118 937 5679

Website:
www.norcotearlyyearscentre.co.uk
Email: admin@norcot.reading.sch.uk

29th May 2020

Dear parents/ carers,

I am writing to inform you of an incident that took place at the nursery in Hillside garden on Wednesday, 28 May 2020 between 8.00 - 8.30am and the measures we have now put in place to increase security and external surveillance.

The glass in our patio window was broken after an air gun was fired from the nearby public footpath. The pellet was found by the door. Staff were present inside the building when it happened but no-one was harmed. The vulnerable children and the children of key workers were in a different building and were nowhere near the location where it happened.

We immediately contacted the police and Reading Borough Council, who own the building and both have been very helpful and reassuring. As we have witnessed an increased number of anti-social behaviour from that footpath recently, the police advised us to board up the Hillside garden fence. Reading Borough Council, has been very supportive and are working on the agreed measures.

This morning, the council carried out a full Health and Safety and security survey as advised by the police. The immediate recommendations and risk assessment will be carried out before we open. In the long term, we are looking at installing CCTV with appropriate signage and obscuring the perimeter fence where the children can be seen.

I would like to reassure you that measures taken and being investigated are to protect both children and staff. It is very distressing to be on the receiving end of such irresponsible anti-social behaviour but we hope that these swift actions will deter any future incidents.

We had an emergency full Governing body meeting this morning and the decision was made to delay opening the Centre until Tuesday 2nd June to enable us to put the immediate measures in place and support staff to ensure we open safely and adhere to the risk assessment.

If your child was due in on Monday 1st June and you pay for your place in Waterside day care or wraparound lunch club in the nursery school, you will not be charged for this day.

We appreciate that this is an anxious time for you and your families and fully support your decision as parents/carers in whether to send your child back to nursery at this current time.

If you have any concerns or further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Katarina Bingham
Head of centre

Chris Armstrong-Stacey
Chair of Governors