



Mrs. K Bingham
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11th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

Christmas Period

I would like to start by thanking all of the children, staff and parents for their understanding, adaptability and resilience during this term. Within our Norcot community there have been many gestures of kindness and additional support and we are all really grateful. These are really appreciated, no matter how big or small. A special thank you for all of your generous donations for our Reverse Christmas Advent Calendar. Your donations will be shared with our families who might be struggling during these difficult times.

Please take extra caution during the next few days with wearing facemasks, handwashing, sanitizing and social distancing. Please do be extra careful about coming into the centre over the next few days if you feel unwell. If you are unsure, please call us. Whilst it is our responsibility to keep the centre safely open and follow all necessary guidelines, we really do not want to be informing families that they will need to self-isolate over the holiday period.

Nursery school will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 18th December and Waterside Day Care will close at 3pm on Thursday 24th December. Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th January 2021 will be INSET days for the whole Centre. During those two days the staff will receive Paediatric First Aid training. We welcome children back to our centre on Wednesday 6th January 2021.

Please carefully read the following government information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases during the Christmas holidays published by DfE:

- Where a child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in the Centre, the Centre should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in the Centre, the Centre is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in the Centre. Please contact Katarina on 077 1783 8010.

From 2nd December to 23rd December 2020

During this period you must follow the guidance for the tier in your area. Currently, Reading is in Tier 2 high alert. For more information on what you can and cannot do in an area in Tier 2 of local restrictions, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-2-high-alert> the tiers are being reviewed on 16th December so please be aware that the tier we are currently in may change.

From 23rd December to 27th December 2020, you may choose to form a Christmas bubble.

A Christmas bubble will be able to spend time together in private homes, including second homes and caravans, to attend places of worship, or meet in a public outdoor place.

If you do form a Christmas bubble, you should not meet socially with friends and family you do not live with in your home or garden unless they are part of your Christmas bubble.

In all other settings, people should follow local restrictions in the tier in which they are meeting.

If you do not form a Christmas bubble, you should continue to follow the guidance for the tier you are in.

From 28th December 2020

From 28th December, you must follow the guidance for the tier in your area. Christmas bubbles will no longer apply.

For more information on what you can and cannot do over the Christmas period, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-the-christmas-period>

If you are travelling abroad

- You will need to follow the rules for entering the UK, visit <https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control> . You must show proof of a completed passenger locator form at the UK border, visit <https://www.gov.uk/provide-journey-contact-details-before-travel-uk> . You can complete it up to 48 hours before you enter the UK and should do so before arrival. Failing to complete the form is a criminal offence.
- You may have to self-isolate for the first 14 days you are in the UK, depending on the country you travelled to. See the guidance on self-isolation for England, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk>

As always, thank you for your continuous support and understanding during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Katarina Bingham
Head of Centre