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15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Careers,

Only two weeks into 2021 and it is already showing us how adaptable to change we all are. Once again, as we find ourselves in another national lockdown we would really like to say thank you to our whole Centre community for their support and understanding during this challenging time.

Undoubtable you have heard reports on the news and social media about some of the challenges the Early Years sector is currently facing. Please let us reassure you that we are following our risk assessment which is regularly reviewed to keep the Centre as safe as we possibly can for the children and staff.

The children in the Centre will continue to stay in their safe bubbles and be supported by the staff in these bubbles. The children at home will continue to receive home/ remote education provided by the staff working from home via Tapestry -providing individual support and setting next steps for their children's learning.

website <https://www.norcotearlyyearscentre.co.uk/eyfs-curriculum/planning-spring-2021/remote-home-learning/>

YouTube https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=norcot+early+years+centre

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Norcot-Early-Years-Centre-383225711792610>

The staff will also continue to support families at home through weekly wellbeing phone calls and offering resources or learning packs if needed, signposting for specific support and anything else that is required.

As a parent myself I completely understand the difficulties that you are facing in juggling work, childcare, online learning, looking after the physical and mental wellbeing of your families and keeping on top of the daily jobs around the house whilst being anxious yourselves about the pandemic. Please remember to be kind to yourselves and not to put too much pressure on yourselves, if you need any support then please do contact us.

I would, once again, like to express my admiration for the staff, who have kept rising to all the challenges thrown at us during this ongoing pandemic, putting their lives at risk many times to educate and care for our children. I am so proud of them all.

A big thank you to all the parents/carers for your continued support, understanding and positive feedback. We really do appreciate it.

And the final thank you is to the children. "Our Children are little heroes, too. Missing their grandparents, extended family, friends and school. Lack of normal routines. Loss of structure to their day. Parents who are stressed, worried, scared and just different. Overheard talk and news without an understanding of what they hear." Well done to them, give them an extra hug as you put them to bed at night.

Kind regards

k. Bingham

Mrs. Katarina Bingham
Head of Centre