



Mrs Katarina Bingham
Head of Centre

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

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

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Dear Norcot family,

COVID year at Norcot

We have come to the end of another term. I am immensely proud of the way our children, staff, parents/carers, families and community have responded to the huge challenges we have all faced throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

For some children, this was their first time in the Centre, for some their final year before starting their primary school. I know the disruption we have all faced to the children's education and care since the pandemic began has been incredibly challenging and has meant changing the way the staff teach and the children learn, both through learning remotely at home or continuing at the Centre, with fewer children and lots of protective measures in place.

I am filled with admiration for the incredible way everyone at Norcot has responded to the pandemic. The understanding and resilience shown by everyone has been amazing. Huge sacrifices have been made. Everything the children have done, with the help of staff, parents and families has made such a huge difference to helping us stop the spread of the virus. I want to say a huge thank you to all of you.

Getting all the children back into the Centre safely has been our priority throughout the pandemic. I know how vital it is, not just for their education but also for their emotional well being. All our lives have changed over the past year, but the challenges that we have faced at the Centre have been immense. We will continue doing everything in our power to make sure that the children are supported to ensure that they continue to succeed in their education.

Continuing to follow all the safety measures we have worked hard to put in place, as well as staff and the parents/ carers taking a Lateral Flow test twice a week, is so important and helps us to stop the virus spreading. I am so grateful to everyone who have agreed to take part in the programme of regular testing.

It is important that staff and parents/carers continue to test themselves regularly at home and report online twice a week through the Easter holidays and continue once we return back to the Centre. Home testing makes a huge difference and means that we are playing a really important role in helping us move back to a more normal way of life. You and your family can find out more about home testing [here](#).

Thank you for all you continuing support and understanding.

We wish a happy Easter!

Yours sincerely

Katarina Bingham
Head of centre