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Company No.: 4906457

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Hello to all our parents!

We do hope you are all well and we are very much looking forward to seeing those returning to us on Monday 1st June!

We have now touched base with all our parents, however there are some we are still waiting to hear back from. For those of you who have not yet confirmed your future childcare requirements, if you could contact us prior to Monday 1st June please.

In readiness for Monday and in readiness for those who are choosing a phased return, we wanted to update you of what to expect on your return and to share with you, the changes we have made to the setting and how we will be implementing safe practices.

First of all, as a reminder, we have an Open Day on Saturday 30th June between 9am and 3pm. This is to allow parents to book in at 15 minute intervals to see the adaptations we have made to the nursery and to discuss our new procedures in light of Covid-19. If you would like an appointment please contact racheljones@fitnfunkids.co.uk.

In readiness for your return, we have undertaken the following:

- We have gutted the nursery completely and purchased new furniture and resources.
- We have fully decorated the nursery throughout.
- We have removed all rugs, soft furnishings and replaced these with high quality wipeable mats.
- Where we have carpets these have been cleaned.
- We have installed sinks in all childcare rooms to support children with easy access and to wash their hands more regularly. To confirm, the children will wash their hands on arrival, before and after food, after outside play, after using the toilet, in times of need and prior to going home. (We will of course encourage the children to 'catch it, kill it, bin it').
- The nursery has had a deep clean and we have implemented new cleaning practices throughout the day. This includes the cleaning of toys, surfaces, flooring, mats, light switches, door handles, sinks, toilets etc.
- Outside we have built a large new decking area to extend the opportunity of play and learning outside the children's childcare rooms and we have adapted the mud garden and additional grassed play area.
- For those who follow us on Facebook, we will be uploading a video of the setting and covering how we will be managing implementing childcare practices in light of Covid-19. In June, we will upload a professionally filmed introduction to our nursery for current and new parents to view.

Obviously, it will be impossible to ask the children to socially distance, but what we have done is changed the layout within the rooms and activities to reduce the amount of grouping as far as possible. Our ethos has always been to

put the children at the centre of everything that we do and in light of this we will keep them safe but in a way that their little world will not change in their eyes. The children will be free to play with their friends and have cuddles with the team where needed.

To achieve safeguarding during this time, all our staff have attended a briefing session on best practice. This includes reducing cross contamination risk by changing in and out of their clothing/uniform on arrival and departure from the setting; tying up hair; regularly handwashing and use of sanitiser which is placed throughout the setting; supporting social distancing but not impacting the seven areas of learning; management of time in outside play areas; daily cleaning schedule and cleaning of small and large resources; attending zoom meetings rather than grouping; etc.

The government have released guidance on supporting settings to re-open from 1st June. As you are aware, we chose to remain open to support our families and the wider community with childcare for critical frontline key workers. This has also given us time to prepare for the full opening from June and we are confident that what we have put in place will safeguard the children as is reasonably practicable in light of the pandemic.

In light of the guidance that has been provided, we have chosen to cap our numbers within the setting. This means that a reduced number of children will be able to attend each day and when they do attend, they will be kept safe within their rooms and outside areas in what will be known as 'bubbles'. This means that we have reduced the risk of potential transmission.

On the children's return to nursery, we would ask that all parents drop and collect their children at reception. This reduces the amount of footfall within the nursery. However, the emotional wellbeing of the children is essential and we will allow, if necessary, parents to settle their children in to the room if required but must emphasise, this is if essential.

We would ask anyone entering the setting to use the hand sanitiser prior to entry.

New parents enquiring have been offered virtual tours in the first instance and have worked with us to help their children settle without remaining in the childcare rooms themselves. This has worked effectively. The on-line film which will go live later in June will assist us in continuing reduction of footfall within the nursery.

We would ask parents not to send their children in to the nursery if unwell. Please do not give them medicine to reduce a temperature as this will just mask symptoms as put others at risk. We are no longer required to take temperatures on arrival but we will take a child's temperature if showing symptoms of illness and call you to collect your child if he/she has a temperature of 37.8 or more. Whilst waiting for you to collect your child we will keep your child in the soft play room with a member of staff with the window open. Only at this point will we ask a member of staff to wear full PPE if a child is coughing or sneezing. This is a requirement. No other PPE will be used in the setting other than gloves and aprons when dealing with intermate care or cleaning.

If a child is sent home with Covid-19 symptoms, we will require that child to be tested prior to returning. If the child is shown to be negative and recovers, then they may return to the setting. If that child is tested and there is a positive result, they will need to isolate for 14 days. In this instance, we will also need to send home all those children and staff within their bubble who will also need to self isolate for 14 days, unless they are tested and show a negative result, from which they are able to return. To get a child tested please see your GP or call 111. As key workers, we are able to get are staff tested and their family.

As of today, 28th May 2020, new guidance has been released by the Dfe on the Test and Trace Service <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-nhs-test-and-trace-service>

We appreciate that you may be anxious in settling your children back in to nursery and we hope this goes to alleviate some of your worries. We can reassure you that all our team have received updated training on children's emotional wellbeing over the last couple of weeks and have been given some further reading material on supporting children back to nursery. Our priority on return will be supporting the children to feel safe, happy and secure.

We are no longer able to hold car seats or other equipment as our setting I am afraid, we can however, store this in our shed if you are happy with this. We do ask that you do not send your child in with any toys and in turn, we are unable to send resources home at the current time.

We do have parental guidance available to anyone who would like it on Separation Anxiety and Transitions if you would like us to email you a copy. We will also arrange to have this put on our website.

If we can refer you to our website Covid-19 page where you will find our Covid-19 Risk Assessment which is updated regularly and following new guidance and our Setting Operational Procedure for further reference. We can confirm that all our policies and procedures have been updated in line with impact and consideration.

We will undertake a new fire drill with our children so they are aware of changes to safe waiting areas and we will ensure that we respect 2m distancing in this process.

With regards to provision of healthy snacks and refreshment, these will continue as normal. However, as we are unable to guarantee delivery of ingredients, we would ask that parents provide a packed lunch for their children in day. Please can you ensure packed lunch boxes are named and do not contain any nut products. Any items requiring refrigeration will be clearly labelled with your child's name and stored in our fridge.

No charges will be made for those who normally have lunch or tea with us.

We are also in the process of recruiting a new Chef/Cook so please do signpost anyone interested our way.

In readiness for your child's return, we have attached a new 'All About Me' form so we can capture where your child is at the present time, bearing mind they have been away from nursery for some time. Please can you complete this and return to us.

We have also attached a Personal Details Form which we would like you to complete and return to us asap. We are in the process of setting up a new digital platform which will be more accessible for yourselves via an app and more useful for ourselves to safely store your child's data. This will also help us to reduced paperwork. For anyone interested in knowing more about this please discuss with Rachel or Lynn or for further information, have a look here <https://family.co/>. This new nursery management software will eventually replace Tapestry and I am sure you will agree, gives greater flexibility and communication platforms between us.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We have gathered much more further information which is continually updated which we would be more than happy to share with you in relation to supporting your children at nursery.

We regularly share information via our Facebook page, please do follow us if you do not already do so here <https://www.facebook.com/FitNFunNurseries>

We very much look forward to seeing those of you returning next week and those who plan to return in the near future.

Regards, Rachel and Fit N Fun Kids Team

Attachments:

Newly revised April 2020 Price List

All About Me Form

Personal Details Form

In the meantime, further guidance can be sourced here:

<https://www.fitnfunkids.co.uk/covid-19-coronavirus.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-nhs-test-and-trace-service>

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/overview-of-scientific-information-on-coronavirus-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>