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Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

This letter outlines the changes we have made at the School to ensure that children, families and staff are as safe as possible in the context of the coronavirus.

Please know that considerable time and effort has gone in to making the best decisions we can in the circumstances. At all times our aim is to ensure the well-being of our school community, while continuing to offer a rich, rewarding Early Years experience for our children.

These alterations are in line with Government advice to Schools and Early Years settings, which can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures) and [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools).

**Organisation of the environment**

Orchard Room (our under threes provision) will operate as one self-contained group. They will have access to part of the garden at all times to enable the children to free flow between indoors and outdoors for the majority of the day.

Nursery School will be separated into two groups, one based upstairs and one based downstairs. Both groups will have access to the garden throughout the day. This will be split in half so that the two groups do not mix during core sessions.

Both Nursery School groups will have the following workshop areas available to them:

-Block play and small world resources (trains, dolls house, dinosaurs etc)

-Role play

-Mark-making (including painting)

-A cosy area for sharing books

Further learning resources and opportunities will be added by adults in response to children’s interests and developmental next steps.

We will continue to offer a child-led, play based experience, where the children make choices about what they want to engage with and how, while adults are alongside children in their play to take opportunities to extend play and thinking, support language development and positive social interaction.

**Daily routines**

Apart from the initial settling sessions for new children, family members will not be allowed into the building.

Nursery School children will be handed over to us at the central entrance door to the original building (coming in through the car park), while Orchard Room families will come in through the main pedestrian gates and hand over at the front door.

Drop of and pick up times are slightly staggered, to limit the number of families gathering at the school gates and to limit the amount of time that families have to wait while dropping off.

**Hygiene and cleaning**

Children will wash their hands upon entering the nursery, at regular intervals through the day and before they go home.

Masks will not be worn by children or staff at the nursery (unless there is a particular reason for a member of staff to do so). Due to the age of the children, social distancing is not appropriate.

The range of resources available to the children is more limited than usual, to ensure that these can be cleaned effectively on a daily basis. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly through each session.

If a child develops symptoms of the coronavirus whilst at nursery (high temperature, new, repetitive cough or loss or change to sense of taste or smell) they will be isolated with a member of the leadership team and families will be called to collect them as soon as possible. Families will then need to self-isolate for 10 days or until a test is taken and the results are negative.

I have every confidence that the children will be able to enjoy a stimulating, rewarding and safe nursery experience. If you have any questions about how we are managing our provision, please contact the school office on 01243 642 925 or at office@brns.org.

Best wishes,

Joe

Joe Knutson

Headteacher

Bognor Regis Nursery School