



*Much more than childcare*

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020  
9.30am

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience and I hope our two previous emails have found you safe and well.

We are waiting for Christ Church Primary School to agree our plan to reopen in a way that fits with theirs. In the meantime, we felt it was important to begin moving forward as much as possible and share our plans to date. As you read, you will see the challenges of opening a feasible childcare provision becomes more challenging, and unfortunately will not be possible for all families by June 1<sup>st</sup>, if any. We intend to finalise the timeline by Friday based on the response below and awaited communication from Christ Church Primary School.

As a childcare provider, we are following the same protective guidelines for children as the school does, with some minor differences. We felt it would be best to summarise how FUNdays would look like for you and your children. If you have any questions after reading this, or want to understand the rationale, we are preparing a further document which will have more details.

Additionally, for the complete and full Government guidance that we are following, please see all the links at the end of this letter.

**To summarise some of the general precautions we will be taking:**

- Social distancing of 2 metres will be in place, encouraged by desk spacing when indoors. Desk spacing will dictate the number of children in a physical space.
- Children will be in 'social bubbles' of a size of no more than 15.
- We will be outdoors as much as possible.
- Frequent handwashing will take place alongside the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Removal of soft furnishing and toys.
- Removal of communal and general access to things like toys and stationery.
- Children will have a very limited set of resources and toys to play with on their own at their desk or outside. Once chosen, these resources cannot be changed or mixed with other children. These will be cleaned at the end of provision.

Of course, this is not how we would like to look after children and goes against our values and philosophy, but safety has to come first. Because of this, we will be prioritising the emotional health of children and providing talk time and discussion about the strangeness of everything. Some of our staff have been undergoing training to help them support children's mental health specifically related to COVID-19.



On to some specifics.

### **Pricing, Charging and Booking:**

- *Bookings on Hold:* To begin with, we will only be allowing bookings from families with a 'held booking' as per the day they have a held booking. The held cost will be converted into the cost below if the slot is used. A combination of held and used slots are okay.
- There will only be one option for before and after school as follows:
  - After school until 5.20pm, priced at £9.50
  - Before school from 7.30am with a simple breakfast. Breakfast is optional but if your child does not have breakfast, this will not change the price. It will be priced at £5.10

We are not in a position to take one-off bookings at this stage and so the initial opening sessions will be available to those with fully paid, held bookings only. We will keep this under review. Our forthcoming additional rationale document will include the guidance we are following that has created this temporary pricing structure.

We now come to the greatest challenge. On Thursday evening, the released Government guidance concerning wrap around school care informing us, "*You should only run such provision if you are able to keep children within the groups they are in during the day or safely distanced.*" Up until this point, we were confident we could partially open. It is now less clear whether we can make this feasible but we have a plan, even if it is only possible for some families.

We are awaiting confirmation from Christ Church Primary School, but we anticipate that we will have between one and three rooms available. This means we can take a maximum of one to three 'social bubbles' which the school will have put together for the school day. Whilst we do not yet know the total numbers of 'social bubbles' that school is creating and which 'social bubbles' children are in, it is certain that we will have to prioritise these bubbles as per Government guidance. We will shortly give you more information about this prioritisation and how this will be managed between key workers, vulnerable children, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children.

The greatest challenge is knowing which children end up in which 'social bubble'. In order to speed up this process so we can begin to understand the logistics behind it, we ask that you complete the following questionnaires as soon as possible so we can plan and respond.

### **Questionnaire Number 1 – will you want to book?**

**We ask that parents and carers complete this first questionnaire as soon as possible. If your children will have different bookings to each other, please complete a separate questionnaire for each.**

Do you want to take up your held places under the emerging conditions being explained by school and FUNdays Club? Please respond in detail **using the questionnaire**. There are many options in the questionnaire and a chance to provide additional explanations or requests.



Please be aware that if you email, you will be directed to the questionnaire so we can tabulate the data. Click for the questionnaire: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/C5BVJQB>

### **Questionnaire Number 2 – which bubble is your child in?**

Please inform us as soon as you know which ‘social bubble’ your child is in so we can begin the prioritisation process. As we are unsure how the ‘social bubbles’ will work, this questionnaire might be updated in due course. Please complete the following questionnaire as soon as you know: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JYDT6JS>

Ideally, we would like to have all the above confirmed by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May so we can make final plans on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. This is our ambition, but much depends on the limited and scarce amount of time Christ Church Primary School have been given to plan, finalise and then for us to respond. There are other factors which may impact on our plans, for example we are due to receive an additional risk assessment from Wiltshire Council today.

What about July, August and going back in September? We will provide further information on this later in the week but, of course, much could be subject to change. We feel it will help provide families with a sense of how we are responding to the potential road map before us.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank those families who have been in a position to continue to support us at this time and the kind words you have all been sending through. I have also very much enjoyed the time online with those who have logged in.

Wishing everyone all the best in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,  
Mark West

**FUNdays Club**  
Managing Director

### **Full links to main Government Guidance we are following:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/opening-schools-for-more-children-and-young-people-initial-planning-framework-for-schools-in-england>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools>

We are also following additional guidance being issued by Wiltshire Council, our Aspire Network with It All Matters Ltd and our Out of School Alliance guidance. This is correct as of 8.15pm on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020. It is very possible that those immersed in this will notice that not every single document has been referenced but I felt I had to draw the line somewhere.

Mark West