



**Brinsley Primary and Nursery School, Moor Road, Brinsley, Nottinghamshire  
NG16 5AZ**

[www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk](http://www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk)

## Need for **FS1** places only during school closure

8 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you that we are looking at the feasibility of re-opening FS1 at some point next week. In order for us to do this, we need to know from parents who would require a place for their child in FS1, so that we can ensure we have a plan in place with regard to staffing.

**If you require a place in FS1 could you please contact us on 01773 783898 as soon as possible or at the very latest 12 noon on Monday 11 January 2021.**

However, I urge you to consider the following information when making your decision as to whether or not your child will be attending nursery and would preface anything I write with the warning that government advice can and does change with little warning.

On Monday evening following the government announcement to close all schools in England to all children with the exception of critical workers or vulnerable children, we were issued with guidance stating that school-based nurseries may restrict provision in line with primary schools. This made sense as our nursery has always been in line with all school policies and procedures – it also meant that we were able to follow the overarching government guidance relating to minimising the numbers of children on site in order to keep numbers as low as possible, therefore reducing opportunities for any possible transmission for children and staff and therefore families in our community.

We have since been informed that school based nurseries should be open to all nursery aged children, hence I am writing to inform you of this update.

I, along with many other school leaders, have concerns with regards to this update but am not in the position to overrule the DFE or government directive. I am asking parents to make a choice on whether or not to send children to nursery as you normally would.

One of my concerns is in relation to the current data for the Ashfield and Broxtowe district<sup>1</sup> and the fact that within our nursery we have clinically vulnerable children, staff and children's family members – if all nursery children attend then the risk for all is increased.

Please be assured that whilst we have done everything we possibly can to ensure children and staff safety with additional hygiene measures and all other school implemented procedures in line and above the guidance, we cannot expect our youngest members to socially distance – this in turn can increase risk for all.

<sup>1</sup> [Government data](#) reports that the rate per 100,000 in Eastwood Hall & Brinsley is 694.1. Nottinghamshire average is 403.



Until we know the numbers of children needing provision it is not possible to give exact detail on what Nursery provision will look like, but what we can assure you is that we will try and make it as close to normal (pre-closure) as possible.

EYFS staff from both nursery and reception class will be leading the nursery, not solely the nursery staff. However it is important to note, all staff are experienced members of the Brinsley EYFS team.

As you would expect, we will always do whatever is necessary to try and ensure the safety of all children and staff and I appreciate you taking the time to read this important update. I shall contact you if there any further changes to the guidance in the coming days.

Kind regards,

Jason Osprey  
Head Teacher

