



WWW.URCPRESCHOOL.COM
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL - PRESCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS

manager@urcpreschool.com

Mobile: 07480369531

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we enter the second half of the Autumn Term, I would like to welcome all of our new parents and share the following information that will concern you over the next 6 weeks.

Covid-19 Update

Lockdown (Nov-Dec 2nd) – Face Masks

After the Government's announcement of new restrictions commencing on the 5th of November, all of the staff felt strongly that we should keep preschool open unless we were forced to shut. We are thankful to say that we have had no cases of Covid-19 in the setting since reopening in September and will keep adhering to all of the measures set out in our Covid-19 policy and risk assessment that can be found on our website at <https://urcpreschool.com/covid-19-outbreak>. To protect all of our families and our staff, we have made the decision to introduce mandatory face masks for parents whilst on the premises. Therefore, **please could all parents wear a face covering during drop off and pick up until they have left the gate on Vaughan Road, this includes whilst you are queuing around the back of the church.**

Staggered Drop Offs and Pick Ups

I know that this has been said many times before however please remember that we have put staggered drop off and pick up times in place for your own safety during this pandemic. The following timings should be followed, we understand that this is not always possible however please be ready to stand on the grass to wait for your child if you are early.

9am – Nursery (Red Group) Drop Off

9.15am – Main Room & Rainbow Drop Off

12pm – Nursery (Red Group) Pick Up

12.15pm – Main Room & Rainbow Pick Up
1pm – Nursery (Red Group) Lunch Club Pick Up
1.15pm – Main Room & Rainbow Lunch Club Pick Up
3pm – Nursery (Red Group) Afternoon Pick Up

Hand Sanitiser Consent

The children are now all excellent at washing their hands throughout the morning however this takes a long time at pick up as we need to make sure their hands are clean before they leave. To make this quicker, I recently sent out a consent form for your child to use hand sanitiser when leaving the setting. This would be the only time during the morning that it is used and would speed up the pick-up process for all of the children meaning you are in the premises for a shorter amount of time. **I have attached a copy of the consent form to this email, please fill it out and email it back if you are happy for your child to use hand sanitiser whilst at Preschool.**

Sickness

Please DO NOT send your child into Preschool if they have either a temperature and/or a cough. Covid-19 guidance states that if a child is displaying these symptoms then they must be isolated at home for 10 days from the dates of the onset of symptoms unless a test result is negative. The rest of the household then needs to isolate for 14 days, again unless the test is negative.

Please may we remind you to inform us **before 9am** on **07480369531** if your child is sick and will not be in preschool, as we need to keep a record of children who are absent. If a child is continually absent it will become necessary for us to inform Ofsted.

Parents must also keep any child at home who has an infection. You are also asked not to bring any child into preschool who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until a clear 48 hours has elapsed since the last incident, to comply with health and safety recommendations. If your child comes in before this time they will risk infecting the other children and staff members as well.

Afternoon Sessions

From January onwards, we will be merging bubbles with Red Group to be able to offer **all** children afternoon sessions in the main room hall from Monday to Thursday. Red Group will still be upstairs during the morning session and for lunch club, however will come downstairs from 1.15pm to 3pm to play in the hall. We currently have 40 children in the setting which is within the government's 'bubble' regulations for school children, we will continue to clean all of the toys in the setting daily to limit contamination.

If you would like your main room child to attend afternoon sessions after Christmas, please let me know as soon as possible. Similarly, if you would like to sign your Red Group child up for afternoon sessions or increase their hours please get in touch.

Head Lice

Over half term there were a couple of cases of head lice reported, please could **all** parents check your child and treat them as soon as possible to minimise spread within the setting.

Nativity

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we will not be allowing parents into the church when we perform our Nativity this year. We are looking into the option of recording the children however I will release more information on our final decision closer to the time.

Lunch Club

Please remember that **you should not give your child anything that contains nuts or sesame** in their lunch box. Things that may include nuts and sesame include certain types of pesto, tahini and nut butters. Please remember to cut up fruit and vegetables such as tomatoes and grapes (lengthways) to prevent choking.

At this time, we also ask that children bring their lunch in a **hard, plastic box** as they are easier to anti-bac upon their arrival.

Tapestry

We use Tapestry regularly to send updates about your child's time with us at Preschool, we also use it to inform you of what activities your child will be participating in. Please check your child's journal regularly and add a comment when you receive an observation, photo or video. We would also like you to add photos and videos of the things the children do outside of Preschool too. By doing this it will enable you and your child's key person to work closely in partnership together to provide the best support for your child. Due to the current situation, this will also be the main point of communication between you and your key person if you need to discuss anything, use the observation tool to add any information that you would like to share with us and we will get back to you. Please note that these comments will not go into your child's learning journal and will be deleted once they are resolved.

Nursery Rhyme Week Dress Up Fundraiser

Thank you for all of your support during our Pumpkin Party dress up fundraiser, our next dress up week will take place from Monday the 16th to Thursday the 19th of November and the theme will be Nursery Rhyme Week! Once again, Main Room children are invited to dress up throughout the week and Red Group can dress up on the Thursday. Look out for an email with more information soon!

Website

Please remember to use our website www.urcpreschool.com. You can access any relevant information you may need about the preschool in addition to any updates, such as newsletters from myself or the PTA.

Kind regards

Lorraine