

Ofsted

We would like to inform you of the feedback from our latest Ofsted inspection which took place on Thursday 23rd January. Our final grading was Good across all areas and you can read our full report at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/16/EY438010> , a copy is provided on the parents noticeboard or please ask a member of staff if you would like a paper copy providing.

Both the report and the verbal feedback session that the management team received from the inspector highlighted many of the settings strengths.

"Staff are well qualified and experienced. They show enthusiasm and know how to help children learn through fun, exciting activities. Children are keen and eager to join in with experiences. They develop particularly good language skills and show confidence as they discuss and share ideas." (Ofsted, Jan 2020)

Some of the verbal feedback which we would like to share with you, included:

- the high levels of engagement and enthusiasm from the children, supported by the open questions and different layers of challenge provided by the staff.
- activities demonstrated many of the characteristics of effective learning, with excited children enjoying taking part.
 - the children took pride in their achievements and enjoyed praise from adults.
- the key person system means that staff are aware of where children are in their learning and how they need to be supported.
 - it was a highly qualified staff team who are reflective in their practice.

In order to further improve our practice, we will now be reflecting on the two points identified in the report, alongside the feedback we have received in the parental questionnaires. We will keep you up date with any future changes and developments as the year progresses.

Staffing

We would like to inform you that from after the Easter Holidays, Liz will be taking a terms leave from the nursery setting and will be uncontactable by phone. To ensure the continued smooth running of the setting, Michaela and Sue will be sharing the role of 'acting manager', so please direct any queries or concerns during this time to them. The two nursery contact telephone numbers from Easter onwards are going to be: **01325 720396** and **07501 845191**.

After an assessment of our staffing needs, we would like to inform you that we have appointed another nursery practitioner from April 2020. The successful applicant on this occasion was a previous member of staff that many of you will know well - **Aimee Lockey**. She brings back to our staff team over 14 years Nursery Practitioner experience, alongside her professional qualification of a Foundation Degree in Early Years.

Coronavirus

The coronavirus action plan was launched last week. This document sets out what the government have done to tackle coronavirus (COVID-19), and what it plans to do next, depending upon the course the current coronavirus outbreak takes. The action plan can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

Advice from Public Health England continues to be for education and children's social care settings to remain open, unless advised otherwise. We will continue to follow the government's guidelines and work alongside Hurworth Primary School with any future actions we are required to take.