



Radcliffe-on-Trent Pre-School Playgroup

Dear Parents and Carers

This is a rather different newsletter from our usual ones, as we let you know what we are doing behind the scenes to support you and your families whilst Playgroup is temporarily closed following Government guidelines.

We know that you will be experiencing change and upheaval in many ways. Although Playgroup is currently closed to children our senior team is working to get Playgroup ready for your children as soon as we are allowed to re-open, and is here to support you while you are at home.

June in particular wanted to send a message to all parents and carers out there to let them know that she is available Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 9am - 3pm to talk to any parents/carers about any issue that they'd like to discuss, whether it's about the challenges of parenting during lockdown or plans for transition in September. In many cases June will be contacting you but please do feel free to pick up the phone for a chat with her. We would love just to know how you and your children are getting on.

Home learning bags

For every Playgroup child, June and her team have prepared home learning bags and will be delivering these from today onwards, observing social distancing when they drop them off. The bags will contain activities such as booklets and colouring sheets, a story book, listening garden walk sheets, craft activity, toy and diary.

Summer Term fees and funding

We would like to reassure you about fees and funding. Playgroup's committee has taken the decision not to charge parents any fees during this period of being closed. We had informed you of this previously and this remains the case. For children whose hours would have been funded we are able to continue to claim funding and we are basing your claim on the hours your child was intending to take with us this Summer Term. If you claim 30-hour funding please continue to renew your code with HMRC in the usual way. Our understanding is that you can continue to be eligible while furloughed.

This all means that as and when Playgroup is able to re-open your child's place has been kept open and he/she can potentially resume sessions as normal, although this will be subject to any Government guidance about social distancing.

September onwards

In a few weeks Deborah will be asking about your preferred hours for September. This will obviously be on the basis of Government guidance at the time. If your child will become eligible for funding in the Autumn Term (birthdays between 01/04/2017 and 31/08/2017) Deborah will be contacting you to guide you through the process. If your child will be leaving Playgroup to go to school or nursery in September, please email Deborah to let us know.

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Contact Numbers during closure

June, Emma and Lesley at Playgroup on **07891 829513** or email rotpreschoolplaygroup@googlemail.com
Usual working hours will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am – 3pm (may be subject to occasional change)

For any queries relating to fees, funding, changes to sessions or general administration please call our **Business Manager,**

Deborah, on **07505 606447** or email at rotplaygroupadmin@googlemail.com

Deborah will be picking up messages and responding throughout the week.

Website and Facebook

We will be aiming to keep these up to date with news. Visit our website at www.rotpreschoolplaygroup.co.uk and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ROTPSPlaygroup

Message and links from Nottinghamshire County Council.

The documents are also attached to this newsletter

Early Childhood Services has updated their factsheet and webpage for parents and carers regarding childcare closures. This is available to download as a factsheet from <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-andchildcare/childcare-providers/free-childcare-providers-information>

The webpage is available here

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-and-childcare/covid19-information-closures-childcare-settings>

Early Childhood Services has created a new factsheet for parents and carers staying at home with their young children. The factsheet includes information around home safety, home learning, routines, staying active and links to local and national support.

The factsheet can be downloaded from

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-andchildcare/childcare-providers/free-childcare-providers-information>

Fundraising update

We are still benefiting from the the **CO-OP Community Fund** and have just received our first interim payment of £724. This is going towards the purchase of windy day and activity boxes for outdoors and an outdoor mark making storage unit. If you haven't already signed up to make Playgroup your chosen cause, please do my creating a Co-op membership account or signing in and choosing Playgroup. We will then receive a second payment in October. Thank you so much.