



Shalfleet 'Little Explorers'  
C/o Shalfleet Primary School  
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06/01/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

We apologise for any confusion caused over the last couple of days, as you know we have been trying hard to find a way for Little Explorers to open for more children; by now we should have spoken to all parents on the phone or left messages for them to get back to us. Little Explorers will be opening with some additional restrictions following the government guidance. There will be an alteration to our opening hours and we will now only be open from 8:30am-3:00pm and providing places for all our registered children. Most of you I have already spoken to, but if we have not been able to get hold of you please make contact with us by tomorrow morning to let us know your childcare requirements within the opening hours stated above.

We want to reassure all of our parents and confirm our commitment to ensuring that Little Explorers remains a safe and nurturing environment during this time. As you are all aware, we now sit within Tier 5 restrictions, due to the steep rise in local COVID cases and the new strain, we would like to take the time to remind everyone of the procedures that we have in place and would like to thank you for your continued support. We have attached another guidance letter, it is similar to the letter sent out on Monday but we have made some changes so please read this carefully.

We ask that all our staff and parents adhere to the social distancing rules set out by the government within home life and whilst on the preschool site to reduce risk to those within the preschool. Please see the link [National lockdown: Stay at Home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

We ask that if you or anyone within your household is feeling unwell with the symptoms of COVID, that you self-isolate and follow the required steps that we have all become accustomed to in getting yourself a test. If you or anyone within your household have tested positive, please do not send your child back to preschool/nursery during any isolation period and contact us to discuss and confirm the correct date of return. Please see the link for more information on how to book a test; [Get a free NHS test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

At Little Explorers we keep up to date with all the changes in government guidance and make the needed changes to our extensive risk assessment as required. During this pandemic we have put in a lot of new safety and hygiene measures to minimise the risk of infection within our preschool/nursery. Whilst we will do everything, we can to ensure that the risk of infection is minimised, we cannot give you 100 % guarantee of the risk never happening. However, like I have said we want to reassure you that we are doing our utmost to minimise risk in Little Explorers.

We have not yet had any challenges with staff shortages and have been able to maintain our required ratios for the children. If in the future we do have staff shortages this may impact on our ability to meet ratios, we will inform all of our parents and advise you on the action we will take, we may need to reduce the number of children attending the setting.

In regard to fees, if you currently pay for your child to attend the setting and you make the decision that your child will not be coming in for the time being then we will not be charging you for the hours. If your child is coming in then of course charges will still apply. If your child is funded then we will still be claiming funded hours for your child. If you are eligible for the 30hour funding from the government please can you ensure that you are currently entitled to this depending on your personal circumstances at this moment in time.

Please see below the table of staff working throughout this time for your information.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Jaimee	Jaimee	Jaimee	Jaimee	Jaimee
Martha	Martha	Niki	Niki	Martha
Charlotte	Charlotte	Charlotte	Charlotte	Niki

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this very difficult year and would like us to continue to work together over these next couple of months to maintain the safety of Little Explorers.

If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to get in contact and we will do our best to answer.

Kind regards



Jaimee Fallows

Preschool Supervisor

Little Explorers