



Dringhouses

Out of School Club

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1 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We write to you to set out the arrangements we have made to open Dringhouses Out of School Club from 2nd June.

Thank you.

Before we set out these arrangements, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their understanding and cooperation since we had to close from 25th March. We know that this period has been challenging for many families, in particular when you have had to juggle work commitments with managing childcare, if you have children with special educational needs or disability, or if you are a single parent.

We are pleased to let you know that, further to the government's announcement that early years and childcare providers will open from 1 June (subject to scientific advice), we are working hard to take the necessary steps to be ready to welcome back all children. We will open to more children only if the government confirms that their five key tests justify taking this step.

Which children can attend from 2nd June?

As you may be aware, the School remained open for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children from 28th March and have been operating with smaller group sizes and additional hygiene and infection control measures. We will support these families until wider opening is confirmed.

The government is now encouraging all eligible children to attend, and it is no longer necessary for parents of eligible children to keep them at home if they can. Please do contact us if you fall into one of these groups and would like your child to take up their place.

From the week beginning 1 June, early years and childcare providers will welcome back all children, if the five key tests set by government justify the changes at the time. For most children and young people, coronavirus is a mild illness. Some categories of children with specific serious health conditions should not attend their early years setting. If you are unsure whether your child should attend the setting due to a health condition that they or someone they live with has, please contact us so we can discuss the details with you.

Dringhouses Out of School Club, Social Club

St. Helen's Road, Dringhouses, York YO24 1HY

Protective measures we are taking in light of coronavirus (COVID-19)

First and foremost, it goes without saying that the safety of your child and of our staff is our top priority. We are working hard, following the latest government guidance, to develop and implement several new ways of operating. This will allow us to open as safely as possible, focusing on measures that will help limit the risk of coronavirus transmitting within our setting.

Some of the steps we are taking in readiness for reopening include:

- If you or any member of your family are displaying coronavirus symptoms, or you live with someone who does, please do not to attend the setting. That includes children and staff who work here.
- We will keep our children in small groups with as much consistent staffing as possible, and minimising contact with other groups around the setting.
- We will be vigilant with our personal hygiene. We will clean our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- We will ensure our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including tabletops, door handles and play equipment.
- Asking parents and carers to physically distance from each other and from staff when dropping off and collecting their children and to limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household.
- Asking children not to bring toys or other items from home to the setting unless this is essential to their health and wellbeing.

What can parents and carers do to help?

There are several things parents and carers can do to help us make these arrangements effective, in addition to the points listed above concerning arrival, departure and not bringing toys to the setting.

Please respect the Government's guidance on what to do if your child, or someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms. In these circumstances you must not come to the setting.

If we find your child has suspected coronavirus signs, you will need to immediately collect your child from the setting.

As parents and carers please provide reassurance to your child. We are all facing changes in routines and being in different groups. We have attached our Risk Assessment and Operation Procedures outlining how our setting will run and how routines with us will change for the moment. We hope this will reassure you and your children as we welcome you back to Dringhouses OOSC.

Testing

Once early years and childcare providers open to more children, all children who are attending a childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. The aim is to enable children to get back to childcare, and their parents or carers not to need to self-isolate any longer than is necessary if the test proves to be negative. A positive test will ensure rapid action to protect other children and staff in their setting.

We ask all parents and carers to ensure they organise a test for their child, if they develop coronavirus symptoms, and notify us immediately of a positive test. Further guidance is available about [getting tested](#).

Conclusion

We hope that this letter has given you the information you need to understand what arrangements we have made to enable children to return to us from 2nd June. We are looking forward to welcoming your child/ren back and we hope that you are assured that we have taken all possible steps to ensure safety for all in our setting. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Julia, Jo & Chris

The Board of Trustees