



Newsletter 1st September 2020

Dear Parent and carers,

Welcome to the start of the Autumn Term at Flying Start. We hope you have all had a lovely summer and are looking forward to the next exciting stage in your little ones lives. Our new children have been invited along to our Stay and Play session on Friday 3rd September and then our term officially starts on Monday 6th September.

Our Staff

Sarah Maynard – Owner

Michelle Gladwell - Manager

Lizzie Godfrey – Deputy Manager

Malgo Kuziora – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)

Becci Anderson – Early Years Practitioner

Natasha Trowbridge - Early Years Practitioner

Georgia Lindey - Early Years Practitioner

Shardelle Frost - Early Years Practitioner

Sasha Stock - Early Years Practitioner

Our Aim:

We aim to ignite the flames of your children's natural curiosity by providing high quality, varied learning opportunities to guide their development in a safe and nurturing environment.

Our Drivers:

NURTURE - children will feel happy and secure in a warm and caring environment

ENGAGE – children will be excited to play and motivated to learn

INSPIRE – children will be 'school ready' - they will be confident, kind and resilient little people, with a love for life-long learning.

COVID 19

Please take the time to carefully read our attached updated Risk Assessment. We will continue to welcome children in the morning through the main entrance where they will be met by an adult who will assist them in putting their belongings on their pegs and registering themselves. All children will then wash their hands before starting to play. We ask that parents do not enter the pre-school and avoid physical contact with staff. For some children they are starting back after the summer break and for some children it will be their first week at Flying Start, therefore there may be some children who struggled to separate from their parent/carer. Please allow our experienced staff to take your child into the hall to settle. We will text to update you of how they are doing and if we feel they are too upset, we will call you and together make a plan to build up their days with us gradually.

Collection at the end of the session will be from the main entrance, where a member of staff will be standing to pass children to their parent/carer. Again, we ask that parents do not enter the building.

Please do not bring your child to preschool if they show any of the COVID-19 symptoms without checking with a PCR test first. The Lateral Flow Test (LFT) is only to be used for asymptomatic people, not for people with symptoms. Children will not need to self-isolate if they come in contact with a positive case, however they will still need to isolate if they are positive themselves. If someone in a child's household is positive for COVID-19, that person will not be allowed onto our preschool premises and should self-isolate. According to government guidance the child can still attend preschool, but I ask you to please be considerate of the families and staff at Flying Start. It would be helpful if you could test your child before them returning and keep a very close eye on them for any COVID-19 symptoms. Our double vaccinated staff will not need to self-isolate if we have any cases at Flying Start. With the current Government guidance regarding self-isolation and closure due to positive cases, I can't foresee Flying Start being required to close.

Key Person

We aim to support parents and carers to help their children settle quickly and easily by giving consideration to the individual needs and circumstances of every child and their families. Our aim is for children to feel safe, stimulated and happy in the nursery and to feel secure and comfortable with all staff. We also want parents to have confidence in both their children's continued well-being and their role as active partners, with the child being able to benefit from what the nursery has to offer. Every child is assigned a Key Person, who welcomes and looks after your child, ensuring that their care is tailored to meet their individual needs. Their role is to build a special relationship with the child and parents to ensure the family have a familiar contact person to assist during their time at Flying Start. The key person system supports engagement with all parents to ensure that all parents can contribute to their child's learning and development. On entry to our pre-school parents complete a form called 'What I can already do...' this informs their Key Person what their child can do now and what their next steps are. After an initial settling in period, the Key Person reviews the document and ticks off any further developments achieved as an initial assessment.

Each child will receive at least **ONE observation** write up on Tapestry a week. There may be more than one, which might be a short sentence, photo or video. Staff are constantly assessing, observing and adapting to the needs of individual children. During the week, staff make notes about achievements to inform planning and next steps for the following week. Writing up observations on tapestry is time consuming and I would rather our staff spent the time engaging with your children rather than sitting writing assessments. Parents are encouraged to support and share information about their children's learning and development at home through Tapestry. We love to see photos you have added from home and we like to see the comments you make on the observations we add.

'All About Me' Book

Please make a poster telling us about your child, this could include photos or pictures of your family and friends, other carers, pets, interests, favourite toys / activities, favourite places they visit, holidays, celebrations, religious events etc... with a short sentence underneath. Let your child help you to decide what needs to be put on the poster. It can then be kept in their tray or displayed as a comforter and to share with their teachers and friends. If your family speak another language at home please share some key vocabulary and any important differences in culture and celebrations.

Autumn Term Topics

Each week we will plan activities linked to a topic or book that the children are showing an interest in. We believe that having topics makes learning exciting and stimulating. Children are motivated to engage in different activities, make links and apply knowledge in different contexts. Within our environment we set up areas with interesting loose parts for children to investigate and explore

following their own personal patterns in play. Every day we set up different activities to invite the children to play. We follow our children's interests and next steps to carefully plan each day to ensure there is a balance in the environment between child-led, open ended play and adult led activities.

During this term we will be encouraging children to become independent and confident in separating from their carer. They will be encouraged to take turns and share with other children. They will be made aware of the feelings of others and be encouraged to make the right choices in their behaviour.

What do we get up to?

Make sure you follow us on Facebook or Instagram, to see our daily updates. Parents enjoy looking to see what their child has been up to during the day and it's a great conversation starter.

www.facebook.com/flyingstartmolesey/

www.instagram.com/flyingstart_molesey/

When we pick up our children from nursery/school, often the first thing we ask is 'What did you do today?' For some children, this can be quite an intimidating question. Sometimes the more questions you ask, the less answers you get. Try asking less questions and release the pressure. If you're not asking a question, you can encourage your child to speak more by offering information yourself. So instead of asking 'What did you do today?' Start with, 'I hope you had a lovely day today.....today I went to the shops and got lots of food for your dinner. I then went for a run along the river and saw some cygnets.' Leave a pause and see if your child offers what they have been up to while at preschool.

Policies

Please see our Policies on our website. <https://www.flyingstartmolesey.com/policies>

Toileting

We accept children who are still in nappies. Please bring in enough nappies and wipes for the day. If your child is potty training, please let us know and we will make sure they have regular trips to the toilet. It is important to pack lots of spare clothes including socks! Children who are already using the potty or toilet can do so as and when during the day. Please explain to your children that if they need help, they must ask. They can tell us before they go or can call when they have finished. When you feel your child is ready, you can teach them to wipe themselves. This is usually a transition period and children stop asking for help and become very independent. I would suggest you check your child when they get home, as they may need an extra wipe!

Clothing

Please bring spare clothes in a bag and name as much as you can to avoid losing items. We do lots of messy play, so dress children in appropriate clothes you don't mind getting dirty.



To ensure your child can enjoy our lovely big outdoor space all year and in all weather, please bring weather appropriate clothing E.g. wellies, rain coat and trousers, warm coats, woolly hats, gloves, sun hats, sun lotion.

Packed lunch

Everyday please can you bring in a named water bottle. We have a box by the front door to put them in. Lunch club is 12:15 am – 1pm where all those staying eat a healthy packed lunch together with 2 members of staff. Outside there is a large tub for you to put lunch boxes in the morning. We ask that you do not include fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate. Please don't pack too much food for your child, we do encourage the children to eat everything you provide and we will discuss with you if we think there is too much food. If you have items that require spoons or forks, please pack them. Please cut up grapes, cherry tomatoes and olives to avoid a choking hazard. We have a **NO NUT** policy, so no peanut butter, satay chicken and some cereal bars.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure the child's name is clearly visible on the outside of the lunchbox/bag.

Birthdays

As part of our wish to promote healthy eating and teeth by follow guidance from the 2021 Early Years Framework, we have decided **not to give out any food**. We shall of course, celebrate your child's day with a song and a card. If you would like to bring in some gifts, below are some suggestions –

- Book for the preschool which we will read together.
- Bubbles
- Stickers
- Pencils

If you have any questions or unsure what to bring in, please ask a member of staff before the day.



Jeans for Genes Day – Charity Day

We will be taking part in Jeans for Genes Day on Thursday 16th September, please bring your child to nursery in their jeans with a £1 donation and let them join in the fun! The money raised provides care and support for thousands of children living with genetic disorders. 1 in 25 children has a genetic disorder that makes their life very difficult. By wearing our jeans and donating, we will change these children's lives. If you'd like to find out more about Jeans for Genes and how our support will help, please visit their website at www.jeansforgenes.org

Fees

Invoices have already been emailed to you. If you haven't received yours, do let us know. Payment is due by Friday 10th September, please ensure these are paid promptly, thank you.

If you would like to add an extra day please email or ask Michelle in advance, who will be able to inform you if there is space available. If you would like to extend the day, you can do this on the morning by informing the adult on the door in the morning. Please make a payment on the same day via cash or bank transfer. If your child receives the funding, an extra day will be charged at the Funded rate (if it is within your entitled hours), but extending the day will be charged at the full rate of £7.65 an hour. At any point you can extend the session times on a more long term basis by emailing.

Wild Learning

After lunch during the 1:00pm – 2:00pm session, we have 'Wild Learning' where the children partake in fun outdoor activities. The children always enjoy getting messy and muddy in our sensory garden!

Look out for more weekly information about the planned activities so you can book your children to stay longer and join in.

Contact Details

Please can you inform us if you have changed any of your telephone numbers or contact details so that we can amend our records. Please return any forms you have been given (Registration Form, Terms and Conditions, Tapestry Form, All About Me Form, Starting Points Form, Funding Declaration Form)

Absences

Please advise us if your child will be absent from nursery on their normal day of attendance by **text or telephone call by 9:30am.**

Car Park

Just a reminder to ease congestion at drop off and pick up, please can we ask you to use the entrance from Walton Road and the exit at the side gate (exit signs in place). Please where possible, reverse park into the spaces available. As the carpark can get very busy, please be extra vigilant, and take care when driving and when walking with your child/ren to and from the nursery. Arriving around 9:05am is much quieter in our carpark if you drive.

Parent Representatives

Each year we have had 2 parent reps, who have organised socials for parents and acted as an extra communication link between the nursery and parents. If you are interested in stepping up for the role, please let me know.

Nursery Pets

We have a large African snail at nursery which is called Speedy. The children get used to looking after him at nursery, as he comes out of his cage regularly. The snail particularly likes going for sleepovers at the children's homes for weekends or holidays - so if you are interested in a house guest please let us know, he is very easy to look after!

Early Years Pupil Premium

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) is funding from the Government that we can use to do even more to support your child aged 3 or 4 years. This may be through specialist training for our staff or new experiences for the children.

Your child may be eligible if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided family is not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

If you think that your child could be eligible, please ask for an EYPP registration form and return it to us in a sealed envelope. We will send the form onto the Early Years and Childcare Service at Surrey County Council who will check to see if your child meets the criteria.

What Is The Role Of The SENCO In Nursery?

SENCO stands for Special Educational Needs Coordinator, and we have a legal duty to follow the SEND code of practice, the Senco at Flying Start is Malgo Kuziora. Malgo plays a key role here at nursery in supporting early identification and intervention for children with special educational needs or a child who may need that little extra support. She will be a useful contact for parents if you were to have any concerns about your child's development. If your child is having difficulties with development/learning, we will be able to provide support and advice to you. The role of the SENCO involves ensuring all practitioners in the setting understand their responsibilities to children with SEN and the setting's approach to identifying and meeting the SEND Code of Practice.

The role also includes:

- Advising and supporting colleagues
- Ensuring parents are closely involved throughout and that their insights inform action taken by the setting,
- Liaising with professionals or agencies beyond the setting
- Ensuring a smooth onward transition and planning for moving on to school for Pre-school children.

Dates to Remember

Mon 6 th Sep	Nursery starts
Fri 10 th Sep	Deadline for payment of Invoice (Autumn 1)
Thurs 16 th Sep	Jeans for Genes Day
Fri 22 nd Oct	New 2-Year-Olds will receive a 2 year check report. New 3-year-olds will receive a Summary report
	Half Term

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October

Mon 1 st Nov	Return to nursery
Wk Beg 29 th Nov	Parent Consultations (By phone)
Thurs 9 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 10 th Dec	Christmas Concert at 11am (all children welcome even if not their day)
Fri 17 th Dec	Christmas Party (All children welcome 9-12:15pm, even if not their day)
Fri 17 th Dec	Break up for Christmas – CLOSE at 12:15pm for all

Reminders

- 1) Telephone number to contact pre-school 07976 041790
- 2) Email address info@flyingstartmolesey.com
- 3) Bank details for payments:
Account name: Flying Start Pre-School
Account number: 20441430 sort code: 40-01-29
- 4) To update your contact details where necessary.
- 5) Inform a member of staff if someone else will be collecting your child (password system in place).
- 6) Children are to wear old clothes to pre-school as they will be taking part in messy activities, aprons will be provided where necessary and Flying Start polo shirts are available to purchase.

- 7) The children will have access to outdoors whatever the weather so please ensure they come into Nursery with appropriate clothing to allow them to enjoy this opportunity. Including wet weather clothing.
- 8) Please name all coats, hats, jumpers, water bottles, lunch boxes etc
- 9) Inform preschool of absences by 9:30am

Questions

If you have any questions, concerns or queries about anything at nursery please do not hesitate to speak to Sarah, Michelle, Lizzie or your child's Key Person. We are always happy to share information with you and help in any way we can.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead and to helping your children settle into Flying Start.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah, Lizzie, Malgo, Michelle, Becci, Natasha, Georgia, Shardelle and Sasha
The Flying Start Team

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