

Horden Nursery School



Welcome back to Nursery
A Parents Guide



We have been through unusual and unsettling times and the wellbeing of children, families, staff and parents is very important to us. As more children start to return to nursery, following the coronavirus pandemic, we want to be able to support them through this, as best we can.

This booklet explains some of the steps and adaptations we have made to keep everyone as safe as possible, as well as some helpful advice on how you can support your child to return to nursery.

This is a learning process and we will be continually evaluating our practices, ensuring that our key focus will be to support your child's well being, confidence and happiness, whilst nurturing relationships.



Things you can do to help me before I return to nursery....

Re-establish my bedtime routines if needed- bath, book, bed

Encourage me to have good eating and drinking patterns

Go for walks passing nursery on the way

Praise me when I do things independently

Continue to help me with home learning and let me look at the photographs and videos on the school website and Facebook page

Read stories and play games with me, especially the ones I may have enjoyed at nursery

Make handwashing fun through songs and counting.



Things you can do to help me before I return to nursery....

Talk to me about
my favourite things
at nursery

Support me in
understanding new
routines

Talk to me about
what nursery will
look like

Recognise and
respond to my
emotions

Tell my Key Person how
to recognise when I am
worried and anxious

Talk to me about
my friends and
teachers at nursery

Talk to me about
staying at nursery
on my own





Getting ready for nursery

- Please leave all personal toys, safe at home to reduce the risk of cross contamination. If your child has a comforter which is essential to their well being, please speak to a member of staff.
- Dummies are ok if still needed by your child, but please put them in a named, sterilised container.
- There is no need to bring facemasks or protective clothing/items to nursery for your child.
- Please try to ensure that your child has clean, newly washed clothes on each day. This does not need to be the child's school uniform.

Arriving and leaving

- Parents are encouraged to travel using their own transport or by walking, following the government guidelines. Please try to limit drop off and collection to one carer per household.
- Please follow the signs around the nursery grounds, which will help you to enter and exit nursery safely.
- Parents and children may need to wait to let other children in/ leave first. Please keep 2 metres apart from other families.
- Please arrive at nursery at the time you have been given, times may be staggered to reduce the number of families on site at one time.
- A member of the team will greet your child at the door.
- Children's hands will be washed as soon as they enter nursery.
- Do not bring your child if any of your family are suffering from Covid-19 symptoms.



Activities and Experiences

- Toys, surfaces and resources are hygienically cleaned ready for play.
- Children are in smaller groups, or 'bubbles', so they can play with their friends.
- Activities have been risk assessed, therefore certain experiences, such as messy play, are not available due to the risk of cross infection.
- Children play in the garden as usual with their friends from their group.
- Group activities such as rhyme time and story sessions are carried out with a smaller number of children.



Visits and Visitors

- For now all outings, such as visits to the park and The Barn, are on hold.
- We are unable to welcome visitors to our nursery until it is safe to do so.
- Meetings and special events are also on hold.





Meal and Snack Times

- Children's hands are washed before and after eating.
- At snack and meal times children sit with a smaller number of their friends, from their group.
- Children are served food on individual plates, or serviettes to ensure food is not touched by others or shared.
- At lunchtime, children are encouraged to be independent in accessing their food from their packed lunch. Please provide containers that they are able to open themselves.

Getting rid of germs

- Staff and children thoroughly clean their hands frequently throughout the day, discussing the importance of cleaning away germs to stop them from spreading.
- Tissues are readily available, and the children are taught the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to germs.
- All surfaces, play equipment and resources are cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- Gloves will be worn in the usual instances, for example when changing nappies, serving snacks or administering first aid.
- Wearing face coverings is not recommended in Early Years settings, however PPE equipment will be used by staff if a child becomes poorly.

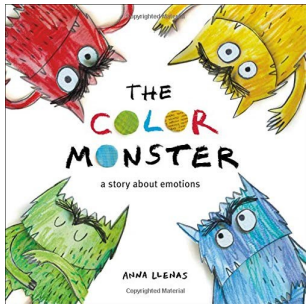


Feeling under the weather

- Only bring your child to nursery if they are fit and well.
- If you or anyone in your house are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms do not come to nursery, and call us to make us aware.
- If your child becomes poorly during the day, you will be contacted and should collect your child immediately.
- Please follow Government guidelines in terms of contacting 111 and isolating where necessary.



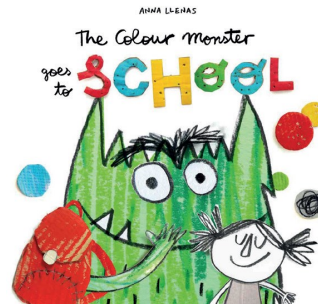
Stories that may help to support returning to Nursery...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHivp4cqCtw>

The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas

A sensitive book that encourages young ones to open up and discuss how they feel, even when their thoughts are confusing.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVb2-Ye_i00

The Colour Monster goes to school by Anna Llenas

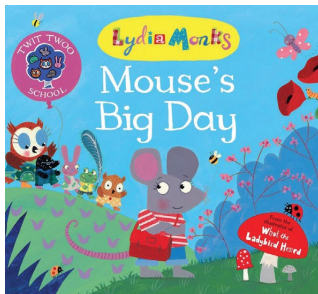
Colour Monster is heading off to school! From music lessons, to lunchtime, to making new friends, the Colour Monster's first day of school is filled with exciting new adventures.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCyihI2SJU>

Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival

A sensitive and reassuring story about what to do when a worry won't leave you alone.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvq5rWyu53M>

Mouse's Big Day by Lydia Monks

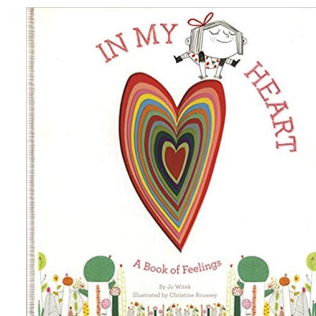
A gentle and sensitive book exploring fears that might surround starting school or nursery, Mouse's Big Day is a reassuring read for little ones.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlUxXexjhYI>

The Invisible String by Patrice Karst

A heartwarming story that reassures children that even though they can't always be with a loved one, they're always in each other's hearts. Whenever a child thinks about a family member, THE INVISIBLE STRING gives a tug.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87meeysYIA>

In My Heart by Jo Witek

In My Heart explores emotions--happiness, sadness, bravery, anger, shyness and more.