

NEWSLETTER 33

12th June 2020

Rode Early Bird and Stay and Play Team

bookingsatrodeandnorton@gmail.com

OFSTED Registration: EY489041

WELCOME BACK!

You will be pleased to hear that this week we have had a successful return to school for many of our children in Gruffalo and Elmer Classes at our Norton St Philip site in two learning bubbles. In addition, at our site at Rode we have seen an increase in the number of children from Key worker families attending in the two learning bubbles in Paddington Class & Wild BFG Class. It has been lovely to see the children and they appear to have really enjoyed being back in almost their old routines, whilst maintaining a safe social distance. For your information we have comfortably run every day with approximately 30-40 children in at any one time, taking us close to the safe limit for our class maximum sizes.

ARE YOU A KEYWORKER in Y2, Y3 or Y4?

During this week, whether it's as a result of changing Government guidance, changing home circumstances, the press or indeed Whatsapp messages, we have received a steady stream of new requests for Key worker children to join our existing bubbles. As you can imagine this is a very challenging ever-changing situation and organising the staffing and logistics safely is putting considerable stresses and strains on our staff. With 5 weeks left until the end of term we need your help in putting together a plan which is safe, which can meet everyone's needs and which will not need to be changed again.

If you are a Key worker with a child/children in Y2, Y3 or Y4 who has **not** yet requested a place for your child/children within our provision from 22nd June - 10th July 2020, but who will need them to return to school **in order for you to work** we need to hear from you now. Please email me on ctommey@educ.somerset.gov.uk by **Monday 15th June at midday** to let me know your requirements.

Please remember that every Wednesday we will be closed except for emergency care.

Please also note that if I do not hear from you by Monday 15th June your child will not be able to return this term.

Once we have this information from everyone, we will be able to review provision. As always within our Federation we are keen that, within the constraints of Covid-19, we maintain a fairness of provision towards all our children who wish to attend. With this in mind, decisions for places in school will be based on the priorities set by DfE in Government guidance early in June i.e.

Priority 1 - Vulnerable children- those with an Education Health Care Plan or those children school identify as a cause for concern

Priority 2- Children of Key Workers- documentation will need to be provided

Priority 3- Children in Reception

Priority 4- Children in Y1

Priority 5- everyone else

As soon as we have reviewed your needs, we will be in contact to let you know what provision we can offer you.

Please also note that for the week of **13th July-16th July (17th July is an INSET Day)** school will be closed for our YR & Y1 provision. We will be relocating our Key Worker (YR-Y3) care provision to our Norton St Philip site as we are aiming to welcome back our Y4 leavers at our Rode site to aid their transition to their next schools. We hope you will appreciate how very important it is for the wellbeing of our Y4s to be able to say goodbye.

ARE YOU A GRUFFALO OR ELMER PARENT?

The deadline for requesting a place in either Elmer or Gruffalo Class for **22nd June - 10th July 2020** is also **Monday 15th June at midday**. Any requests received after this date will not be able to be considered. Please contact Mrs Philips vphilips@educ.somerset.gov.uk Mrs Muxworthy gmuxworthy@educ.somerset.gov.uk directly if you have not already done so.

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BFGs TO RETURN FOR A FINAL FAREWELL

Mrs Slade will be in touch next week with plans to invite all our Year 4s back into school during the week of 13th July-16th July (17th July is an INSET Day) for a final farewell.

MOB NEWS

It is with the deepest regret that we have failed in our endeavours to reschedule our Y4 MOB visit for September. In the current situation, with the need for social distancing to reduce the spread of Covid-19, it has been impossible to make arrangements to ensure the safety of our children and staff. Refunds will be provided as soon as possible via Parent Pay. Many apologies.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a safeguarding concern during this period of closure please contact one of our Safeguarding Team:

Mrs Muxworthy gmuxworthy@educ.somerset.gov.uk,

Mrs Slade kslade@educ.somerset.gov.uk or

Mrs Tommey ctommey@educ.somerset.gov.uk.

Or telephone the school office at Rode on 01373 830523.

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF CRITCHILL SPECIAL SCHOOL

Please see [formal consultation](#) to expand Critchill School from 66 to 80 places from September 2020.

BEHAVIOUR AND VULNERABILITY MANAGER VACANCY

Frome Learning Partnership have an exciting opportunity for an innovative and creative practitioner with a background in education, children's service or social care, committed to the further development of collaborative working practices which improve outcomes for children and young people in Frome. Full details [here](#).