 **Blue Door Nursery Newsletter**

** February 2020**

**WE’VE SCORED A HAT TRICK!! (2009, 2015, 2020)**

We are absolutely thrilled to be able to tell you that we have again been judged to be ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted. The staff were quite overwhelmed by the wonderfully kind and supportive messages and emails that were sent to us to share with the Inspector. Our Inspector told us ‘Your parents really really love your nursery, you should be so proud!” – and we are … thank you.

You can read the full report [here](https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50146693) on the Ofsted website. We have also put a copy that you can download on Tapestry. Just to whet your appetite, here are some of the things that were noticed about Blue Door:

* All staff are exceptionally dedicated to the children they look after. Relationships between children and staff are extremely close.
* Children are exceptionally happy. They arrive at nursery with excitement, anticipation and enthusiasm.
* The safety and well-being of children is a shared priority of all staff. Every precaution is taken to minimise risk and help to keep children safe.
* Leaders have a relentless approach towards continually improving the nursery and developing the staff team. Less experienced staff benefit greatly from the expertise and experience of more senior staff. The extensive programme of training, staff support and supervision means every staff member frequently reflects on their practice and seeks out further ways to improve. This means the quality of teaching is consistently of the highest quality

We are delighted that all the hard work we put in has been recognised and we are determined to continue to develop and improve the work we do with your children.

… and so to ‘normal’ business!!

**TAPESTRY**

Please make sure that you are regularly checking in on Tapestry to see any news from your child’s group. The Lions team are putting up literacy and maths games and ideas that you can share with your child – it’s very definitely not homework, all the ideas are for play only! Cubs and Kittens team love to see photos form your family days out – it really helps us support children’s speech and language development as we can chat with them about the people they know and the places they have seen.

**SICKNESS AND ILLNESS**

The last few weeks the news has been busy with the Coronavirus. Last week we sent out a letter for parents regarding the nursery policy and procedure – you can find a copy in the Tapestry documents sections. We have a shared responsibility to each other and in order to keep each other safe we would ask that parents follow the guideline we have given:

Parents and carers should not come to nursery to drop off or collect their child if they are unwell. The main symptoms of the Coronavirus are a cough, a high temperature and shortness of breath. If you need to send someone else to collect your child please remember to let us know, using your child’s password if necessary.

Please do not send your child to nursery if they are unwell – we will telephone you and ask you to collect them if they appear unwell at nursery. We do not administer Calpol if children are poorly – if they need Calpol, they need to be at home.

There have also been a few instances of sickness and diarrhoea recently. Please be reminded that our policy asks that you keep your child at home if they have had a bout of sickness or diarrhoea. We ask that they are kept at home for 48 hours after the last ‘episode’. Here is a link to our website where you will find our Sickness and illness policy which goes into detail about exclusion periods for illnesses. <https://www.bluedoornursery.co.uk/important-information/>

**REQUESTS AND REMINDERS**

We seem to have ‘given out’ all our trousers / leggings to children who need a change at nursery. If you have any spare 2-3 or 3-4 sizes we would be pleased to receive them!

Please remember that our staff are not allowed to communicate with you via social media. Please don’t message them on Facebook! Many of our staff do babysitting and are happy to give you their personal number if you speak to them directly at nursery.

Please make sure that you don’t drop off early or collect late from your sessions. If you are late/early there is a chance that our staff ratios will not meet requirements. You will be asked to stay with your child if you are early, you will be charged a ‘late pick up’ fee if you are late. If you need to adjust your session times please can you email Lisa so that she can make the necessary adjustments.

Please remember that we do not facilitate ‘swapping’ sessions – if you attend all year round you have vouchers you can use to pay for sessions your child isn’t able to attend.

If you are claiming the 30 hours funding (not the 15 hours funding) you have code issued to you which you give to Lisa so that she can organise the funding on your behalf, This code has to be renewed termly – if it is not, you cannot continue to claim the additional funding on your behalf – **it is not automatic!** Put a note in your calendar! We have had a few very disappointed, frustrated parents who have let their codes expire. If this happens, you will

have to pay the full price for those sessions, or give them up for someone else to take. The cut off dates are 31st March, 31st August and 31st December,

Please try and remember if you have booked for your child to be ‘Term time only’ or ‘All year round’, we have had a number of children arrive in nursery during the holidays which we haven’t been expecting. If you are ‘Term time only’ and you want to book odd days in the holidays please make sure you talk to us first and agree which days will have room. We have a number of staff who don’t work in the holidays so our allocation of spaces is slightly different – please don’t just assume its ok!

**DIARY DATES**

Thursday 5th March ‘World Book Day’ – more details to follow

Friday 3rd April 1pm Nursery closing for staff training afternoon

Tuesday 12th May Nursery photos (Groups)

Tuesday 7th July Parents evening

Wednesday 15th July – Leavers’ event

**SESSIONS**

Sessions are booking up for next September already. If you are thinking that you want to increase / change your child’s sessions at any time in the 20/21 school year please can you talk to us about it now

If you have friends who are considering Blue Door for their child, they need to get booked in now as some days are already almost full – please let them know!

For advice regarding tax free childcare, applications for additional support and to apply for the 30 hours funding:

[www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/childcare/free-childcare/](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/childcare/free-childcare/)

**As always, if you have any questions please email us: enquiries@bluedoornursery.co.uk**

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Remember please that Blue Door is a ‘No phone zone’. Please put your mobiles away when you arrive at nursery. Apart from the safeguarding issues, your child needs you to be fully ‘present’ with them when you drop off and pick up.