

Early Years and Childcare Briefing

Friday 5th June 2020

Information about Warwickshire Early Years and Childcare Data

The team would like to thank providers that have completed the recent re-opening questionnaire which has been returned by just under 70% of settings.

We are using this, and the valuable information submitted by providers from the early years & childcare daily data return to monitor how settings are now responding to increased demand and a general return by children.

The DfE continues to require a twice weekly data return from the Local Authority as well and we use the valuable information submitted by the settings from the daily data return to complete the return.

Thursday 4th June saw a marked increase in the number of settings now open and delivering education and care to early years children with just under 2000 children taking up places across Warwickshire.

Of the overall total of early years and childcare providers in Warwickshire those now open in each category are:

- Full day care nurseries & preschools = 77%
- School based early years provision e.g. nursery classes, nursery schools & school run provision = 84%
- Childminders = 47%

Warwickshire has both geographical and demographic factors affecting variance and data is showing some interesting patterns developing of re-opening and place take-up.

An emerging factor being reported is around staff availability and the potential impact of long term shielded / vulnerable staff and how as a business this will impact the overall offer that a setting can provide going forwards during the recovery phase.

Some additional emerging factors for consideration by settings:

- Can you respond to a sudden increase in demand for places as client confidence grows e.g. additional spaces for use, create temporary outdoor rooms?
- Where you have capacity and can care for additional groups (bubbles) of children could you link with other local providers to support an increase in demand e.g. that have had to remain closed, to support place needs?
- Ensure that you log on to your Family Information Service portal and update your setting information, mark as Open, update email contacts etc.
- Have you checked your web presence e.g. Google and amended your setting details where you have re-opened?

Daily Data Form

Please note the data form **must** be completed by all providers daily regardless of whether settings are open, closed or on standby.

The link is the same every day – save it in your favourites and just click on it when you are ready.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BqqwiCdZu0uok4nMJxOsgtUcRBe1-2tDt4OwnGI6_SdUQkZKMVZNQVNMV0NMWEVWTK5NT0JRIRDVYQIQCN0PWcu

Updates

Important Information for settings offering wraparound, before and after school provision or holiday provision.

The government has updated the school guidance: Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak (3rd June 2020). Providers should refer to sections **24.4** and **24.5** of the guidance. It is highly likely that further guidance and clarification on this issue will be provided by the government in the next few days.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing>

Vulnerability and Safeguarding of Children and Young People within Warwickshire

During the regular contacts you are having with parents or carers of children who do not fall into the vulnerable child or critical key worker defined groups, you may have concerns that some families are experiencing increasing pressures and children are becoming more vulnerable.

Providers are able to use their judgement to enable such children to resume attendance at the provision. Providers who are intending to remain closed can, in consultation with parents/carers, submit a request for escalation in order for the child to be found a place in an Early Years and Childcare Hub provision.

Please complete the form using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BqqwiCdZu0uok4nMJxOsgpshFbltccFLtGj5gZPS2JVUOE5IRFJZRkNaTTcxVIBKMEdESExVT0pQVi4u>

Information and Resources

NHS Special Message for Parents

The NHS have produced a parent guide to Covid-19 which is attached with today's briefing email. Please can you share this with parents via your setting's preferred method of communication.

Free Health and Well-being Resources: Back to school with SCARF

Coram Life Education have produced a resource pack aimed at primarily at schools, however some of the resources for the 4 – 5 year old age group may be of interest to settings. The resources are set out under five themes covering safety, caring, achievement, resilience and friendship.

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/back-to-school-with-scarf>

National Careers Virtual Jobs Fair – West Midlands – 11 June 2020

Following the success of its first Virtual Jobs Fair in May, with over 1000 jobs, apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities promoted, the National Careers Service is hosting its second fair in the **West Midlands on June 11** to promote local vacancies and support citizens to get back into

work. As before, the Virtual Jobs Fair will give employers the chance to post current opportunities on their social media which the National Careers Service will promote on their channels during #JobsHour. Follow the social media channels [@NationalCareers](#) and [NationalCareersService](#) as more details are provided throughout the week. If you have any questions or would like to get involved contact the helpline on **0800 100 900** which is open 7 days a week from 8am until 10pm. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esfa-update-3-june-2020/esfa-update-further-education-3-june-2020#information-the-national-careers-service-virtual-jobs-fair-returns>

Contact Details

Please continue to use the following email addresses for communication with Warwickshire Council early years teams:

ALL Coronavirus enquiries: EYCovid19@warwickshire.gov.uk

Funding enquiries: early years funding eyfunding@warwickshire.gov.uk

Non-coronavirus enquiries: early years sufficiency and business support earlyyears@warwickshire.gov.uk