



Early Years update- Nursery

Dear Parents and Carers,

In light of recent events related to the closure of Reach For the Stars, who are a private provider, we thank you for your patience and understanding in support of our swift action. We understand this situation has been difficult for you and hope we can continue to work together for the good of your child.

From WC 7th November , Knypersley First School will be the sole on site provider for your nursery aged child. Provision will be 15 or 30 hours only with lunch at an additional supervisory charge of £3.50 per day. Payment will be payable via ParentPay. You can pay this weekly or monthly. For those who are eligible for 30 hours funding please ensure you have applied or reactivated **no later than 16th December** . Information regarding eligibility for the 30 and 15 hours is available via the school website [Admission – Knypersley First School | Biddulph | Staffordshire](#)

Drop off and collection will be via the main school nursery door as usual.

Mrs Jervis will remain the nursery manager and main contact for your child's progress and development. She is an excellent practitioner and will continue to provide outstanding provision and leadership. She is further supported by Miss Leese, the Early Years leader and Mrs Cooper the Headteacher.

For further information related to the nursery curriculum please follow the link to the class page [Nursery – Knypersley First School | Biddulph | Staffordshire](#) .

The staff of Reach For The Stars remain in our thoughts. We thank them for their loyalty to Knypersley First School building positive relationships from the onset.

We look forward to working with you as your child becomes ready for school.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Z Cooper

Headteacher

Miss Leese

Early Years Leader



Additional information

30 hours Nursery Free Entitlement

Currently all children are entitled to access the universal 15 hours each week which commences the term after their third birthday and continues until they start Reception. However, some children will be entitled to extended 30 hours provision, (which is the universal 15 hours plus an additional 15 hours). The application process for receiving the extended entitlement is through something called 'The Digital Childcare Service'. Therefore, Parents/Carers wishing to access the additional 15 hours' free childcare entitlement will be able to apply using the following link:

<https://childcaresupport.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

If you wish to check the eligibility criteria for the additional 15 hours free child care you can check on-line via Childcare Choices at <http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk> or the Childcare Calculator at

<http://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>.

There are options for parents/carers who would like to split their hours between different providers.

Please note places at Knypersley First School are limited and can only be used for morning or afternoon sessions in our Nursery to coincide with the universal 15 hours already being provided. e.g. if your child is given a morning place in our nursery group they can attend the afternoon session using the 30 hours entitlement if eligible.

Parents/Carers do not need to do anything further if they just want to access the universal 15 hour entitlement for three and four year old (every morning or every afternoon).

However, as part of the application process for 30 hour entitlement you will be asked to enter personal details including name, address and NI number and the same details for your partner, if you have one. You will also be asked about income over the coming 3 months and information about any benefits that you may receive.

If you are eligible for 30 hours you will be given an 11 digit 'eligibility code'. You need to bring this code to us along with your child's date of birth and your National Insurance number in order to claim the 30 hours.

IMPORTANT As we have to validate your entitlement with the Government using your personal details we must receive a signed Parental Declaration form allowing us to do this. Without the declaration form you will not be able to access the additional hours.

Please be aware that the 30 hours entitlement will not commence until the term after the eligibility code is received so please apply for it as soon as possible. It will also need to be renewed every 3 months, if not the provision will cease.

How it will run here at our school:

Our current sessions are:

AM – 8:45am-11:45am (15 hours)

PM -12.15pm -3:15pm (15 hours)

Lunch time sessions come at an additional charge for staffing of £3.50 payable via Parent Pay. Children will be bring their own packed lunch daily. Please be aware that we are a nut free setting.

Again to reiterate – Please act promptly and bring us your eligibility information if you want to access the 30-hour entitlement the application please ensure that you accept the funding via email every term to ensure your funding continues. The dates below will support you in deadlines for funding application/ re-activation.



When your child turns 3	When they can get 30 hours from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October to 30 November
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January to 28 February
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 31 July

Our school motto '*Learning Together, Learning for Life*' is rooted at the heart of all decisions we make both as leaders and learners. At Knypersley First School our children show great potential to achieve, lead, succeed and inspire others. I have fallen 'head over heels' for this wonderful community and all our school has to offer. Recently I have been working on our key priorities for the next academic year and look forward to sharing them with you in the autumn term. I am also seeking opportunities to seek your feedback face to face. An invite will follow in due course.

On behalf of the staff I wish to thank you for your enormous fundraising in pursuit of a special thank you for the staff at Knypersley. I speak for us all when I say many tears were shed when staff realised they were not attending a formal meeting but instead attending an afternoon tea, funded and hosted by you our wonderful parents. You can see the delight and sheer joy written on their faces.

I look forward to continuing to lead this wonderful community and working with you and our Local Advisory Board in partnership. I ask for your continued support and look forward to building upon the success of the recent Ofsted and developments.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and healthy summer holiday.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Z. L. Cooper

Headteacher