



Yenton Primary School



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Acting Headteacher Mr P Smith

6th June 2018

Dear Families,

An update on the future of Nursery and Out-of-hours provision

As you are aware the Foundation building which currently houses the three nurseries and out of hours providers (Honey Bears, Sandcastles and Apple Tree) was to be closed from September 1st. In conjunction with Birmingham City Council (BCC) it was decided to build a new, bespoke Nursery block for a single provider, who would be selected through an open tendering process. It was hoped that this process would have been completed before the start of the new academic year, however this is now no longer possible.

This is a brand-new approach for all involved, both the school and BCC, and in some ways our school is the trailblazer for other such arrangements at other schools. Due to this, the processes required by BCC to enable the tender documents to be completed accurately and correctly have taken BCC a much longer time than was originally expected. This has resulted in a delay in BCC getting the tender ready to be advertised and so a delay in being able to appoint the successful provider. After taking advice from BCC, the school has taken the view that it would be now unrealistic for a September 1st start date.

We understand how important out-of-hours care is for the parents and families of our school and that it would have been more desirable to have all of this sorted out for the start of the academic year, but this is an important decision for both the school and for you as parents, so we are determined not to rush this process and to make the correct decision for all involved.

On this basis, we have agreed with BCC that the new date for the closure of the existing Foundation building and the transfer to the successful provider is now proposed to be January 1st 2019. This means that the three existing providers will remain on site until this date and will continue to provide Nursery and Out-of-hours care up to this date. This extended period of time will enable BCC to complete the tender process and allow for a greater transition for the successful provider to have the new building up and running for the start of the Spring term 2019.

We would like to thank all of our parents and families for their patience during this period of uncertainty and for your continued support of our school. Please be assured that we will keep you updated on the progress with the new building and the tender process.

Yours faithfully

Paul Smith
Acting Headteacher

Vicki Popplewell
Chair of the Governing Board