



Thursday 18th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted that your child will be joining our Reception Class in September 2020. We look forward to getting to know both you and your child and seeing them develop and thrive within our school community.

We know that starting school is a very exciting time for all involved but that it can cause some understandable anxiety. We appreciate that the current situation may have added to this. Although we cannot yet give details of what the beginning of school will look like, we want to assure you that we are busy planning to ensure a smooth and happy transition for every child. We will support all children with settling in, helping them get to know their teacher and teaching assistants, helping them to make new friends and allowing them to become familiar with our school. We know you play a key role in this transition so please rest assured that your child will be safe and supported when they begin their school journey.

Over the past two weeks, we have started to welcome back some of our children to Reception. We have not expected our youngest children to remain 2 metres apart throughout the day. We all know this would not be possible or appropriate. Young children will naturally play together; touch each other and share toys and equipment. However, to minimise risk to staff, children and our community we have put in place additional routines and procedures. Alongside frequent handwashing and additional cleaning of play equipment, we are continuing to offer our children lots of time to learn in the fresh air in their outdoor provision and our much-loved forest space. All the children who have returned have adjusted to these new practices and are very happy to be back in school. We will be feeding the procedures into our planning for September and we will be ready to reopen when schools are given the go ahead to do so.

We will be talking to you, as we always do, to find out about your child's learning and development. These conversations usually take place within the context of a Stay and Play visit to school or a home visit. This year, conversations with parents of children who attend our nursery will take place by telephone, as we know your child is familiar with the school and our staff. If your child is new to Springfield, we will be offering you the opportunity to come to school to meet Hannah Ponting, our Reception teacher and EYFS Lead, and myself for a welcome meeting and tour around the school.

We hope that many of your questions will be answered by visiting the Reception page of our website. If you have any concerns about your child or if they have any medical or additional needs, please contact our SENCo Melanie Lines on melines@springfield.hackney.sch.uk. All other enquires can be sent by email to our office team on admin@springfield.hackney.sch.uk. We will always try to respond as quickly as we can.

At Springfield, we are committed to building a strong relationship with all our families because we value the connection between home and school, which fosters close communication and nurtures our children. We look forward to being able to share more information with you about September and to meeting you all. Our promise to you is that we will continue to work in partnership, to ensure your child's start to school is both as exciting and positive as we can collectively make it.

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Case'.

Anna Case
Assistant Headteacher