

Nursery Closure Dates 2021

Bank Holidays

- Monday 30th August

Staff Training Days

- Tuesday 28th September
- Friday 19th November

Christmas 2021

- Nursery closes Wednesday 22nd December 2021 at 6:00pm and reopens on Tuesday 4th January 2022 at 8:00am

Easter 2022

- Nursery will be closed from 6pm 8th April 2022 and re open 19th April 2022 at 8:00 am.

www.scribblesnursery.co.uk

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July 2021

Manager
Deputy Manager

Becky Sanderson
Voula Agiannidou



Dear Parents

We hope you are all enjoying the sunshine and are staying safe in the hot weather. The children have been making the most of the garden, making water sprinklers out of empty bottles, fans to keep cool and learning some fun new songs like the sun has got his hat on. We also celebrated Eid and the children enjoyed a chickpea and potato curry for lunch, made cards for their friends and families, read stories and had a tea party with cake to learn about and celebrate the day.

The children have been enjoying their sport's days and will be carrying this on with an Olympic theme over the coming week as we make the most of the outdoors and the good weather.

Please remember to let us know by email if you will be going on holiday over the coming months and we would be grateful if you can let us know where you will be travelling to and whether or not you will need to self isolate on your return.

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Email: enquiries@scribblesnursery.co.uk

Tel: 020 8883 8546

Fax: 020 8883 5188

Staff

We are pleased to welcome Ayesha to Aardvarks team. Ayesha is doing her Level 3 Childcare apprenticeship with us. Sadly Ejona is leaving us this week as she has decided that the apprenticeship is not for her and she will be pursuing a career in administration. We want to thank Ejona for all her hard work since she joined us in January. She has learned a lot in her short time with us and made a valuable contribution to the Aardvarks team. The staff and children will all miss her and we wish her good luck with her change of career.

Sadly Carmela will also be leaving Scribbles at the end of August. Carmela has been offered a position at a school in performance and puppet making and this is a great opportunity for her to use her Degree In Creative Arts And Puppet Making. She has been a key member of staff over the past year and we wish her well and will all miss her.

We are please to inform you that Jade will be rejoining our team from August. Jade is an experienced Level 3 practitioner and was previously a Room Leader in Koalas before she left to have her son. She will now be working with us covering for staff holidays and absences and we are very pleased to welcome her back.

We are also happy to welcome back Melissa who will be taking on the Third in Charge role from 2 August. Melissa is an experienced level 3 practitioner and has experience as a Room Leader and Deputy Manager. She has had training as a Special Needs Co-ordinator and Designated Safeguarding Lead and has a current Paediatric First Aid Certificate. Melissa was a key member of our team last year post lockdown, helping to settle children back into the nursery and we are delighted that she will be rejoining our team. She will also play a key role in helping Voula coach our level 3 apprentices.

Finally we are pleased to welcome Magdalena to our team from September. Magdalena is Level 2 qualified and currently undertaking her Level 3. She has experience of working in children's centres and will be working with us 3 days per week while she completes her studies.

Staff Training

Kasia, Anna and Sandy who are all Level 2 qualified have now all started their Level 3 qualification and Nneka and Ayesha, our apprentices, are also completing this training. We are sure they will all do well and we will be supporting them to achieve this.

Voula, Carmela and Nneka have all recently completed/updated their Paediatric First Aid training and Voula has also completed training as a Designated Safeguarding Lead so she can deputise for Becky for all child protection and safeguarding issues in her absence.

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Aardvarks Leavers Party

Over the next few months we will be saying goodbye to a number of our children who will be transitioning to School in September. Aardvarks staff have been busy preparing them for the transition and the week of the 26th July will be embarking on a magical mythical forest theme graduation week with a certificates ceremony, activities and many photo opportunities to create an everlasting memory of such a beautiful class. Children are encouraged to dress up and let their imagination go wild.

COVID Safety Update

As you know, the Prime Minister announced that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July. While we are keen to allow parents back in the setting the main thing that affects whether the nursery manages to stay open is the rules around self isolation. As this is not due to change until August we have decided to maintain our current COVID policies until then. As case numbers rise rapidly and increasing numbers of nurseries are closing at the moment due to staff shortages caused by staff having to isolate, we want to ensure that we have the best possible chance of staying open for all our families. This will also allow time for most of our staff to be double vaccinated. This has been an enormously challenging time for everyone and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for everything you have done and your continued support.

COVID Test and Trace Changes

One of the key changes that will take place from 19 July is that education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case - or in the case of children - the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society - including children who have recorded a positive PCR test - and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

This notice from the DfE sets out in more detail below how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

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Self-isolating and taking a test

1. If your child has symptoms, they and other members of the household should self-isolate - and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a PCR test for them. If the PCR result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the PCR result is positive, they, other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.
2. If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they and other members of the household should self-isolate - and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the LFD test.
3. PCR tests can be booked online through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.
4. PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but you should also communicate the result to the education or childcare setting during term time or summer provision.

Contact tracing

5. If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace will contact you, using the details you registered when ordering the PCR test. You and/or your child will be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.
6. You will be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals - or their parents or guardians - who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts

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7. At present, anyone identified as a close contact is legally required to self-isolate and must not attend their education or childcare setting (the only exception is if they are participating in a daily contact testing trial). Anyone identified as a non-household close contact by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of their most recent contact with that person. If they live in the same household, they must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of that person developing symptoms (see point 1 above) or, if that person was asymptomatic, the date of their test (see point 2 above). NHS Test and Trace will notify you of the day on which the self-isolation period ends.
8. Close contacts are also advised to take a PCR test. If the test result is negative, they must still complete the full self-isolation period, as the test will not detect all positive cases. If the result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for a further 10 days - and NHS Test and Trace will contact them to identify any close contacts.
9. **From 16 August**, if the close contact is under 18, they will not have to self-isolate (in line with the policy for fully vaccinated adults) but will be asked to take a PCR test immediately, other than for very young children identified as non-household contacts, and they will not need to self-isolate while awaiting the results of the test. If the PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch to identify close contacts (see points 5 and 6 above). Further guidance on these changes to self-isolation will be provided shortly.

School Places and School Nursery Drop Offs

With the easing of restrictions and the updated guidance from the DfE which removes the requirement for children to attend as few settings as possible, we will be reinstating this service for Aardvarks children from 1 Sept 21. Please note you can use this service with both 15 and 30 hour entitlements however you will require a morning place at the school nursery so please request this from the school when securing your space.

N2 Mum's Speak

The next event will take place on Saturday 4th September 2021 Barnwood Community Forest Garden, N2. To book your free place contact n2mumsspeak@gmail.com. More information is also available on the instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/n2mumsspeak/>

Early Years Alliance Parent Survey

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As part of the Early Years Alliance's ongoing work campaigning for greater support for the early years sector, the Early Years Alliance would like to gain a better understanding of how easy or difficult it currently is for parents to find, access and afford the childcare and early education services they need.

The survey is completely anonymous and will close on **Friday 6 August**. If parents/carers have any queries about the survey, they are very welcome to contact the EY Alliance at feedback@eyalliance.org.uk.

The survey link is www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parentsEY2021

The Library Service

Children in Aardvarks have been enjoying virtual library services over the past few months. The Library Service also has a weekly newsletter for children and families which has all the latest information about what they are running and doing for children in the borough. If you would like to subscribe to it the link is here: [Get the latest from Barnet Libraries \(confirmsubscription.com\)](http://Get the latest from Barnet Libraries (confirmsubscription.com))

Home Learning

We have continued to add to our Learning At Home section on our website which you may find useful especially if you are having to self isolate with your children. If you have found anything interesting that you would like us to add then please let us know.

Daynurseries.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who has written a review for us on daynurseries.co.uk. At the moment while we are still unable to show prospective parents around the nursery it continues to be especially important that they hear from you about your experiences at the nursery. If you haven't yet provided a review and would like to then you can do this by following the link www.daynurseries.co.uk/submitreview, requesting a review card from us or scanning the QR code on the entry doors.

Barnet Infant Feeding Service

Barnet are producing an Infant Feeding Strategy to help support women and their families in their infant feeding journey from pregnancy and beyond in Barnet. Your thoughts and ideas on the proposed strategy would be invaluable. If you would like more information, please email: CLCHT.Breastfeedingsupport@nhs.net

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