

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 RE: Little Choughs Nursery

Dear Parent/Carer

From September 2022 we have made the decision to open the nursery at St Buryan Academy in the afternoon only for 2-year-old children. Their sessions will be from 1pm-3pm daily.

Our sessions for 3 and 4-year-olds will remain as they are, from 9am-12pm or all day (9am-3pm).

We have made this decision, after carrying out a review, due to our numbers within the nursery; we currently have more children aged 3 and 4 on our roll; as well as several 2-year-olds turning 3 in the near future. With less 2 year-olds currently on our role, it has meant that we have had to revise staffing arrangements and our ratios of staff to children.

Current predictions from Cornwall County Council forecast that there will be less 2-year-olds in the locality and county over the next few years; we wanted to be pro-active in regards to this. Due to the lower number of 2-year-olds anticipated, it has meant that we have had to revise our current offer. By moving the 2-year-old session to the afternoons, it means that the children of that age are less likely to have a nap-time, something that we may not always be able to offer due to the space within the nursery.

By having just 3-4 year olds in the mornings, then all of their Early Framework Curriculum needs can be met, and surpassed, giving our Early Years Children a stronger quality of education. This gives our Reception staff opportunities to work with them throughout the year, meaning that they have even more opportunities for high quality learning in their first taste of 'school life' as well as ensuring that transitions into the main school will be smooth and plentiful; something that all schools have not had the opportunity to do as much recently due to the pandemic. There will be times where our 3 and 4-year-olds work within the Reception classroom, during phonic and number work for example, but the current 'Chy Palores' building will continue to be their base when at school.

We are passionate and committed about facilitating a provision for the children and families in our community; one that provides high quality learning experiences and that is filled with nurture, fun and happiness – all of which ultimately go hand-in-hand together. We believe that our plan from September does all of those things, whilst importantly providing a facility for the children and parents of St Buryan.

To book places for September 2022 and onwards, please do so as early as possible as capacity is limited. You can do this by contacting Mrs Care on the details provided at the bottom of this letter.

Kind regards

Josh McDonald Head of School

St Buryan Academy Primary School

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