

OFSTED Registration Number: **EY497807**

29th May 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We recently contacted some of you with our plans of how we were going to begin to open nursery more widely from 8th June. We have invited children who will be leaving to go to school, in September, back to nursery. Today there has been an announcement by Councillor Abtissam Mohamed, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Sheffield City Council:

We have been advised by the Sheffield Director of Public Health, Greg Fell who has reviewed the local position and he does not feel assured that the recently announced 'Test and Trace' programme will be sufficiently well established and robust enough to be in place for 1st June. He has advised that the Test and Trace system should be in place and working effectively for 14 days before schools and nurseries begin increasing their numbers.

*Whilst nationally the Government is requesting that schools and nurseries start to increase the number of pupils attending over the coming weeks, in light of the Sheffield Public Health advice **we do not yet feel assured** that it is the right time and are advising our schools and nurseries to delay increasing numbers until the **15th June 2020**.*

Following this advice from Sheffield City Council, **Grace Owen Nursery School will now not open more widely until 15th June.** This means that your children will now **not** return to school on 8th June. We apologise if this causes you inconvenience but we are following advice, which changes as more information becomes available, to ensure our schools open more widely, as safely as possible. We will be in touch soon with families of children going to school about our plans from 15th June. It is likely to be September before other children can begin to return due to following government guidelines and the available space in nursery.

As we have throughout the pandemic, we will remain open to some children, including the parents of key worker children. If you or your partner are a key worker and now require a space at nursery please let us know.

Of course we will continue to plan and prepare for more widely opening our schools safely, after 15th June. Thank you for supporting us and more importantly supporting your child with home learning.

Please contact us if you are experiencing difficulties and need advice or help.

Kindest Regards

Nancy

Nancy Farrow (Headteacher)