



Greenway Primary
& Nursery School



Crossways, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3NH
Tel: 01442 866249

Head Teacher: Katharine Ellwood

Thursday 2 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Proposed Greenway Summer Camp

Further to my letter dated 30 June I am very grateful to all of you who have subsequently responded to my request that you confirm whether you actually wish to access our proposed summer camp. Over 85 families have expressed an interest in the proposed camp (and paid a deposit) showing that there is a real demand for such provision. My staff and governors are really mindful of this need and want to support you if at all possible.

I have been continuing to work with staff and governors in analysing your responses to the questionnaire to enable us to determine whether or not we will be able to run the proposed camp – it is critical that whilst it is safe and fun for your children it is also financially viable. Unfortunately, school's funding being what it is we have no capacity within the school budget to support a proposed summer camp other than through making available school facilities – we wish that we did not have to charge for this service but you will appreciate that we have to do so.

The Government published guidance on 1 July for out of school settings who will be providing summer holiday cover for families. Whilst this does not strictly apply to us, we are referring to this guidance along with undertaking our own risk assessments to determine whether we will in fact be able to proceed with the proposed summer camp.

You will have gathered from the expression of interest questionnaire and my letter dated 30 June that due to the current Government guidance and the fact that we have so little time to establish any summer camp it has been absolutely vital for us to ascertain firm commitment from you as to your holiday cover requirements.

We all appreciate that seeking such a firm commitment is asking a lot from you and that in 'normal times' you would have a lot more flexibility with whatever summer holiday camp provision you opted for. Sadly we are not in 'normal times' and we have had to insist that you make some definite decisions in a very short space of time due to the fact that if the camp is to proceed I have to recruit staff; ensure that they are DBS checked and trained; and prepare

to welcome your children to the camp over the next fortnight. Some families have changed their initial requirements and whilst we are doing our best to accommodate this you will appreciate that this has rather complicated our planning!

(I am sure you understand that we have not been able to do any of this at an earlier stage due to the uncertainty and subsequent work involved in getting children back to school).

Having undertaken a full analysis of your responses to the questionnaire and chased all of those 'Maybes' for a decision we find ourselves in a position where our decision as to whether or not proceed is on a 'knife edge'. No matter how much we all very much wish to support Greenway families over the holiday period the proposed summer camp must be financially viable for us to do this within the short time period open to us.

I have updated the table of spaces that we believe we now have in each group for each week on the revised numbers for the relevant weeks (see below):

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
All years 5 days	3	0	3	4
R / Y1 / Y2 - 3 days	12	15	11	15
Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6 - 3 days	7	7	0	21

If we fill the spaces available above (or at least the vast majority of them), we would be able to run the proposed camp. If we are unable to do so it is with huge regret that we will have to stop our preparations for the proposed camp and return your deposits to you.

Therefore, if you wish to access any of the spaces above please let us know via admin@greenway.herts.sch.uk **by midday on Friday 3 July 2020 at the very latest**. As before, any requests will be dealt with on a 'first come first served' basis and we will need a deposit of £50 payable via the School Gateway system (see earlier communications).

Please note that for those of you who wish to increase the current provision sought by you we will only be able to do so where the bubble to which we have allocated your child has space – clearly we will need to check that availability when we hear from you.

For any parents who have not previously sought provision but now wish to do so we will only be able to accommodate you for the weeks and days set out in the table above – again these spaces will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

I will be asking Parent Forum to see whether or not there is any additional interest within their classes acknowledging that everyone's circumstances are different – some people may not feel they need any summer holiday child care or are not in a financial position to meet the cost of it. I should just mention that it is of note that several families have expressed the view that they would like their child/ren to have the opportunity to socialise with other children particularly bearing in mind the restrictions we have all been living under over the last few months.

Should a decision be taken that we do proceed with the proposed summer camp we will assume that the provision you have requested is what you want (subject to any request for additional cover) and will confirm your request via email rather than sending you a booking form. We will also send you terms and conditions for the camp and a form seeking some basic details for your child/ren.

Kind regards,

Katharine Ellwood

Headteacher

