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Dear Parent/Carer

5th April 2022

Re: Nursery Staffing

Further to my text message last night, I am writing to confirm that it is with huge regret that I have had to take the decision to close our Nursery provision in the Opal Learning Zone for the remainder of this week.

I do appreciate how disruptive this is for parents/carers and please know that the decision has not been taken lightly. We already have three staff off sick and therefore all remaining staff across the school are working at maximum capacity and have been from a significant amount of time.

Yesterday after school, I was informed that two additional staff in the Early Years Unit would be off sick for the rest of this week.

Myself and the Senior Leadership Team tried to come up with a creative solution for staffing the Opal Learning Zone but the legal ratio's required (which are higher for our youngest children) meant that no matter how many of the remaining staff we redirected to the area – we still could not legally staff the Nursery.

At this point, the decision was taken to contact a number of different supply agencies to try to find additional staff. This solution is far from ideal as our very young children would be spending the rest of the week with adults they were unfamiliar with. However, all agencies we contacted informed me by 6.30pm last night that they were unable to find any staff for us for the rest of this week.

As a result, I have had no choice but to take the difficult decision to close our Nursery with effect from Tuesday 5th April 2022. Nursery will re-open after the Easter holidays on Monday 25th April 2022.

The planned end of term treat (a visit to the play park and fish & chips) will be rearranged for the first week back after the Easter holidays.

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I sincerely apologise for the inconvenience and please know that if there was any alternative course of action which would result in keeping our Nursery open, I would have taken it.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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