



7 September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

This is our latest post Ofsted update and should be read in conjunction with previous ones detailing changes in various areas. Sadly I'm not able to report that Ofsted visited in August as we had hoped. In addition thank you to the parent who pointed out I am unable to count to six... in my last update I stated that Ofsted must return within 6 months and that was the beginning of October. Six months on from the inspection is in fact the 4th November... which now makes school's half term the week commencing the 29th October look quite likely. Ultimately it doesn't matter though; we have completed our improvement programme, continue to bed in and refine the changes, and eagerly await their return whenever they choose to turn up.

Firstly, you will recall we are hoping to bring together a single central record of the permissions you have granted us with respect to the care of your child at Rainbow. All new customers are using these and broadly speaking all existing customers have already provided them in different forms at or after their child's enrolment. However to provide inspectors with a single point of reference we are asking all customers to complete a quick online form confirming the permissions in place. Thank you to those parents who have completed this already. If you haven't please be advised that we will soon start reminding you by email and phone calls so if you wish to spare yourself this please could you follow the below link and complete the form, it takes only a couple of minutes.

<https://goo.gl/forms/dlqkhaql7SVzbwXL2>

Thank you for your support and assistance in this matter.

### Tapestry

We continue to make solid progress integrating Tapestry into our day to day practices:

- All enrolled children, in all rooms, are on Tapestry and all day to day observations, snippets, and planning are being securely stored in the online learning journals.
- All new children to the nursery have online only Learning Journals and all their development records from initial assessments meeting, to baseline reporting, 2 year checks, etc will be on Tapestry only. All children in the Baby Nursery have had pre-Tapestry learning journal content scanned and uploaded. All new content for older children is on Tapestry only, but pre Tapestry content (up to 3-4 years worth!) will only be in the paper Learning Journals which will be sent home for you to keep once Ofsted have re-inspected.
- Over 99% of children on Tapestry have parents enrolled and active, and we have been seeing some wonderful observations generated by parents which inform our planning and how we engage with your child. Keep up the good work!
- We have been able to transfer, with parents permission, entire online learning journals for a number of children starting at schools which also use Tapestry. This is great for continuity and to give new teachers an insight into the new children in their classes.

- We also have a number of other settings and carers registered on our Tapestry system so we can easily share information about what the children are working on at Rainbow, and elsewhere, to improve the consistency of your child's learning across different carers.

The end of August is the end of our summer term and practitioners are now busy producing their assessments of their key children's progress in the period from May through to August. Tapestry supports these assessments by summarising all the observations made in the period and the linkages to the various age bands in the EYFS. The practitioners use this information and their professional judgement to produce a Summative Assessment Report which is then made available for you to view through Tapestry under the Reports section. We aim to have all the summative assessments completed by the end of September, but this is a big task as the Tapestry reporting system is new to our practitioners. As such we have trained three Tapestry Champions who are in turn training the rest of the practitioner team.

Tapestry is a tool, not a magic wand, but we are very pleased with the demonstrable positive impact it has had to areas of our teaching and learning practice that Ofsted deemed us weak in. In addition, we believe it has transformed for the better Parent-Rainbow communication, and will facilitate effective communication between us and other settings your child may spend time with.

I do not propose to set a date for our next update as it is now in the hands of Ofsted and their return visit. The inspection is unannounced so we will advise you when they turn up, and hopefully the inspectors will have opportunity to speak to some of you on the day itself to get your feedback. In the meantime, as ever, should you wish to discuss anything about this with us please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Karl and Harriet Shields  
Directors