

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

Dear Families,

I am sorry to disturb you during your half term break but I thought it was important to update you regarding the current situation with Little Robins (the private day care provider on our school site) and some of the recent press coverage regarding their lease.

As you will know as parents of our school, we prioritise the relationships we nurture with the children, yourselves and the whole school community so I can imagine some of you will have read the news article or heard about the situation and wondered why there was no announcement from school.

We were not aware that Little Robins would be communicating to its parents during half-term when school is closed and the anxiety that this would cause.

Last Thursday, the decision was communicated to Little Robins and we wanted to give them the professional courtesy to allow them time to digest the decision, communicate when and how they thought appropriate and allow time for them to start the process of finding new premises to continue their successful business.

Thank you to those parents who have emailed their support to school this week and were aware that the school had yet to communicate with its parents. The purpose of this message is to clarify the situation and direct you to a new page on the school website [here](#) which will continue to be updated as the situation develops and there is more to share.

In September 2025, I can confirm that we will be launching our new wraparound offer which will build on and extend the quality of wraparound care already provided on site. The finer details of this will be confirmed following further exploration with our parents later this academic year to ensure that it successfully meets the needs of all our families. We are aware that there has been anxiety around this, however I can reassure our parents that we are working towards offering 07:45 – 18:00 Monday to Friday. We are aware that some parents have expressed concern over holiday provision and whether this will continue to be offered on the school site. This is something that we are still exploring for October half term 2025, however holiday provision will still be offered to ensure that our parents don't suffer any disruption to their working patterns.

The governors' motivation for the decision to introduce school wraparound provision comes from the Government's desire for schools to provide accessible wraparound care for all school aged children and every family that needs it. This has not always been available in the past.

To clarify, the drivers for this decision are:

- being able to offer full wraparound provision for any child in school who needs it,
- increasing the number of spaces available to working parents,
- being able to support identified vulnerable families as part of our pastoral care,
- extending learning and social opportunities for our children outside the school day.

To achieve all the above the Governing Board felt that this decision, whilst difficult, was in the best interests of the school and its community.

As a school provision, we will continue our commitment to the children's safety and well-being and meet the needs of all pupils as well as ensuring a consistency of behaviour & expectations. Unlike a private business, this provision will not be run for profit but to simply meet the needs of the community we serve and enjoy excellent relationships with.

As mentioned earlier, we have created a new page on the [school website](#) which will detail future developments, additional information and can be seen as a trusted source of information moving forward.

Sorry once again to send such a long communication in the half term holiday but I thought it was important to alleviate some of the anxiety caused by the recent press coverage and reassure families that the aim of our new provision will maintain the wraparound care and holiday provision that the children currently enjoy and further expand that offer for new parents who previously have had to make different arrangements.

I will send a further update later this half-term as more information is available.

Thank you for your time and patience.



Steve Elliott  
**Headteacher**