

22 May 2020

Dear early years providers and staff

Earlier this week the City Mayor issued a statement regarding plans to extend the opening of educational settings, whilst early years was not specifically referenced, you remain a vital part of the education system and the cornerstone of a child's readiness for school.

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic many early years settings and childminders have continued to stay open to provide essential places for vulnerable children in the city and children of key workers. They have remained committed to supporting our youngest children and their families, despite the challenges that this has brought.

As the wider reopening of childcare is encouraged by the government - early years providers in Leicester are reflecting on how they can do this safely and prepare for extending service delivery.

We are very aware that this will continue to be extremely challenging times for early years practitioners and are grateful for the critical work they are doing.

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Cllr Elly Cutkevlin - Assistant City Mayor with responsibility for Education