

Introducing I Connect and Parent Zone

We are writing to you to introduce you to I Connect and Parent Zone which is a new system we are adopting at Lemongrove Nursery.

I Connect

I Connect is an award winning tablet based observation software. It allows key workers to make curriculum based observations and provide online learning journeys for all their key children at the touch of a button.

As a nursery we already have Learning Journeys in the form of paper documents and each child has their own personal folder full of observations and photos to provide evidence for next steps, which in turn aids in tracking their progress alongside the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Parent Zone

ParentZone is a smart phone and tablet app which brings you closer to your child's development at nursery. You will be able to see a timeline of your child's day at nursery, with photos, videos and notes on your child's daily activities. We want to make sure we work with parents to enhance your child's development, so as well as being able to see what he or she is getting up to while in our care, you can get involved and contribute your own photos and notes from home to show all of the fun things your child gets up to outside of nursery. Together we can provide the very best experience throughout your child's early years.

ParentZone goes hand in hand with new software called iConnect which we are going to start using; you will start to see our nursery practitioners using tablets in the rooms. This will enable our staff to take learning observations in a fraction of the time it has taken us previously. This means we will have so much more time to play, teach and care for the children instead of spending time on paperwork.

Security

The system is very secure. For the techy types among you the connection is made using a secure server holding a 256 bit TLS 1.2 certificate (typically your internet banking uses 128 bit). You will

be the only one outside of the nursery that can view your child's profile and you will access it with a unique and secure log in.

Getting Access

You can download ParentZone from the Google Play Store & the Apple App Store. If you don't have a smart phone, you can log in at www.parentzone.me . We will send you out a secure email to invite you to activate your account and set up a unique ParentZone log in. Please make sure you have provided us with an up to date email address.

Parent Notice Board

We will be providing more information about the new system via a notice board, sending links through email and you can also access more information on our website.

www.lemongrovenursery.co.uk–

Going Live

This is a new system for staff and we will be providing training for all staff on using I Connect. We are hoping for the system to be up and running in mid September 2016 and for Parent Zone to go live to parents in October. Our expectation is that invoices will also be able to be done through Parent Zone from October.

I Connect and ParentZone will be running at Lemongrove with no extra cost to our parents and carers at the nursery.

Enclosed with this letter is also a permission form with a section for you to add your email so we can sign you up to ParentZone. Please complete the enclosed form and return to us by 12th September 2016.

If you have any questions or concerns please see Chanel or Laura, the nursery Managers, who at present have all the information on Connect Childcare. Until all staff have completed their training they may not be able to answer your questions fully.

Many Thanks

I Connect and Parent Zone Permission Form

Child's Name:	DOB:
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I give permission for a 'Learning Journey' to be created for my child on I Connect.	
Parent(s)/carer(s) name(Please print)	
Signature:	Date:

I give permission for my child's photograph to be taken during their time at nursery and uploaded onto the I Connect programme. I understand this is a secure programme and photographs can only be shared between the nursery and myself through ParentZone.	
Parent(s)/carer(s) name(Please print)	
Signature:	Date:

I give permission for photos to be used in my child's 'Learning Journey' and I understand that my child may appear on another photo but not as a primary person and this may be used in another child's 'Learning Journey'	
Parent(s)/carer(s) name(Please print)	
Signature:	Date:

By providing an email I give permission to be signed up to ParentZone a secure app where I can log in to view my child's 'Learning Journey' and daily routine at Lemongrove Nursery.

Parent(s)/carer(s) name(Please print)

Signature:

Date:

Parent
email
address