



Parents/Carers,

We are excited to announce that on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May FS2 are welcoming the arrival of 10 little eggs - which will hatch into chicks. We are looking after the chicks for 2 weeks and during this time we will be learning about the life cycle and the needs of other animals.

During the two weeks there will be opportunities for children to handle the chicks.

We have carried out a full risk assessment for the chicks' arrival and are pleased to confirm the following information to you:

**Hygiene:** There are no transmissible diseases that can be contracted from the chicks. The eggs come from a government accredited hatchery. All the parent stock are vaccinated against transmissible diseases and are housed in a fully enclosed environment. This prevents ingress of airborne contaminants and strict bio-security arrangements for visitors and staff are in place. Parent stock is also tested for salmonella.

The eggs are sanitized prior to incubation and again treated with an industry approved sanitizer just prior to delivery to school.

As with the handling of all animals, we will insist upon the washing of hands after handling, and appropriate signs to remind the children and adults are attached to the incubator and brooder box.

**Animal Welfare:** Both the incubator and the brooder are self-contained and ensure the most ideal environment for the chicks. The chicks are suitable for handling by the children under supervision.

**Feed:** The feed supplied for the chicks is pelletised crumble which has been heat treated to minimize any contaminants.

**Safety:** There is no risk of injury to the children by the chicks. They are unable to injure by pecking or scratching.

We are aware of the children in the Foundation Stage who may have allergies however if you have not shared allergy information with the academy, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing the children enjoying the experience.

Thanks,

EYFS Team

