

The Formentera Department of Education reports that the Sa Miranda and Camí Vell nurseries will reopen from today, 15 June, welcoming back 17 youngsters at the former and 3 at the latter. Opening at 50% capacity, the escoletes can accommodate 54 of the 108 children normally enrolled.

The resumption of classes following a three-month hiatus will be gradual, with a transitional period aimed at helping children ease back into things and plans to increase class size progressively. Priority for admission will be given to children of parents for whom balancing work and childcare is problematic, households facing increased risk of social and economic hardship and families in which children are receiving special protective attention. The nurseries will open from 7.30am to 2.30pm, offering both early drop-off and cafeteria service.

Because of Covid-19, classrooms will reopen in line with safety and hygiene protocol: educators will wear masks given the impossibility of complying with the two-metre distancing rule. Infant groups will have no more than four children per group; one- to two-year-old groups will be limited to six, and a nine-child maximum will be observed for two- to three-year-old groups. Children must take turns in the patio space and open-air activities are encouraged, while the instructor-pupil ratio has been adjusted to enable teachers to adapt educational activities to new guidelines.

Each child's temperature must be taken every day before school, and any children with a temperature of 37.5 or more must remain at home. As in previous months, educators will be assigned to families of children not currently returning to school.

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