



Cotham School, Cotham Lawn Road,
Bristol, BS6 6DT
Headteacher: Ms Jo Butler
t: 0117 919 8000
e: info@cotham.bristol.sch.uk
www.cotham.bristol.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

26 January 2017

Child Development Group

We are very fortunate at Cotham to have two RealCare® Babies. As a temporary parent, your child will care for RealCare® Baby, a computerised infant simulator that must be supervised at all times. Baby will cry and need to be fed, burped, rocked, and have its nappy changed. It is the student's responsibility to tend to Baby's needs. The opportunity for students to take home a RealCare® Baby is entirely optional.

Students will take a Baby home for three nights from a Friday after school until Monday morning. A small computer inside each Baby is programmed to follow a schedule care pattern of a new-born baby. Baby may require care at inconvenient times, including during the night. Students will be assessed on learning how to keep their baby happy, their understanding of the full-time commitment of childcare and the condition of the baby once it is returned to school. Incidences of neglect, head support failure, shaking, rough handling, wrong position, no nappy changes and other functions are recorded by baby's computer.

Students will wear a waterproof, hospital-type wristband with a unique ID that must be present whenever they are caring for Baby. Without the ID, Baby will not accept care. The wristband must be in good condition and still be on the wrist when Baby is returned. Each student will be allocated a second wrist band in case another person needs to provide temporary care.

You can help by providing emotional support and providing practical advice on caring for a new born baby, however students themselves are the parent and should complete all care for their Baby. Students will be shown how to care for the Baby in lesson time prior to taking it home.

If students wish to care for a RealCare® Baby a reply slip below must be completed and returned to the school. Once a reply slip is returned a date to care for the RealCare® Baby will be decided, please ensure your child is aware of any weekends that may not be suitable.

Due to the high cost of each Baby, we also phone you prior to the delivery of the RealCare® Baby to ensure that you are still happy for your child to care for it.

Yours sincerely

Josephine Brock
KS4 Coordinator Technology

Child Development Group – RealCare® Baby - JBR

STUDENT NAME _____ TUTOR GROUP _____

I understand that the RealCare® Baby is a baby simulator and will behave in an identical manner to a young baby. The RealCare® Baby is on loan to the student and during the care simulation every effort will be taken to protect and look after the baby. I am aware that the RealCare® Baby is an expensive item of school equipment.

Signed (Parent/Carer) _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

