

Mayfield Messenger

Welcome to the eighth edition of the Mayfield Messenger since lockdown!

You will be aware that schools in England are being asked to prepare, subject to the COVID 19 situation improving and the “R” number reducing significantly, for a “reopening” from 1st June with the following on site provisions:

- schooling for children in Years R and 1;
- “Key Worker School” for eligible children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 who have parents who are ‘critical’ to the COVID 19 response or whom may be considered vulnerable;
- “face to face” contact for pupils in Year 10.

Additionally, we will need to continue to offer home learning opportunities for pupils that are not accessing any of the above and, in the medium term, prepare for a full reopening of our Primary Section – if the risk level permits.

Previously, I have shared with you the principles we are going to apply to this request:

- the health and wellbeing of staff and pupils is paramount;
- movement around the building will be minimised;
- arrival, breaks and dismissal will be staggered;
- on site learning will be complimented with home learning;

If we do open, then our approach to running our Primary Section will be to open a “bubble school” which will consist of “class bubbles”, these will have up to 10 pupils and have consistent:

- membership (children cannot switch between bubbles);
- staffing (a small team of staff will be assigned to each bubble);
- indoor classroom bases and designated outdoor areas.

Pupils and staff will remain in their “bubble” throughout the school day and undertake all learning, break and social times together. Snacks and lunch will be brought to the “bubble” and each will have designated toilet facilities. Initially, this provision will not be full time and parents or carers will be asked to continue to home school their child when they are not in school.

We are now beginning to model how this approach will work for our families and I can confirm that, should we open to Year R and 1 on 1st June, then for “bubble school”:

- we will confirm the dates, times and drop off/pick up procedures by 29th May;
- we will be unable to offer breakfast club, extracurricular or tea time provision to children in “bubble school” – to maintain the integrity of the “bubble”;
- a morning snack, and lunch will be provided to all infant pupils – however menus will be limited;
- parents eligible for “key worker school” of children in Year R or 1 can choose between “key worker school” or bubble school – but not both;

I appreciate you will have many, many questions which you would like answered. Please bear with us as we work through all of the logistics. We will publish more details on the 22nd May and, of course, confirm final arrangements by 29th May. Please feel free to send us your questions to:

bubble@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Unfortunately, we will not be able to answer individual queries before 22nd/29th May, but we will publish a list of all anonymised questions received with answers on the dates above. One thing that I would ask every parent or carer to do for children in Years R and 1 is to begin to explain to your child:

- “bubble” school is not like normal school;
- They can only socialise with their friends in the “class bubble”;
- They will have their own space, stationary and outdoor area;
- They will be asked to wash their hands more often and for up to 20 seconds.

In line with Government Guidance, children who are:

- showing symptoms of COVID 19 (new persistent cough and/or high temperature);
- classed as “clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions”.

Will not be able to access this provision. If you believe your child falls into the above, or requires additional support in their “class bubble”, please use the email address above.

In terms of the Year 10 provision, pupils will be put into small groups, these groups will remain consistent and will be in the same classroom whenever they attend school. They will come into school in blocks of three hours and the focus will be on the core subjects- mathematics, English and science. Again, should we open for Year 10 on the 1st June, we will publish final details by 29th May with an update next week. If you have any questions about our proposed Year 10 provision, please email your child’s Head of House.

You will be aware that we are organising a video for our pupils to participate in. If you would like to involve your child then please do send any photos, videos or messages to teachers or classmates showcasing their learning by Friday 22nd May to one of the email addresses below:

For children in Year R	yearrphotos@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
For children in Discovery House (red tie)	discoveryphotos@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
For children in intrepid House (green tie)	intrepidphotos@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
For children in Victory House (yellow tie)	victoryphotos@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
For children in Endeavour House (blue tie)	endeavourphotos@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

An automated response has been set up alerting the sender that the images shared could be distributed via our social media platforms.

I appreciate that parents and carers may well be confused about who to contact if you have a question, concern or wish to pay us a compliment. So please find below some essential contact information:

Home Learning, general concerns and compliments:

Years R, 1 and 2	Head of Infants (Mrs. Jo Buck) BuckJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Years 3, 4 and 5	Head of Juniors (Miss. Jen Lewis) LewisJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Discovery House	Head of Discovery (Miss. Jo Webb) Webb@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Intrepid House	Head of Intrepid (Miss. Jess Jones) Jonesj1@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Victory House	Head of Victory (Mr. Phil Denford) DenfordP@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk
Endeavour House	Head of Endeavour (Mr. James Campbell) CampbellJ@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Safeguarding concerns or questions about supporting SEN/vulnerable pupils:

AndersE@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Accessing shopping vouchers for children eligible for “Free School Meals”:

StedmanM@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Questions or concerns around external assessments including GCSE results:

Head@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Accessing or questions about key worker school:

kws@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Questions about “bubble school”:

bubble@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

Anything else:

Hollis@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk

We are mindful that several families’ financial circumstances will have changed due to the current pandemic and that they may now be eligible for a shopping voucher. If you believe your circumstances have changed then please complete an application form on the Portsmouth City Council website by following this link:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/schools-learning-and-childcare/schools/school-meals>

Finally, I would like to wish you and your wider family good health and urge you to please contact us if you need any type of support. These are challenging times, but together, we will get through this.

Yours sincerely,

David Jeapes
Headteacher