

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you are aware, the school will be reopening from the 8th of June for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils, if the Government deem it safe to do so. There are several measures that will be implemented to support the safety of the pupils. Each child will be allocated to a group of pupils from their year groups. These groups will be approximately 10 in size and will be no larger than 15. Each group will stay together as a 'bubble'. They will have the same members of staff the whole time they are in school and each group will not be able to mix with any other group. They will only take breaks together in their groups and they will have lunch together as a group. The only member of staff they will have contact with beyond their allocated member of the teaching team is the person who supervises their break time. The older children in year 6 and to some extent the children in year 1 will be encouraged to socially distance and the furniture in the classroom will be arranged to keep them apart. The ideal distance will be 2 metres but this may not always be possible. We know that the younger children will not be able to effectively socially distance. The government have stated this in their guidance, an extract from which is shown here:

'One of the protective measures we can take to reduce transmission is to have smaller group and class sizes. We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account'

We will be keeping the group sizes below the recommended levels in school and the younger children will only mix with their group. We will be providing PPE equipment for the staff to wear when they are changing children or providing first aid. The procedures we are putting in place go beyond the government guidelines but we are also realistic about the ability to socially distance within the small groups. We will have stringent hygiene measures in place with soap and liquid sanitiser in all areas.

Drop off and pick up times will be staggered and each group of children will have their own allocated entrance to reduce contact between parents on arrival and exit from school. Only one parent will be permitted to bring their child to and from school. The first week back will have even greater staggering to allow us to support you with arrival and departure in the first instance. Nursery will return on Monday 8th. Reception will join them on Tuesday the 9th. Finally, Year 1 and Year 6 will start attending from Wednesday 10th.

Lunches will be available for children staying all day and will either be eaten in the classroom or in the hall, with only the children from their group.

Children will be provided with their own equipment to use in school, which will not be shared. This includes some electrical equipment and some play equipment. Play equipment that is shared between groups will be cleaned after every use.

Any child displaying symptoms of Covid 19 or any family that has a case of Covid 19 within it will trigger isolation for that child and all the children within the child's group as well as the staff that have had contact with that child. More detail on these procedures will be shared separately.

We are expecting to provide a full curriculum for the pupils, which will focus on Maths and English primarily. Early reading skills and phonics will be the focus for the younger pupils. There will be lessons covering the wider curriculum as well and we will also maintain a strong focus on mental wellbeing throughout.

Although we will look at how we can support the Year 6 children with their transition it is unsure how much interaction with the secondary schools will be possible or if there is any chance that the children will be able to visit their secondary schools but this may change.

I am fully aware that there are great anxieties about the children returning. There are many mixed messages with regards to safety. I fully sympathise with you all. We are prepared to reopen on June 1st but will only be doing so if the government's 5 tests are met. The choice of whether or not to send your child back is up to you and we will respect your decision. We are together as a community and that will remain the same whether that is still remotely or back in the building. The staff and myself are here to provide education and care and will continue to do so whatever your decision.

Kind regards,



Mr P Cowley
Head Teacher

School Reopening

<p>How will we socially distance the children?</p>		<p>Small groups of approximately 10 children working together with one/two members of staff as an isolated group. Each group will be in a separate room or segregated large area.</p> <p>Older children will be kept apart through room design</p> <p>It will not be possible to socially distance younger children within each group but they will not mix with other groups. Open spaces and increased hygiene will be used to protect them.</p> <p>To facilitate this not all children will be with their own class teacher. They will all be with a familiar member of staff.</p>
<p>What will happen at break time?</p>		<p>Each group will remain together. They will get regular short breaks outside throughout the day. Older children will be encouraged to play games that allow some level of distancing. Younger children will have lots of space to run around.</p> <p>Play equipment will be shared as little as possible and if it is shared, it will be cleaned between uses.</p>
<p>What other measures are in place in the classroom?</p>		<p>Older children and year 1 will be provided with their own equipment including some electrical devices where appropriate. They will not share their equipment with anyone else. There will be access to soap and sanitiser, which will be regularly used. There will be regular cleaning of surfaces. The younger children will be provided with their own whiteboards, whiteboard pens and some additional equipment such as counters.</p>
<p>What will happen at lunchtime?</p>		<p>Children will eat lunch either in the hall at a safe social distance or within their classroom. They will only do so with their group.</p>
<p>What will happen at the start and end of the school day?</p>		<p>Each group/bubble will be allocated a specific drop off and pick up time. They will also get their own specific entrance. There will be marks to allow safe queues as you drop off or pick up children. Only one parent can accompany the child to school.</p>
<p>What will they learn?</p>		<p>We will provide a proper curriculum focussing on early reading and phonics for the younger children. English, and Maths will be the primary focus for the older. There will also be wider curriculum lessons and some creative learning. Throughout the time in school there will also be a strong focus on mental wellbeing.</p>
<p>What happens if a member of staff or a pupil gets Covid 19?</p>		<p>There will be additional guidance provided on this. The basic answer is that the group/bubble that the staff member or pupil is part of will be asked to self isolate. Clear and detailed guidance on this will follow.</p>