

2nd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

WIDER OPENING FOR CHILDREN IN NURSERY, RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 6

Parents in these year groups who answered **YES TO RETURNING** in survey

As you are already aware, as part of the wider school opening in England, we will be opening our school on Monday 8th June to Nursery, Reception (alternate weeks for each Reception Class), Year 1 and Year 6 children. Last week we sent out a survey and parents were asked to make a decision as to whether they wanted their child to return to school. **You are receiving this letter as you confirmed your intention to send your child back to school.**

The majority of our parents in each of these Years groups apart from Nursery, have decided to send their children back to school. These year groups are in addition to the large number of Key Worker children who have been accessing school daily since the lockdown and school closure in March, and I myself am looking forward to having more children back in school. As we now have a large number of children returning to school, we have put all the children returning into smaller Bubble groups (as advised by the Government) as most classrooms can only fit 9 -11 children comfortably within the 2m distancing rules. With all the staff in school now allocated, these Bubble groups will remain until guidance changes.

We have worked hard over the last two weeks preparing school for a safe opening in line with all the guidance provided by the DfE, Health & Safety, Public Health and Blackpool Authority with further scrutiny from the various teaching and support staff unions. Our Governing Body has been involved in approving the Risk Assessment (s) and opening action plan, which were then sent off for approval by the local authority. As these have now been officially approved and following an on-site visit by H&S to our school today, we are now in a position to welcome our children back to school on the 8th June.

As we have now allocated all our staff to these smaller Bubbles (14 Bubbles in total), we have very little capacity now to increase our numbers further. The issue is more to do with room size and space rather than staffing ratios. For this reason, we have decided to alternate weeks for our reception classes returning as we wanted to avoid using unfamiliar classrooms, toilets etc. The main reason as we see it to bring Reception children back at this stage is to get them back into familiar routines ahead of September, not introduce new ones. One of our largest Key Worker groups is our reception group so they will use the Reception shared area as a permanent base from the 8th June.

Therefore, the weeks allocated to our reception classes (**not Reception Key Worker children who are weekly**) are as follows:

- Mrs Rooney's Bubble Group (R1) come to school week beginning 8th June, 22nd June, 6th July
- Mrs Mahoney's Bubble Group (R2) come to school week beginning 15th June, 29th June, 13th July

Children in Nursery, Year 1 and in Year 6 as well as our Key Worker children will come into school each day from the 8th June.



May I now draw your attention to the following important points:

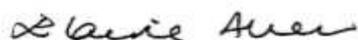
- From Monday 8th June, **you will be required to send your child into school in summer school uniform.** Our summer uniform list is on our school website. Ties are not worn in the summer term, so a white polo or white cotton shirt for boys is appropriate and girls can look forward to wearing their summer dresses. Please do NOT use the summer dress play suits as they cause our younger children in particular, countless problems in terms of cleanliness.
- To support cleanliness and reduce contact risks, it is important to continue to try and wash clothes daily.
- **No bags will need to be brought to school.** Packed lunch boxes can be brought in but these will be kept on/under your child's desk. Therefore, please do not send in a rucksack style packed lunch as these are proving to take up too much room as cloakrooms are not in use.
- In this hot weather, please put sun-cream on your child. A sun hat would be useful.
- Children eligible for a free lunch will have a Packed Lunch provided as we are not providing cooked dinners until social distancing rules change. If you still wish to pay for a meal you can do so but a packed lunch will be produced by the kitchen with a limited choice.
- For Year 6 children who normally bring a phone to school, **these will be handed into a box kept by your class teacher and NOT the school office.** These will be wiped down (disinfected) and returned at the end of the day.
- **You will be notified of the name of your child's Bubble Group in a text in the next 24 hours.**
- **It is important that only ONE PARENT brings/collects their child to and from school to limit the number of people on the streets around school.** We also ask that all parents abide by the governments strict 2m social distancing guidance at all times.
- Year Group Bubbles will arrive and leave at the following entrances:
 - Nursery Bubble (N) will arrive and leave from the Nursery entrance. Arrive at 8.50 am and leave at 3.15pm.
 - Reception Bubbles (R1 and R2 alternating), not Reception Key Worker children, will arrive and leave from the Reception classroom doors (enter from the Park Road gate, which will allow social distancing on the back playground/field). Arrive at 8.40am and leave at 3pm.
 - Year 1 Bubbles (1A, 1B, 1C and 1D) will arrive and leave from the Year 1 and Year 2 classroom doors (enter from the Park Road gate, which will allow social distancing on the back playground/field). Arrive at 8.50am prompt to line up with teachers on the playground and leave at 3.10pm. Please stand well back from the classroom doors near the edge of the playground to allow teachers to bring out the children in lines and then dismiss from the line.
 - Year 6 Bubbles (6A, 6B and 6C) will arrive and leave from the gate near the school main entrance (to the left of the school office). 6A arrive at 8.20am and leave at 2.40pm. 6B and 6C arrive at 8.30am and leave at 2.50pm.

IT IS VITAL THAT YOU AIM FOR THE EXACT TIMES TO HELP US IMPLEMENT OUR RISK ASSESSMENT FOR AVOIDING ANY CROWDING OF PARENTS/CHILDREN AT ENTRANCES.

By using all our entrances around school, this will also minimize crowding.

Please can I finally add that as we are preparing our children to engage fully back into a school routine, **full attendance is encouraged.** Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Elaine Allen

Headteacher



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