



12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday evening schools received more detailed guidance on how we should reopen for certain year groups. Over the next week we will be working hard to put together a personalised plan for our school which will be communicated to you as soon as is possible. However, I wanted to share with you what we do now know about the practicalities of reopening from June 1st.

### **Which children will return and what will this look like?**

- Children in our preschool, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will return to school. School will not be open to siblings if they are in different year groups.
- The children will be in smaller 'groups' or 'classes' of no more than 15 children in one group.
- Each group will have at least one adult, ideally a teacher (not necessarily the child's current teacher) and perhaps additional teaching assistants if staffing permits.
- Each group will remain consistent – children will not swap or change groups.
- Children may not be asked to attend every day or every session.
- The timings of the school day may change to accommodate social distancing measures.
- Classroom layouts will be changed to enable social distancing.
- Movement around school will be limited and corridors will be one way.
- Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered for each group.

### **What will the curriculum look like?**

- The government have advised the curriculum will be flexible to suit needs of the children.
- Physical health, Mental health and wellbeing will be at the forefront of our curriculum.
- Schools will take into account what the children now need to learn with regards to our current curriculum and plan to teach this accordingly.
- Schools will take into account the need to transition children either to a new year group in the school or into secondary school. Activities will be planned accordingly.





## **What about the childcare and learning schools are currently providing, will this stop?**

- Provision that has been open in schools (for children whose parents are Key workers, children who have a social worker and children with EHCPs) will continue to be provided after June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- This provision may be adapted, in terms of location or size of group.
- Home learning will continue to be provided for those children not at school. Again, this may be adapted in light of the above changes.

## **What will happen to ensure the school is a safe place to be?**

- A thorough Risk Assessment will be implemented.
- If a child or adult shows symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent home and will self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days.
- Testing is currently available for education staff who become ill with symptoms and as schools reopen, tests will be available for children who display symptoms and for members of their household.
- If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, all children and staff in the 'same group' as them and will be sent home and should self-isolate for 14 days.
- School will continue education for children around hand washing (regular hand washing will take place) and 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it'.
- There will be increased cleaning of frequently used objects/equipment/furniture (e.g. door handles/dinner tables/desks).
- Children and parents are encouraged to walk or cycle to school and public transport should be avoided at peak times.
- Drop off and collection times will be staggered for parents. There will be clear direction as to how to drop off and collect your child which may look different to the normal routine.
- If a child is being brought to school, only one parent must accompany the child.
- Parents will be unable to congregate just outside school, in the playground or at gates.
- Parents will be unable to enter the site, unless previously arranged for an exceptional circumstance.



## Does my child have to attend?

- The government 'strongly advise' parents to send their children to school if they are in Preschool, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6.
- No fines will be given if parents do not send their child to school but parents must let the school know, as usual, if their child is not attending for any amount of time.
- If your child is in the 'clinically extremely vulnerable' group, they should be shielding and should not attend. Please see link to this list of 'clinically extremely vulnerable' -  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>
- If your child is in the 'clinically vulnerable' group parents should seek medical advice as to whether their child should attend school. Please liaise with school when advice has been sought and a decision has been made.
- If your child lives with someone that is shielding (see first link), they should only attend school if they can strictly follow social distancing rules.
- If your child lives with someone that is on the 'clinically vulnerable' list, they can attend school. Please see link to list of 'clinically vulnerable' -  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/full-guidance-on-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others/full-guidance-on-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others>

We understand that the above guidance may pose further questions for your child and family's personal circumstances. We would ask that you await our specific school guidance to be shared, which may answer your questions, before contacting the school office. If you have any concerns about whether or not your child should attend school for health reasons, we suggest you contact your GP or the school nursing team for advice.

You have all worked brilliantly in partnership with us in these strange and unprecedented times. We know that this will continue as we move into this next phase. Your continued support is appreciated. Take care, stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Stalham

