



21st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, school is planning to reopen to eligible year groups **from** Monday 1st June. This letter contains the dates and times for your child's return and all of other important information that you will need to know.

You have been sent this letter because you have a child in one of the following eligible groups - Year F, Year 1, Year 6 or the Key Worker group and you have expressed a desire for your child to return to school.

The days your child's class/group will be attending can be seen in the table below:

Mondays and Tuesdays <i>only</i> from Monday 1st June to Tuesday 7th July Newton Class, Raleigh Class and Da Vinci Class Darwin Class
Thursdays and Fridays <i>only</i> from Thursday 4th June to Friday 10th July Picasso Class, Teresa Class and Hockney Class Ali Class
Monday to Friday from Monday 1st June to Friday 10th July Key Worker Group

How are you planning on organising the classrooms so that safety measures can be put in place?

The classrooms in Year One and Year Six have been cleared of all unnecessary furniture and equipment including soft furnishings, which are hard to clean. Tables have been set with a clear 2 metres of space around them for 1 child to sit at. This has reduced the number of tables in each area to the required number. These areas will house our 'bubbles' and your child will be taught in one of these areas within a bubble comprising of two members of staff and some of their peers. Social distancing measures will be applied in the bubbles as well as around school.

In Foundation Stage we have removed some furniture and toys that are hard to keep clean and will encourage social distancing as much as possible by using coloured activity spots on the carpet. However, we are mindful that social distancing will be much harder due to the age of the children.

How do the 'bubbles' work?

Children in the same year group will be assigned a class 'bubble'. Children will remain in that bubble for the duration of the school day and interaction will only be with the staff and children allocated to that bubble. We won't be organising any activities that bring bubbles together.

Will my child be able to play with their friends?

Social distancing measures will continue to be applied in school and children will only be able to have distanced interaction with children in their bubble. We have discovered how creative our children can be with developing games during playtimes that respect the social distancing measures that will be expected and continually reinforced in school.

Will my child be taught by their class teacher?

Yes, where possible, we have managed to staff our bubbles with class teachers and teaching assistants that know your child really well. As a school, we feel that this is really important for your child's return to school and for their emotional well-being. Like the children, staff will be allocated to one bubble only.

Will the school's start and finish time be the same?

No. Children will arrive at school in the morning and be picked up in the afternoon at specified times. This is to minimise the number of people on the site at any one time.

Foundation will enter and exit through the front door. Drop off will be at 9.00am and pick up will be at 3.15pm. **Please adhere to the specified times to ensure there is no congestion outside school.**

Year One will enter and exit via the gates on the bottom playground. The staff will be waiting to meet and greet and the children will be expected to line up on the socially distanced circles. Drop off will be at 8.45am and pick up will be at 3.00pm.

Year Six will enter and exit via the gates on the bottom playground. The staff will be waiting to meet and greet and the children will be expected to line up on the socially distanced circles. Drop off will be at 8.45am and pick up will be at 3.00pm.

The **Key Worker Group** will continue to be based in the hall **but** will enter and exit via the single gate which opens onto St Mary's Car Park. Drop off will be 9.00am and pick up will be at 3.15pm. If you arrive earlier to pick your child up, please contact Reception and your child will be brought to the front gate by a member of staff.

Please try to send children to school with one adult to drop off and pick up at the allocated time. You should only bring siblings if you absolutely have no alternative option. If you do need to bring siblings they will need to be by your side and adhering to the social distancing measures we have put into place. At the beginning and end of the day, please adhere to the social distancing signs and children will be sent to you one at a time.

Can parents come into school to drop off and pick up?

Parents will not be able to enter the school grounds and we encourage communication via telephone or email. All children will be collected by staff from the school playground. We expect everyone approaching the school grounds to respect the social distancing measures in place and there will be signs reminding everyone to retain a 2m distance.

What happens at lunch times?

Lunch times will be staggered so 'bubbles' will have lunch at slightly different times. Children will stay in their 'bubbles' and be supervised by an allocated staff member. Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms or outside if the weather is fine.



Can my child have a hot dinner?

Yes, we will be providing hot meals although there will only be two choices instead of the usual four. If you have been in receipt of FSM vouchers during school closure organised by Mrs Makepeace, then you must provide a packed lunch for your child to ensure that you can continue to receive your vouchers. Mrs Makepeace will contact you tomorrow to confirm this. All children in Year 6 may bring in a packed lunch or pay for a school meal. Children in Foundation Stage and Year 1 are entitled to Universal Free School meals as normal. Packed lunches must be in disposable bags that can be thrown away after lunch.

Will staff be wearing PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)?

The guidance states that is not necessary for staff to wear masks, gloves and aprons unless carrying out activities that would normally require the use of PPE or if a child is sick or becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while at school and needs supervision until they can return home. However, if staff choose to wear masks for their own protection they will not be discouraged.

What if my child falls over or has a toileting accident?

If your child falls over they will be encouraged to clean their scrape or cut, supported by an adult. We have sourced PPE which is for use only for staff protection such as child vomit not for trips, falls or scrapes. Your child will need to be as independent as possible with toileting. If your child usually needs adult assistance for toileting or intimate care such as toilet accidents and wiping, please be aware that we may be unable to provide this and may need to contact you to collect them.

If a child is hurt/upset will an adult be able to comfort them?

This is a difficult one, in short the answer - if we are following the guidelines - is no. Having said this, nurturing children is in our nature so we would not want to see any child distressed and would respond to individual needs as safely as possible.

If my child can't cope can we withdraw them?

Absolutely! Children's welfare will be our primary concern and we will be working hard to support them. We will communicate any concerns that we have about your child with you and should you wish to withdraw them we will fully respect your decision.

Does my child have to wear a school uniform?

We expect the children to come in clean school uniform each day and black school shoes. They will not need to bring their PE kit to school.

What does my child need to bring into school?

Your child will need to bring a named water bottle everyday which can be taken home at night and refilled. They must not bring their school bag. Your child will have their own set of equipment on their tables. In Year One and Year Six we will be providing the children with their own pencil cases. Year Six may bring their mobile phones to school if absolutely necessary but these are brought in at your child's own risk. They will not be locked away as normal. Due to safeguarding, they must not be used whilst on the school site.

If Year One and Six wish to come to school on their bikes or scooters, these will be housed in an allocated space on the school playground. **They must not** be put in the bike lockers in front of the hall.

Will key worker children still have a group of their own?

If you are a key worker family your child will be based in the hall. Our key worker children cannot mix between their class bubble and the key worker bubble. Families will have chosen which bubble they want their child to be in. Key worker children will have playtime and lunch-time arrangements of their own.

How else will you keep the children safe?

Handwashing will be done regularly including at every transition. The children will only use the toilets allocated for their Year group and we will be limiting the numbers allowed in at any one time. The classrooms will be well ventilated with the windows open. Doors will be propped open where safe to do so to minimise repeated touching of handles. School will be thoroughly cleaned every Wednesday as well as normal cleaning practices at the end of the school day. Tables, other surfaces and door handles will be wiped daily. Staff will be implementing one way systems in classrooms where possible. Following government guidelines any child showing coronavirus symptoms will be isolated until they are collected from school. If they should test positive then their entire bubble of staff and children will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

Providing the Government's '5 Key Tests' are met on Thursday 28th May we look forward to welcoming your child back to school **from** 1st June. Should there be any Government changes which alter this plan we will contact you by text message on Friday 29th May with an update.

If you have any queries about this letter, someone will be available in the school office to answer your calls tomorrow.

Yours sincerely



Mrs R Ayres
Head Teacher