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"Be the best that you can be"

20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Government announcement that key year groups can return to school from June, we have been busy seeking views, carrying out risk assessments and planning the viability of this. As I am sure you can imagine we need to make a significant amount of changes to accommodate children in a way that fulfils the Government guidelines. Currently this affects Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

We do not wish to rush this process, as we want to make sure systems are as safe as they can be for children and staff. The majority of parents I have been in touch with, also feel they need more time to judge the current Covid situation, both locally and Nationally. Hopefully as the weeks progress we will all feel more reassured.

With this in mind we are using half term to deep clean the school, as advised by the Department for Education. We will then use the week commencing June 1st to trial new systems with our Key Worker children and to provide time for rooms to be reorganised and staff to be trained ready for some classes to return.

Our aim then is to invite Year 6 pupils back into school from Monday 8th June. If this is working well then Nursery and Reception will be invited back from Monday 15th June and Year 1 from Monday 22nd June. We have started with the older children as they have best chance of understanding and following safety procedures. We will be continually risk assessing this situation and if we are in any doubt regarding safety we will not receive your children. There is no expectation that you have to send your children to school, decisions about their safety are ultimately yours. We will do all we could to make sure that any children who return enjoy school, whilst keeping them as safe as possible. Staff will always provide any emotional support your child needs.

As social distancing is accepted as practically impossible in schools, the main safety measure we are putting in place is the creation of 'bubble' communities as outlined by the Government. We will be creating these and calling them Pods. Each Pod will have two members of staff and a maximum of 15 children. These will not change unless staff are absent and cover is needed.

We are trying to make sure familiar adults lead the Pods, but this cannot always be the class teacher. We are expecting a maximum of half of the children will want to return and have planned accordingly. We will limit our numbers and adhere to the Government maximum of 15. Registers will be collated one week before each Year group is due to attend and a member of the leadership team will be in touch to ask whether you require a place.

The school day may vary slightly as collection and drop off times will be staggered. The Pods for key Year Groups will be Monday to Thursday. The staff will need Fridays to review and set Home Learning and to take their legal requirement of planning time. This cannot be covered by other staff as changes to adults must only be in an emergency e.g. to provide cover for absence.

The Pod will be in a set room, with a set outdoor area. Resources will be reduced and cleaned regularly and or used on a Rota with enough time in between uses that the virus cannot survive. We will be reducing soft toys and items. All surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day and bins emptied regularly. Movement around the school will be limited. Lunch will be brought to the classroom.



Also to ensure safety we will be teaching and monitoring good hygiene including hand washing, sanitizing and the use of tissues. We will spread the children and activities out as much as possible and limit activities where people face each other.

The system for the children of Key Workers and other children offered childcare places will continue as it is with bookings made via the office. There will eventually be a small group of Year 2 and Year 3 children and a small group of Year 4 and year 5 children. The staff will continue to work on Rota to provide this care.

All Stars is open and we will be doing all we can to keep Pods together and to limit the mixing of children from Pods. Bookings are made using Arbor, If you have any questions please contact Gemma 07543221208.

Important Points for Parents and Carers:

- Your child can't attend if they or someone at home is vulnerable or shielding.
- Your child can't attend if they or anyone at home has corona virus symptoms – you must isolate following the National guidance and not enter our premises.
- If your child is at all unwell you should not send them to school.
- We will be scheduling staggered start and end times. Only one person should bring children to school and collect them. You must keep your distance from other families and not gather anywhere.
- Please don't arrive or allow Year 6 to arrive more than a couple of minutes before start time.
- Call or email the office rather than come into school. If it is absolutely necessary for you to come into school it must be agreed by a member of staff and only one person should attend.
- Children do not need to wear their school uniform. It is more important that they have clean clothes each day.
- Children will have lunch in their Pod room. If they are entitled to a free school meal, this will be provided. If not you can purchase a cooked meal or send a packed lunch. See attached interim menu and please note there is only one option: sandwiches or other alternatives, such as jacket potatoes will not be provided.
- If your child becomes ill, we will isolate them from other children and call you. You will be expected to arrange collection as soon as possible.
- First Aid and intimate care will continue as before and staff will use appropriate PPE at these times.
- We cannot apply sun cream so on sunny days please make sure you apply it before school and children bring a sun hat.
- Every child must have their own, named water bottle in school every day. They will need to bring these home for washing every night. We cannot provide cups and will call home if you don't send this in as it is vital.
- Children should limit what they bring to school. We will provide all the resources and equipment they need. They will have their own person set of stationery.
- We will not be able to send reading books or any other resources home.
- Across all year groups work will focus on PSHE through the Jig-saw programme and other resources as we want to support the children with their feelings and emotions. Maths and English, including phonics/SPAG will be taught daily. Other curriculum areas will be covered too such as art and science.
- Year 6 will also be focusing on transition bridging gaps in learning and discussions around preparing for high school. They are unable to do the usual things like prom, assemblies and a play, but we will organise an event when it is safe to do so. I am think a family BBQ in the autumn term.

We all need to keep in mind that the Government may change their plans for schools at any time. The Local Authority or Governing Board may also change or halt plans if there are concerns around safety. I will be in touch if this is the case. I hope you are all keeping well and coping with this ongoing situation.

Yours faithfully

Pam Keen

