

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear all Parents,

Following on from my letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, I am writing to update you on the finer details. Again, first and foremost, our highest priority is to maintain the safety and wellbeing of the children, families and staff; and all aspects of our offer have been risk assessed and are based on this.

This link will take you to the guide for parents and carers, for the re-opening of schools on 1<sup>st</sup> June:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

The Government says:

Primary age children (particularly Y1 and YR) cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff all the time. The younger children will be able to play together and alongside each other through carefully planned activities and equipment. The measures we have put in place reflect this for example, playing games with their own allocated equipment such as a ball, their own playdough and playing with the water one child at a time, after which the water replenished etc. Each Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 child will have their own home seat – a table and chair which is 2 metres apart, and if the children are invited to sit on the carpet for a story, this too will also be with social distancing as much as we are able to. It is still important to reduce contact between people as much as possible, so children, young people and staff where possible, should only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group should stay away from other people and groups. If you can keep older children within those small groups 2 metres away from each other, you should do so. While in general groups should be kept apart, brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor, is low risk.

### **CHANGES TO ROUTINE**

- We are currently amending the behaviour policy to reflect the coronavirus protocols.
- We continue to promote our LIVE, LEARN and FLOURISH vision and positive reinforcement so our new rules will reflect observing hygiene and social distancing.
- The children will not be expected to bring anything in to school apart from their packed lunch (if they are not having a school packed lunch), drink and snacks. Please put these into a bag. The lunch box should be a box that can be washed out every day.
- Please do not bring anything extra in, such as pencil cases, books, from home etc. We will be providing individual resources in school for their use only.
- Caterlink will be providing packed lunches. Reception and Year 1 will receive their Universal Free-School meal. Year 6s can order a packed lunch in the usual way. Children can receive their Traditional Free-School Meal also either through a voucher or packed lunch if they attend school. If you receive a voucher for Traditional Free School meals and are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6, AND are attending school, then please provide a packed lunch.

- The length of the school lunchtime has been reduced due to staggering lunches, the staff available and more time has been created outside throughout the day.
- We are asking all children to bring in a **named water bottle**.
- Please bring a couple of healthy snacks for each day.
- We will not be sending anything home as sharing of resources is discouraged.
- **School uniform** – the guidance says there is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothes following a day in school therefore following this guidance we are **not** expecting children to wear school uniform (although they can if you so wish) but to wear sensible clothes that are then washed every day. This could be a pair of leggings, t-shirt and a jumper, with sensible shoes (trainers are ok during this time) that they can run about safely in. No necklaces, bracelets or watches, jeans or Crocs.
- There may be groups that have staff that do not usually teach them, but we are a small school and fortunately the children know the staff and vice versa – see the chart below.
- Some staff will be working from home to support the families that have children at home – see the chart below.

### **THE LOGISTICS!**

To reduce contact between different groups of children and adults to minimise transmission of the virus, will be minimising contact and mixing:

| <b>Group</b><br><i>We will contact you with groupings once the government has confirmed re-opening</i> | <b>Room</b>                     | <b>Staffing</b>   | <b>Allocated drop off time</b><br><i>Please be punctual and only one parent</i> | <b>Pick up time</b><br><i>Please be punctual and only one parent</i> | <b>Drop off and pick up points</b><br><i>Please look at the drop off points below to help you consider where to park in/around Uley</i>   |
|--|---------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Reception group A<br>Monday to Thursday  | Class 1 and outside area        | Sara Delrosa<br>Monday<br>Katharine Grace<br>Tuesday - Friday | 8.50 – 9am  | 3pm  | Through the bottom playground gate and in through the main infant gate (where the children usually come out)<br><i>Walk up the footpath from South Street (next to The Knoll)</i> |
| Year 1 group A<br>Monday to Thursday   | Class 2                         | Rosie Dean<br>Debbie Brazier                                  | 8.50 – 9am  | 3pm  | Through the double green gates and main school entrance<br><i>Walk up the footpath from South Street (next to The Knoll)</i>  |
| Year 1 group B<br>Monday to Thursday   | Class 3                         | Jennifer Bingham  | 9.10 – 9.20am   | 3.15pm   | Through the double green gates and main school entrance<br><i>Walk up the footpath from South Street (next to The Knoll)</i>  |
| Year 6 group A<br>Monday to Thursday   | Class 4                         | Lizzie Walker   | 8.50 – 9am  | 3pm  | Through the gate (Compound Playground) and in through the hall door<br><i>Walking up/down Woodstock Terrace – please keep to the left</i>   |
| Year 6 group B<br>Monday to Thursday   | Top of the hall next to Class 4 | Philippa Nash   | 9.10 – 9.20am   | 3.15pm   | Through the gate (Compound Playground) and in through the hall door<br><i>Walking up/down Woodstock Terrace – please keep to the left</i>   |

**Monday – Thursday** – hours as above depending on which group children have been placed. Children of critical workers and vulnerable will be placed between these groups.

**Fridays are closed to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.**

Any children of critical workers attending school on a Friday will be in the Library and lower end of the hall - hours depending on numbers of children and staff – TBC.

Please no requests to negotiate changes in groups –we will consider class context, friendships, and social and emotional needs along with the number of children returning.

- If the planned re-opening of schools goes ahead on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June (updates are planned for the 28<sup>th</sup> May if not before and, as always, schools will hear at the same time), we have planned a short phased return. **Once the re-opening of schools has been undoubtedly confirmed, (we anticipate Thursday), then the groupings will be sent out.**
- **Monday (1<sup>st</sup>)** we will ask Reception and Year 1 Group A to return, and **Tuesday (2<sup>nd</sup>)** Year 1 Group B and Year 6. This is to ensure that the plans we are intending to implement are robust and maintain a high-level of safety.
- **Wednesday (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Thursday (4<sup>th</sup>)** – all Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children to return to school at allotted times.
- As you will see the school week for the year groups YR, Y1 and Y6 is **Monday to Thursday** unless the children are classed as children of critical workers (documentation can be found on the front page of the school website).
- **Fridays** (closed to Reception, Year and Year 6) will be a day allocated to support the wellbeing and home learning of the families who remain at home (as well as some support throughout the week), for some teaching staff to have their PPA entitlement (planning preparation and assessment), for some staff to remain in school for children of critical workers, and for staff to thoroughly clean equipment and spaces in preparation for the following week.
- **Walking to and from school.** We are mindful that returning to school will bring extra people in to the Uley community. We would like to remind everyone of the 2 metres social distancing expectation. We recommend a one way system when using the footpaths (to arrive at school via the South Street entrance, next to the Knoll, and to walk down the footpath next to the field). If using Woodstock Terrace, to please keep to the left.
- Some school staff will be shielding therefore have been signed different roles.
- Each group will have an allocated space on the playground.
- The use of the field will be limited to a number of groups with space in-between or one group out at a time.
- Playtimes and lunchtime will be staggered.
- There will be signs outside to guide parents to where/when to drop off/collect the children and signage reminding us all about keeping 2 metres apart.
- There will be a queuing system when dropping and collecting the children.
- There will be markings on the playground for guidance of where to stand.
- Once the parents have dropped the children off, they should leave the school premises straight away.
- Parents will not be able to enter the school.
- Parent and visitors will need to pre-arrange an appointment to enter to the school.
- Parents will need to say goodbye in the school playground. The older children may be able to walk in to the playground by themselves.
- If a child is upset we will do all we can to reassure and give the care, nurture and support we possibly can. We can phone you to keep you informed.
- If a child is so upset that they need extra support, we will ask you to step to one side to enable the other children to come in first.
- No teddies or comforters can be brought to school.
- We ask you to consider the safety of the residents around the school and to observe social distancing in and around the community at drop off and pick up times.
- Uley School has planned for the maximum number of children returning in each group. We understand that parents may be waiting to hear from the government regarding coronavirus updates and the 'R' rating, therefore we are unable to definitely say how many children will be returning – this is a personal parental decision. We are also mindful that some children may return to school and find the environment and procedures unsettling and that some families may change their minds over time. The children will be unable to move between groups once the groups have

been established. Please be mindful that groups may have to be re-adjusted over the first couple of days due to the number of children returning.

As you can see from the lists above, the school day will not be the school day that we are used to but we will do all we can to reassure the children, to keep them engaged and to keep them safe and happy.

## **LEARNING IN SCHOOL AND FOR CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL**

What the government says:

- Education settings still have the flexibility to provide support and education to children and young people attending school in the way they see fit during this time.
- Schools and colleges continue to be best placed to make decisions about how to support and educate all their pupils during this period, based on the local context and staff capacity.

With all of this in mind and the consideration of the staff we have available for face to face provision and staff to support home learning, we have come up with our offer of continuing with the activity webs in and out of school.

The activity webs in school will be adapted to suit the learning environment and our priority in the first instance will be to focus on settling the children (and staff!) in to a very different situation; learning about the coronavirus routines in school and considering the children's mental health and wellbeing.

For children at home, the cycle of circulating the activity webs and resources on a Friday afternoon, will continue. Staff have been deployed to check Years 2, 3, 4 and 5s emails but please be mindful that although we will aim to retain the level of communication this may be a challenge. Friday mornings (as mentioned above) will really help to give some time to supporting and answering any questions that have not been answered by the staff already deployed. Please also keep emailing your wonderful photos and celebrations of the children's work to school. We will not be able to print and send out any resources at this time.

Please see below a staff communication tree and the roles allocated so far (subject to change depending on circumstances)

| <b>Member of Staff</b>       | <b>In School Learning Support</b>  | <b>Who will be planning?</b>                      | <b>Home Learning Support</b>  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Sara Delrosa                 | Class 1 Monday Reception           | Responsible for planning for Reception and Year 1 | Checking emails for Class 3 – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 1.15 and 3.15pm   |
| Katharine Grace              | Class 1 Tuesday – Friday Reception | Responsible for planning for Reception and Year 1 | Friday am - available to communicate with Class 1 parents for any questions that cannot be answered by Abby Spain   |
| Abby Spain                   |                                    | Responsible for planning for Year 2               | Checking emails for Classes 1, 2 and 3 across the week  |
| Debbie Brazier<br>Rosie Dean | Class 2 Year 1                     |   |   |
| Jennifer Bingham             | Class 3 Year 1                     | Responsible for planning for Year 3 and 4         | Friday am - available to communicate with Class 3 parents for any questions that cannot be answered by Abby Spain or Sara Delrosa   |
| Lizzie Walker                | Class 4 Year 6                     | Responsible for planning for Years 5 and 6        | Tina Pugh and Bonny Dance checking emails for Class 4 through the week<br>Friday am- available to communicate with Class 4 parents for any questions that cannot be answered by Tina Pugh and Bonny Dance |

|   |                                     |  |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Philippa Nash                                   | Class 4 Year 6                      |  |  |
| Carole White                                    | Lunchtime support                   |  |  |
| Liz Trotman                                     | Lunchtime support<br>Welfare checks |  |  |
| Lisa Hills/Zoe<br>Mandeville/Carol<br>Cornelius | Welfare checks                      |  |  |

For children remaining at home, there also continues to be a range of support packages.

**Help primary school children continue their education during coronavirus (COVID-19):**

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19?utm\\_source=41daaba4-0e53-4fa4-a853-0bc2234f363f&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19?utm_source=41daaba4-0e53-4fa4-a853-0bc2234f363f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

**Keeping children safe online:**

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

**Lists of Online Educational Resources:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

**Maths Resources**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education#maths-primary>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Half term is approaching, week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> May, and we would suggest the children have a well-earned rest. As with the routine over the Easter break, communication with classes will be reduced with school staff checking periodically for any welfare concerns as we will also be preparing for the potential opening on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Carol and I can be contacted through the usual email address [admin@uley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@uley.gloucs.sch.uk).

These are forever changing circumstances and the school plan depends on the number of children returning, therefore these plans can alter at any time, particularly during the first week if/when we return.

During next week, you can expect updates from school in response to Government updates, so I will be in touch!

Keep safe and keep well.

Best wishes,

Zoe Mandeville