

3 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19: UPDATE 03.07.2020

Arrangements for extending wider school opening to Y6 pupils from 6 July 2020

Thank you to everyone for returning their responses so quickly, it is much appreciated.

Please note that if you have not informed us that you are intending to bring your child in to school at this stage, we have not allocated a place for your child for the rest of this term.

We have now allocated the children into two groups. We are offering children in Group 1 a place on a Monday and Tuesday and Group 2 a place on Thursday and Friday.

You will be notified by text as to which group your child is in and therefore the days that they are invited to attend following this email.

Any Year 6 pupils whose parents are classified as Critical/Key Workers. These children will continue to be in the demountable with Miss Davies and Mrs Titley (Yellow 'bubble').

Other Year 6 pupils who are in Group 1 or Group 2. These children will be in Oak Class with Miss McGrath and Mrs Holm (Blue 'bubble').

As a reminder please see below some of the information that was sent out in a previous letter regarding wider re-opening.

Maintaining a safe school environment

Be assured that we are doing all that we can to mitigate any risk and to make the school as safe as is possible for children and staff. **Please note however that we can only minimise the risk of Covid-19 in our setting through careful risk assessment and management but cannot eliminate the risk. If you choose for your child to return to our setting, it must be understood that you will be indicating your acceptance of this risk.**

As per the advice from the government, the following actions for infection control are in place:

- Staff have been allocated to each group of children or 'bubble'. The staff will only come into contact with the children in their own 'bubble'. This will limit the number of people each group come into contact with throughout the day. Please note that this includes lunchtime and playtimes.

- Encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds using water and soap in the following circumstances:
 - Before leaving home
 - On arrival at school
 - After using the toilet
 - Before and after breaks and sporting activities
 - Before food preparation
 - Before eating any food, including snacks
 - Before leaving school
- Providing adequate soap and paper towels in the toilet areas and ensuring hand sanitiser dispensers are available in each 'bubble'.
- Ensuring pupils and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue away. Providing adequate supplies of tissues and lidded bins throughout the school including in each 'bubble'.
- The water fountain is not in use; all pupils attending **must come to school with a named water bottle**.
- Child **must** wear own clothes and **not school uniform**. All clothes should be washed as soon as your child returns home from school and clean clothes **are required** each day.
- Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual, including throughout the school day.
- Calling NHS 111 if someone becomes unwell, isolating any unwell people in a separate room, and providing a separate toilet, where possible.

As an important part of our school community, I would ask that you continue to encourage good infection control practices at home, such as thorough handwashing, and keep your child informed about the things they can do to discourage the spread of infection.

As per the current NHS and government advice, you should keep your child at home if they develop coronavirus symptoms for a period of seven days. Symptoms include a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and/or loss of smell or taste. Where symptoms continue after seven days, or begin to worsen, you should call NHS 111. If someone in your child's household has symptoms, your child must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the other person's symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear. More information regarding symptoms and actions can be found on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/condition/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Please ensure that you check your child's temperature before school and **DO NOT** under any circumstances bring them to school if it is high or they are displaying any other Covid-19 symptoms. If your child becomes ill at school, they will be isolated, and you will be requested to collect them immediately. They will be looked after by one of the adults from their 'bubble', (wearing PPE) until they are collected. If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, please contact the school at the earliest opportunity.

Classrooms

All class bases have been organised so that each child will have their own desk, spaced at 2m intervals. This is for all age ranges, **including** the younger children. All the equipment for the day will be in a clear bag or clear pencil case and placed in a box on their desk. They will have their lunchbox and water bottle in their box or tray. Doors will be wedged open to reduce contact points on things like door handles and push plates.

Social distancing

Given the nature of young children, we cannot guarantee that all children will stay socially distanced from each other throughout the school day. Through control measures such as the seating arrangements in the classrooms, line markings and carpet spots, we will be endeavouring to limit children's close contact with each other. **When making the decision about returning to school you should be mindful that children may not always keep 2m apart when moving around classrooms and playing with equipment.**

Arrangements for the start and end of the school day

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults congregating together in one place, and maintaining safe distances within normal arrangements can be a challenge. We have planned the following measures for when pupils return to school:

- Each Year group or 'bubble' will enter the school in the mornings and enter through the classroom doors that they are based in.
- We are operating staggered arrival and departure times for different groups of children.

The following is explicitly for Year 6 returning from 6 July 2020.

Arrival:

- ❖ Children in Year 6 (Blue 'bubble') should **arrive at 9.00 am**

- All children **must be accompanied to school by an adult** with only **one parent** accompanying their child. Parents and children can access school via the pedestrian gate at the front of the school, next to the main gate to the carpark and across the cordoned section of the front path. Children will need to enter by the side green next to Fir Class base. Parents **must** heed social distancing whilst waiting to access school and will not be allowed within the perimeter of the green fence boundary. Staff will be outside at the beginning of the day to act as marshals at the front of the school and to guide children from their entry point to their class base entrance, monitoring pupil flow and social distancing. Please note that your child will need to say goodbye to you at their entry point and separate independently from you to enter the school on their own at a 2m safe distance. The one-way system is clearly signposted for you to follow with arrows, flags, and notices. Once you have said good-bye to your child you will need to exit the one-way system via the side green gate to the path that leads to the Village Hall. Please note that no bikes or scooters should be left on the school site during the day. These will need to be taken home by the parent accompanying your child after drop-off in the morning.

Collection:

- All children **must be accompanied from school by an adult** with only **one parent** accompanying their child.
 - The responsible person **must** ensure that social distancing measures are strictly followed. This will ensure social distancing is maintained on departure. Access to the school site will follow the same one-way system as in the morning. Again, staff will be on duty, acting as marshals to supervise the departure of pupils, ensuring that they are observing social distancing whilst waiting at their exits (the same as their entry points).
- ❖ Children in Year 6 (Blue 'bubble') should be **collected at 3.20 pm**.

Communication

- We ask for all communication with teachers to be via telephone or email via the admin email address. Teachers will not be available for any conversations at the start or end of the school day.
- It is unlikely that staff will be able to respond during the school day and that this will be after the school day has ended, but not necessarily the same day unless urgent.
- The front door will not be open during the school day and there will be no access for parents.

Arrangements for breaktimes and lunchtimes

All pupils need to have a break from learning and to enjoy time outside during the day. Reconnecting with friends will be an important aspect of pupils returning to school, but with the following adjustments:

- Children will eat in their own classrooms and will need to bring a packed lunch from home. All pupils will need to bring in a named refillable water bottle.
- The playground now has zones. Children will only play in their zone for a set time to ensure that all classes have an opportunity for outside play.
- Throughout the school day we intend the children to only come into contact with those in their own 'bubble', this will include adults working in school where possible. There may be occasions however when other adults may have to supervise children outside at a safe distance.
- There will be limited equipment available at lunchtimes and playtimes for children to use and play with.

Early Birds

- Unfortunately, we are not able to offer Early Birds to children accessing the Blue 'bubble' as we do not have the available staffing.

Revised school day

- There will be no after school clubs for the rest of this term.
- Children will not need PE Kits. Although we intend to make the most of the outdoor space available, we will not require children to change their clothes.
- Children will not be able to take reading books home during this time. All school equipment will be required to stay in school.
- Children should only bring a coat if needed. This will be kept on the back of their chair at their designated desk. No bags at all or anything else should be brought into school (except for packed lunch boxes). Nothing will be taken home from school. Children should also bring in a sun hat/cap and named sun cream if required (sun cream **must** be applied before the children come into school).

Pupils Working Remotely

We will continue to support children working from home remotely as much as possible for the days that they are not in school and for those who are not returning, as we have been doing since our partial closure from 23 March 2020.

We hope that this information provides you with the information you need in preparation for your child returning to school.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Best regards,

Kate Budd
Headteacher