



parents forum

Minutes: 26th May 2020

Members present:

Laura Atkins (Chair)	Vicki Houldcroft	Rachel Lamont
Anna Allen	Jasmine Howe	Sarah Thompson
Nici Turnbull	Gemma Halsey	Julie Easton (Teacher rep)
Apologies: Elaine Nangle; Lucy Goringe;		

Agenda Item:

- 1) Parental Anxieties about the Return to School
 Parents would like to know who the teachers in each bubble will be and the location they will be in and any other information that can be shared so that they can prepare their children properly for coming back. A picture of the room would be useful so they can see what the room looks like ready for the return. Would it be possible to have an outline for the school day to go through with the children beforehand as well?

 How will Chestnut children be helped into school if they don't want to come? Will Mrs Clifford be able to take their hand and bring them in as she used to? Also relevant for Y1 children? (Example given of a school where parents have been told that if they can't get their child into school in ten minutes the gate will be shut and they will have to take them home.)

 Can school reconfirm what lunches would be available.

 How much outside time the children will get in Reception.

Response from school:

We will send more information out with the email going to parents on the 29th May following Boris Johnson's announcement on the 28th May and then further information with the allocated list of children once we have received finalised responses from parents.

We will be applying Social Distancing measures in school however, if your child needs more support and we need to be closer to them to give it then we will eg. If they are hurt or need reassurance.

School dinners will be packed lunches only throughout the rest of term and can be ordered through parent pay as usual.

Foundation Stage children will be in either Chestnut or Hazel Class and will have access to an outside space whichever class they are in. The teachers will be planning freeflow access to the outside play space in line with usual good practice for Foundation Stage Curriculum. Outdoor toys available will be limited to those that can be easily washed down at the end of every

When your child comes back do they have to come back 5 days a week or could they come for a portion of that time eg. 3 days. This was particularly relevant for parents with a younger child in school but an older one still at home. If I say no now, can I change my mind down the line? If I say yes now and my child is unhappy can I pull them out?

If you have twins would they be put on the same table? ie are they still under the social distancing rules, or can they still be together. Will they be in the same bubble - assumption is yes.

Some parents have asked about before and after school provision although the expectation is that there will be no before and after school care provision.

A lot are not sending their Year 1 child back as they are still off work looking after an older child so may as well still keep them both at home.

Parents have concerns about how school will be different with regards social distancing and how the children will react to keep being told 'no' if they forget to social distance. What will the atmosphere be like?

When will we hear confirmation about the return to school? Parents are keen to know dates so that they can make arrangements with pre-schools etc.

day.

We will be as flexible as we can with families in all these circumstances. We will treat each family's needs individually and have a conversation with them should any of these circumstances arise.

Parents need to be aware that we will also consider needs across school in balance with the family situation.

Twins will be in the same bubble and given one table space each the same as all the other individual children in the class, however, siblings within the same bubble are not required to social distance from each other.

For now, there will be no before and after school provision. This will be reviewed as circumstances develop

This is fine. The choice to send your child into school lies solely with you as the parent and you will not be penalised for choosing to keep them at home.

The majority of staff who will be working in the bubbles have been working in school over the last 10 weeks with the Key Worker children. Staff are familiar with how difficult children find social distancing and are able to remind children about the social distancing rules in a friendly manner. We are not expecting to punish children who find social distancing difficult. The atmosphere in school with the keyworker children has been positive and we expect this to continue as we welcome more children back.

The dates for EYFS and Y1 children will be confirmed on Friday 29th May. We are currently thinking that EYFS children will be

Parents are concerned that by keeping their child off school, the child may be disadvantaged. Will they be?

Home Learning... Will the curriculum continue this way for the rest of the term? Is there going to be any new teaching? The maths worksheets are beginning to feel repetitive. There is some teaching going on through the videos but that is not the teacher. Is there any new learning going on or is it all revision. Will the work at home be the same as the work that is being covered in school?

A parent is concerned that children's questions are not getting answered quickly enough in one specific year

in school for mornings on the 4th and 5th of June, then full time from Monday 8th June and Year 1 children from week commencing Monday 8th June. We will confirm with Year 6 after that is in place.

Every child's set of circumstances will be different both emotionally and academically. We appreciate that parents will be making the decision for their child based on their own needs and situations and will support their decision. Some children may be disadvantaged by coming back too soon and for others the opposite may be true. As children return to school informal assessments will take place and we will plan their learning around their needs.

Teachers are following the topic and curriculum learning objectives for all the subjects as they are set out in the school curriculum and have already been setting new work for the children, adapting the topic where feedback from parents has indicated that this is necessary. This new learning will continue after half term. Home Learning is through necessity, given the lack of opportunities for staff to gain children's responses in any other way, very worksheet based. Staff have been setting as many practical and varied tasks as they can in this situation and will continue to do so. Staff have been including some teaching videos on their home pages, and this will continue for those year groups not in school. As we have said before, we will not be doing Zoom or live streamed lessons following WBC and Union advice due to safeguarding issues for both children and staff.

We will address this with the teacher concerned.

<p>group.</p> <p>What are the children going to continue to be taught over the next six-week period? Will this be addressed in the Curriculum News?</p> <p>When will we know whether or when the other year groups are coming back into school? The parents of Y2,3,4,5 feel quite strongly that their children should be back before the end of the school year at least part time. To wait until September is too long. What are the local authority doing about it?</p> <p>Y3 are concerned that their children will not be set any work Monday and Tuesday with Mrs Balchin being in school.</p> <p>New Mums - When will parents be getting information about the starting process?</p>	<p>This will be shared in the first newsletter after half term but will be a little more general as we will be adapting provision as advice changes.</p> <p>The school will only know this at the same time as parents when it is announced by central government. We are following all guidance from central government as it comes out and will continue to do so. The Local Authority are being proactive in engaging with the DFE on behalf of schools as well as supporting schools very well. The school understands parents' concerns for Y2,3,4 & 5 and is also thinking ahead about ways to enable their return to school when directed to do so.</p> <p>Miss Balchin will continue to plan lessons for Cedar class for Monday and Tuesday as she has been doing. Marking will be done by Mrs Hanson who works Wednesday to Friday. Due to the quantity of work Mrs Hanson will be looking at, responses may not be as detailed as they have been for all work.</p> <p>The school has already been proactive about this and a letter will be going out shortly.</p>
<p>2) Parent Responses to the Local Offer Seems similar to what has been in the past and it reflects what happens in school. It's very detailed for a parent that might have a child that falls into that category. There's a lot there and it seems a bit overwhelming but it seems fine.</p>	<p>Thank you for your feedback - we will pass this onto Mrs Didcock.</p>
<p>➤ AOB: Did the survey give a sway in one way or the other for children returning? Will we know? Many parents are still undecided. If only two parents send their children back in one Year group, will school still be open for them? If there are only 2 children in each bubble (FS,Y1 & 6) and there are spaces for the other year groups, would they be invited back?</p>	<p>The overwhelming response from the survey was 'undecided'. We will be asking for a firm decision on Friday. We will be opening bubbles for the children in the order of priority as asked for by the government in their most up to date guidance. We will open bubbles for</p>

the children in Keyworker, FS, Y1 and Y6 groups in that order of priority until we have used all available teaching staff. When the government ask us to take further year groups that is when we will look at widening the numbers of year groups in school.

Date for next meeting: None Set