



# Millfield Primary School

Grange Lane, Littleport, Cambs, CB6 1HW  
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Principal: Mrs D.M. Hannaford  
Vice Principal: Mrs W. Lee



*The governing body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment*

May 29th 2020

## For parents of ALL children

Dear Parents,

I should like to update you on the School's situation given the Government's desire that schools will re-open to nursery, reception, Y1 and Y6 from Monday June 1st. I shall also explain how the children who are/will be attending school will be organised given DfE and Trust guidance.

### Who is attending school currently?

Millfield currently has 70 children on roll and attending school or due to attend soon- these are children of key workers and/or are vulnerable eg have an EHCP. This is approximately 25% of our school roll, similar to the proportion of children who will be attending Littleport Primary in the near future.

### Can my child start school on Monday June 1st?

Only if

- you are a key worker or your child is deemed to be 'vulnerable' and
- they have already been attending or
- you have registered them and **Mrs Bidecant has confirmed their place**

### How these children will be organised from June 8th - 'bubbles'

As our numbers expand and guidance changes, from June 8th these will be the arrangements in school:

- The children who have an agreed place will be organised into 'bubbles' with a maximum of 13 children per bubble with allocated members of staff to that bubble.
- Each bubble has its own classroom, outside area and toilets.
- Staff will work in one bubble only.
- Each bubble has a start and end time to the school day and a designated gate for entrance/exit.
- Lunches will be taken in the classroom or outside (weather permitting).
- Throughout the day children will be encouraged/reminded to socially distance, wash their hands etc- it is generally accepted that children of nursery/reception age are less likely to be able to socially distance.
- Cleaning of surfaces, handles, basins etc will happen throughout the day with a deeper clean happening when the school day has ended.

Whilst schools cannot eliminate the transference of infection, these arrangements should reassure you that we are doing all we can to mitigate the risk. Arrangements and practice will be reviewed continually.

### Why isn't Millfield opening to other year groups yet?

The current DfE guidance is that primary schools should **consider** Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in their reopening plans. **However, this guidance is non-statutory and consequently Millfield, as part of the Trust, is not obliged to follow it.** The Trust is our responsible body and, like us, their primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of all of our children and all of our staff. The Trust has devised a risk based framework that allows each of their schools to

prioritise the year groups with the greatest need in their respective reopening plans. There is no obligation on all schools to open in the same manner or in the same order and you will find that there is significant variance across the country or indeed within Littleport. The reasons for the variance are multiple but often come down to the number of appropriately qualified staff available to return to work, the physical nature of the school buildings, and the incidence of social, educational, economic and emotional need in each group.

**Will Millfield open to other year groups?**

We will be constantly reviewing the availability of suitably qualified staff and this will determine if we are able to re-open to other year groups, which year groups and when.

**Which year group might we re-open to next?**

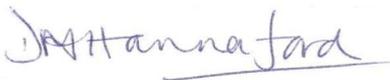
Currently, the year group we are *most likely* to re-open to is Year 1 and Mrs Bidecant will be in touch with parents of Year 1 children so they can register their interest. There is no guarantee that this will happen, because of the need to consider staffing etc, and plans may need to change/be adjusted, but it is our hope.

**What about Y6 transition to secondary school?**

We all understand that the current situation is particularly difficult for Y6 children. During the last half of the summer term, the learning for Y6 children is based on the Y6 national curriculum. Please be reassured that the learning in the Google classroom is appropriate for them at this stage in their primary career, under the current circumstances. They also spend considerable time preparing for the school performance as they have the main roles; in addition they plan and prepare their Leavers Assembly. Transition activities in terms of children visiting secondary schools and secondary staff coming to Millfield to visit the children tend to take place towards the very end of the summer term. Secondary schools are not currently open in a way that would enable this to take place. I understand that children attending LECA in September will be having transition activities on their first 2 professional days. With regards to Ely College and Witchford, they have not informed us of their intention, but Mrs Bidecant has been trying to find out- if your child is going to be attending either of these schools, you may have received information on this. If we are able to open to Y6 for a short time then we will- but it is staff dependent and at this stage I cannot promise that it will happen.

In the meantime, please contact me if you have any queries, and stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs D. M. Hannaford  
Principal