



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, last Monday the DfE published its guidance in relation to the gradual opening of schools for pupils in EYFS, Year One and Year Six pupils. We are also expected to continue to provide on-site provision for Key worker priority groups.

An Daras Trust is committed to re-opening its schools in accordance with DfE guidance where it is appropriate and safe to do so. However, in order to do this, we will need to implement protective measures and complete rigorous risk assessments. We have been working on these risk assessments since the announcement and taking advice from the County Health and Safety team.

We will be following DfE guidance regarding implementing protective measures. Protective measures will include:

- avoiding contact with symptomatic people
- frequent hand washing
- regular cleaning of premises
- minimising contact and mixing where possible and by reducing class sizes
- Staggered start and finish times and lunchtimes.
- Children will only be in on certain days with no more than 15 children in any one room at a time.
- We will ask children to bring in a packed lunch.
- We will do our best to keep the same staff with the same children although there may be occasions when this isn't possible.

However, the guidance states that the following groups of students and staff will need to continue to work from home.

1. Students and staff who are classed clinically vulnerable. The conditions that put you in this group are listed in section 8 in this guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing#clinically-vulnerable-people>

2. Students and staff who are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable or live with people who are classed at clinically extremely vulnerable. These people are defined in this guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

How this will look at Lew Trenchard:

In order to meet the DfE guidelines our wider re-opening will be trialled in the following way:

Home Learning

On Mondays school will be closed. This time will be used by staff to set home school learning for the week. As the majority of staff will be on rota in school, home learning will now be set in the form of a grid of learning to be completed at home throughout the week. Teachers will support on Wednesdays and Fridays when they are not in

school through portfolio checking, etc. TAS not working in school will support at other times during the week. This will support those children who are unable to return to school yet or cannot return due to vulnerability.

Learning in School

Learning in school will be based on the same learning that has been sent home. Most learning will take place outside.

Timetable

Low Trenchard will continue to be open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for key worker pupils.

Provision for Pre-school, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

It is important that we follow guidelines in staggering times and avoiding the mixing of groups of children and adults therefore the timetable will be as follows.

Key worker children

Key worker children will be kept in the group they are currently in. They will be based in Yes Tor with Mrs Sutherland and Miss Prynne on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Mr Payton and Miss Prynne on Fridays.

Times: 9.00am-3.30pm. Entrance through the Yes Tor (pre-school) gate.

Pre-school, Reception and Year 1

Children from Pre-school, Reception and Year 1 will be based in Great Links with Mrs Abbott-Bray, Mrs Thorpe and Matt.

Times: 9.15-3pm. Entrance through Great Links door.

Year 6

Year 6 children will be based in the hall with Mr Elliott and Mrs Pellow.

Times: 9.00-3.15pm Entrance through the front door.

Please ensure that only one adult per household drops-off and collects pupils and adhere to social distancing.

Groups

The DFE are strongly advising schools to take a 'bubble' approach to group pupils and stringently avoid them mixing to keep infection spread risk at a lower level.

Hygiene

As we know, in school bugs and illness spread rapidly. To help reduce risk, children will be requested to wash hands upon arrival at school. They will be sent to wash hands throughout the day at very regular intervals. Each group will have an allocated toilet to avoid groups mixing.

Lunches

All children must bring their packed lunch in a disposable bag and bring their own snack and drinks bottles.

Equipment

To avoid mixing resources, we will provide your child with a pencil, pen, rubber, ruler in school – please do not send pencil cases.

Clothing

Children do not need to wear uniform. We will be learning outside for as much as possible of each day. We suggest suitable clothing and footwear for this. They will need trainers, a waterproof coat, hat and suncream. Everything should come to school in a large, named plastic bag.

Social Distancing Measures

The reality is that we **CANNOT** guarantee social distancing in school but to try to minimise risk, we will implement the following:

- Groups will be a maximum of 15.
- Groups will not mix with other groups in the school or share resources or rooms.
- Staff assigned to a group will not mix with other groups.

- Room furniture will be removed to allow distance between tables.
- As advised, soft furnishing and toys, toys that are difficult to clean and shared resources such as sand trays will be removed from EYFS classes.
- The playground will be marked to encourage social distance.
- Staggered playtimes and lunchtimes will stop groups mixing in school.
- Key worker groups will be kept separate from other groups.
- Parents and carers will not be able to enter the building.
- Pupils will enter and leave the building by separate entrances.
- Parents will be reminded through signage and markers to socially distance when dropping and collecting children.

Pupils displaying symptoms

As previously, if your child or a member of your household is displaying symptoms, you should not bring your child to school. Your household should then isolate for a minimum of 7 days but longer if anyone is still displaying symptoms. ***The government have updated symptoms: a new, continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia).***

For any pupil who begins to display symptoms at school, we will follow the DFE instructions to isolate them immediately. They will remain in isolation supervised by a member of staff provided with PPE and at a distance of 2 meters. Please ensure, if your child is in school, your emergency contact details are up-to-date.

If your child needs Calpol at home, we ask that you do not send your child to school.

Risk Assessments

All DFE and County recommended risk assessments have been completed and have informed decisions around the set-up of the wider re-opening in our school. However, please do note, that no matter how carefully we implement these, the government have clearly said that whilst *the risk is low, there is still a risk*. We are planning to open to a larger group at the government's direction. The decision to send your child is, in the end, yours and the government will not penalise anyone choosing not to yet at this very early stage.

Attendance

In order to manage groups effectively, you will now need to confirm if you intend to send your child into school so that we can allocate staff, rooms and groups. This must be done by Friday at the latest. Should your decision change and you no longer wish to send your child to school, or your child can't come in on an allotted day, you will need to notify the school in the usual ways of absence.

If you have chosen not to send your child currently and at a later date choose to take up a place, we will need a minimum of a week's notice as rotas and groups will be set on a Friday each week.

Please talk to your child, if they are returning, so they understand the changes that have been put in place, understand they may not be with their teacher or in their usual classroom and will be grouped with a 'bubble' of friends.

Please can you confirm whether your child will/will not be attending school by messaging Miss Davy via Dojo by Friday 22nd May at the latest please?

Many thanks for all your continued support through the last 8 weeks and through this tricky transition to returning to opening. If you wish to discuss this further please don't hesitate to contact us.

Louise Hussey

Executive Headteacher

Liz Davy

Head of school