



Dear parents and carers,

Following on from my previous letter I thought you would appreciate further detail around the measures we have put in place and what school will look like when we reopen to a wider group of pupils.

Teaching and learning

I am sure you will understand when I say that school and the daily routines are going to look very different for your child when they return to us. This is one of the reasons that your children will return on a part time basis for two hours either each morning or each afternoon. The timetable and routines put in place will support early reading and maths and there will be an opportunity for physical play/exercise each day. Our school ethos of building strong relationships will be as important as ever, especially as some children will not be taught by their own teacher or in their own classroom. There will be a strong emphasis on wellbeing and hygiene built in to our daily curriculum.

For children who are not returning, home learning tasks will continue to be set by the class teacher. Please continue to support your child with their learning, your efforts are greatly appreciated by us all. Thank you.

Cleaning

Following a recent deep clean of the school our cleaning regime will continue with cleaning at the beginning and end of each day. In addition to this there will be a cleaner on site throughout the day to routinely clean regularly touched surfaces and ensuring the toilets and sick bay are cleaned after each use.

Entry and Exit to School Grounds and School Building

Staff will stand at key points to manage entry and exit to and from school. Groups of children will have different start and finish times from allocated entry and exit points. Children working in classrooms in the main school building will arrive via the main school entrance.(you will be informed of your child's start time in a separate letter). A one way system and strict 2 metre distancing will be in place as you bring your child to the main yard. Exit from the main yard will be via the side gate into the carpark. Staff will be on hand to ensure safe exit routes are followed.

Children working in nursery and reception classrooms will enter and exit via the side gates. Entry /exit will be strictly on a one in one out basis. You will be asked to queue maintaining a 2 metre distance. Thank you.

Hygiene

Every classroom has a hand sanitising station and sanitiser is available in key areas around the school building. All classes also have access to handwashing facilities with soap and running water. Children will wash their hands thoroughly when they enter and leave the building and at regular intervals throughout the day including before and after meals/snacks.

Equipment used by the children will be limited. Children will have their own pack of resources which will be cleaned at the end of each session. Use of other resources in each group will be strictly controlled by the staff and these resources will be cleaned regularly by staff. To ensure privacy for children when using the toilet staff will monitor to ensure no more than 2 children are using the toilet areas at any one time. Staff will ensure social distancing and handwashing by standing at the toilet area entrance.

Class sizes and staffing

Space restrictions and ensuring the 2 metre rule is in place in all our learning spaces reduces the capacity we have in each classroom. This means we can accommodate less pupils than the government guidelines of 15.

To reduce possible transmission of the virus children returning as part of wider reopening will work in a small group with the same children each day. Their group will not mix with children from other groups. Each group has been assigned consistent staff who will work with the children each day however it is likely that this will not be your child's usual teacher. The group will learn and play together and social distancing will be encouraged at all times. Timetables have been drawn up to ensure that different groups of children do not come together at playtimes and lunchtimes.

Lunch times

All children in key group categories will continue to receive a hot meal in school. These will be served in the hall with social distancing measures in place.

Those pupils returning as part of wider reopening will receive a packed lunch. Pupils attending AM sessions will receive a packed lunch to take home and those arriving for an afternoon session will receive a packed lunch to eat with their friends in their designated group.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Any child returning to school will no longer receive the free school meal vouchers as meals are being provided by school.

Free School Meal Vouchers will continue to be provided to families whose children remain at home.

School Office and Communication

At this time we are asking parents to avoid coming to the school office. We have a no visitors policy except in exceptional circumstances to reduce the number of people on site. All communication should be made by either telephone or e mail.

Children in key categories

Provision for children in key categories that has been running since March will continue. As we are now about to open to a wider group of pupils in nursery and reception I have a limited number of key category places available. If you are in one of the government identified categories, have not yet accessed a place and will need one, can I ask you contact the school office. Thank you.

I am pleased that I have now been able to share with you the measures we have in place to keep our school as infection free as possible and protect our school community. We cannot remove all risk but I strongly feel that we have done everything to minimise risk as much as we can. I can assure you that our policies and procedures will be under constant review as we learn more.

I hope this information has helped to answer some of the questions I know we all have.

If your child is one of those who has a place to return to school as part of wider reopening could I ask that you share some of this information with them in an age appropriate way. This will help to prepare them for the changes they will be faced with. This will be reinforced regularly and your children will be supported sensitively by staff in school.

Finally, can I thank you for all of your patience as our school team have worked hard to prepare for the safe return of your children. Any questions don't hesitate to contact me either by phone or e mail.

Take care

Kindest regards

Andrea Willis