

Dear Parents/Carers

School Reopening from 8th June

Firstly and most importantly, I hope you are safe and well. I know that people are finding things tough, especially mentally, and I do appreciate this. I am thinking of you all.

I want to be very open and honest with you in this letter.

I am sure you are aware that Mr Johnson announced that schools may start reopening to specific year groups on June 1st; those being Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. There is government guidance as to how many pupils can be in each class and how logistically this can work in regard to playtimes, lunchtimes, movement around the school, use of the equipment and most importantly minimising contact - this is the term used instead of social distancing.

Since this announcement, we have been working together to produce risk assessments, review procedures and order necessary equipment into school to ensure the government guidance is met appropriately in the context of our school. This has been a long and slow process due to the nature of working with children and the constant changes to the guidance provided. I will communicate what we have done so far in regard to how the school will work and function, but I must highlight, it will be a totally different place from the William Read you knew before we closed on 20th March.

We now feel that the initial risks have been minimised and on Monday 8th June, will open to Reception, year one and six. Initially, to the parents who told us that they wish to take up a place. There is **no** penalty for keeping your child at home.

Humans are social creatures and can be tactile, therefore, I cannot and will not guarantee that your child will not come into contact with other children or adults. We will teach the children that this is not appropriate, in school. Therefore they will not be allowed to play with the majority of equipment and timetable and staffing changes have been made to minimise contact throughout the day. Your child may well come into contact with other children, despite there being measures in place to minimise contact.

Under the current government guidance, which is constantly changing, and no doubt will change over the coming weeks, your child will be taught in a classroom with a maximum of **9 pupils**. We are calling these pods, the government refer to bubbles.

We are relaxing the rules around uniform, for the time being, this will make it easier for staff and children to learn outside as much as possible and to wear clean clothes every day to maximise personal hygiene. The teacher in charge of the pod will direct pupils if they need to wear anything in particular. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather forecasted, including applying sun protection cream.

These classes are very different from what your child is used to. For example, we will have to limit the equipment that can be used and minimise movement around the class. Your child will be assigned to one pod which will be their base for the period of time they are in school. Children in different bases will not be allowed to mix with each other and we cannot guarantee that friendship groups will be taken into consideration. Please also understand that I cannot guarantee that your child will be taught by their class teacher (primarily due to the smaller class sizes), it could be a teacher or adult from the same year group, but it could be someone from another year group within the school.

- You **must** tell us if you intend to take up your space at least a week in advance, as I need to ensure the safety of my staff and keep staffing levels to a minimum.
- If your child isn't comfortable being left at school, then you **must** take them back home, as we cannot comfort them.
- You **must** be on time to drop off and pick up your child. We cannot mix the pods and will only have a fifteen-minute window to accept and collect your child.
- Your child **must** adhere to behaviour expectations for the safety of all

We will operate a staggered entry and exit and a **one-way** system for dropping off and picking up children. Enter via the pedestrian gate on our Long road entrance, the gate is to the left of the vehicle gate as you look at the school and the one nearest to the office. You can queue on the marked lines along the path and the windows ensuring that you are two metres apart. Drop your child at the door. They will be greeted by a staff member who will take their temperature and ask them to sanitise their hands. They will then be taken to their pod. Parents/carers then walk across the car park and exit via the other pedestrian gate. No parents or carers are allowed in the building.

The times for each pod are set out below. Please note, that on Fridays, the children will have lunch and then go home. This is so staff can have their legally entitled Planning and Preparation time. I cannot ask for cover teachers to break the pod, so this is what we will do.

The curriculum will also look different and we are currently working to plan and develop this.

We will only be providing packed lunches to pupils and they will be eating in class bases or outside to ensure we minimise contact.

I understand these changes may seem severe, we are trying to adhere to the guidelines and most importantly keep your child and all members of staff safe. I will send further details as and when we need to make changes.

Finally, please note at this point, we have one pod for Key Workers and Siblings, one pod for Reception, another for Year 1 and two for year 6. These pods are near to the capacity of 9 so you will need to tell us if and when you intend to send your child back a least a week in advance

so that we can make more rooms and staff available. When we reach capacity, we will refuse to take any more until we can be certain that safety isn't compromised.

Thank you for your support and please stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Martinson

Pod	Start	Morning Break	Lunch in class then play	Afternoon Break	Finish Mon - Thurs	Finish Friday
Key worker/ siblings	08:30	10:00 (Playground)	12-12:30 lunch 12:30 - 1pm play	14:00 - 14:15	14:45	13:30
Reception	08:45	10:00 (Reception area 1)	12-12:30 lunch 12:30-1pm play (reception area 1)	14:00 (reception area 1)	15:00	12:30
Year 1	09:00	10:00 (Reception area 2)	12-12:30 lunch 12:30-1pm play (reception area 2)	14:00 (reception area 2)	15:15	12:45
Year 6a	09:15	10:20 (Playground A)	12:30 - 1pm lunch 1-1:30 play	14:15 - 14:30	15:30	13:00
Year 6b	09:30	10:35 (Playground B)	12:30 - 1pm lunch 1-1:30 play	14:15 - 14:30	15:45	13:15