

26th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will no doubt be aware, the Government have asked schools to prepare for a potential reopening for children in Year 6 from, at the earliest, Monday 1st June 2020. Whilst there will continue to be a lot of national debate over the next few weeks, what is clear is that school after June 1st will become a very different place. At Perryfields:

- Week 1 (1st June) – Children from Mulberry Class will be in Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Children from Heather Class will be in on Thursday and Friday. The initial focus will be on their well-being after a period of time off school.
- Week 2 (8th June) – Children from Mulberry Class will be in Monday and Tuesday only. Children from Heather Class will be in on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- This pattern will continue but may change when / if other year groups return to school. Unfortunately, since we require additional staff and teaching spaces for each year group, we may well only be able to accommodate Y6 for approx. four weeks to enable us to phase back children from Years 1 and then Reception. We will of course keep you informed of our decisions and proposed actions.
- There will be much smaller classes of approximately nine children (socially distanced) in each classroom. Children may not be with their usual teacher and we cannot guarantee for them to be in friendship groups. We have tried where possible to meet the needs of the pupils given the rigid constraints in place.
- Children will be completing English, Maths, Science, Geography, Orienteering and Art lessons as well as PSHE and Transition activities. Children will have access to outside space but will not be doing 'normal' PE lessons.
- There can be no games of Football, Tag or other contact sports or games. This will be explained to the children when they return but it would help greatly if you could forewarn them of the unavoidable changes that we have made in the interests of safety.
- Regardless of which Bubble Group the children are placed in, a PPT presentation will be made available on the first day to share all relevant information with them. This will also be uploaded to the Website for your information by 29th May.
- Our Class Charts Behaviour System has been modified to include COVID19 specific behaviours in order to encourage good hygiene and safety of all pupils and staff. This has already been trialed with the Key Worker groups and proved to be successful.
- Pupils will be separated into smaller 'Bubble' groups and will remain in these groups all day, staggered times for dropping off and collecting will be notified, these need to be adhered to with NO gathering at the School gates. Ordinarily we would now be allowing Y6 pupils to walk to and from school independently. However, this cannot be the arrangement due to the current situation. Therefore, pupils must be brought to and collected from school by one adult only.

- There will be a one-way system for parents to follow when bringing and collecting their child. Please leave your child by the side door (Rainbow Staircase) and walk across the playground leaving via the vehicle drive. Please be vigilant when using the driveway. Tape has been placed on the floor to indicate the 2-meter distances.
- Children staying for sandwiches will need to bring their packed lunch in disposable wrapping and in a plastic bag. Paper bags will be provided after Day One for the lunch to be brought in the following day. If your child is eligible for free school meals a lunch will be provided. The children will eat their lunch in the classroom and hot meals delivered to the classroom). Tables will be wiped prior to eating lunch.
- We will be ensuring that pupils have comprehensive hand washing and hygiene routines in place throughout the day. Surfaces will be regularly cleaned with anti-bacterial wipes and spray throughout the school day and before and after school.
- We will have a one-way system to control movement around school. The Rainbow staircase will only be used to ascend the first floor and the middle staircase to descend. This will apply to pupils and adults.
- We will restrict access to toilets to ensure numbers of children accessing them are safe.
- Please do not send any water bottles to school – we will provide water in disposable bottles for the children.
- Children will use the same equipment each day; this will be provided for them. **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD WITH ANYTHING INTO SCHOOL INC ANY STATIONERY OR PENCIL CASES.** The children will complete any written work in the one book.
- As things stand, the Government have instructed that staff and pupils do not require PPE if social distancing rules can be managed. PPE will be available for staff and if required. If you wish for your child to wear a mask this will be allowed.
- Your child does not need to wear school uniform but can wear casual sportswear for school.
- ***If a child shows symptoms, you will be phoned to collect them urgently.***
- ***Please note that pupils who are shielding, have underlying health conditions such as diabetes, asthma or other significant health conditions should still be self-isolating and so should not return to school until Government advice changes.***
- I should also like to make it clear that any reopening of school, whilst very welcome, comes with no absolute guarantee of safety for anyone in school. We will do our absolute utmost to keep children and staff safe but obviously, nothing can be totally guaranteed. I assure you that we are planning ways to move as carefully as we can towards reopening and we want to reassure you that we will do this with everyone's safety at the forefront of our minds.

- We have carried out a thorough Risk Assessment, which will be made available on the school's website. In addition to which we have amended any relevant policies, e.g. Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Fire Evacuation and Behaviour.
- Please note that any behaviour, which compromises the health and safety of others, will not be tolerated.
- Unfortunately, due to social distancing measures and evidence about mass gatherings, there will be no end of term gatherings such as Year 6 Assemblies or our Year 6 Leavers' Presentation. We apologise for this but know that you will fully understand.
- It is important to note that you, as parents and carers will have ultimate control here – they are your children and you make the decisions that you believe are in their best interests. Therefore, it is important that you understand what is being proposed by the Government and in this letter. No one will be penalised for not sending their child to school, this is clear in the Government guidance, and parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time. Government guidance for parents and carers can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>
- Please note that there will be NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB facility and children will need to be collected promptly at the end of their session.
- ***To date we have places confirmed for only twenty of our Year 6 pupils. Many, understandably, are still unsure as to whether to send their child back to school or not. However, in order for us to make all necessary final arrangements, we will need a decision by tomorrow morning (Wednesday) at the latest. Please either telephone or email the school office if you have not yet already confirmed your child's place.***

Kind Regards

Mrs. T L Jones