

5.6.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again I hope all is well and Friday finds you in good spirits. Following my second letter yesterday, I will now share the final section of information regarding the partial re-opening of school. This will enable you to develop an understanding about how school will look like once we resume again next week.

Parent Re-opening Guide – Part 3

A repeated message on developing an understanding of Social Distancing within the school setting

- We will do our very best to support social distancing, with both children and adults in school. DfE guidance states,

'We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account.'

- Therefore, we will do everything we can to promote and implement plans to support each child's understanding and maximise social distancing within each Pod. Children will only be able to socialise with children in their own Pod, even at playtime.
- Parents need to know that in returning to school there is a very real likelihood that children will touch adults and one another and come into close contact. The nature of the school site and the age of our children is such that this is unavoidable and we cannot be expected to respond to complaints around this when it inevitably happens. We cannot alleviate every risk and parents must understand what we are able to do and use this to inform their decision making.

Behaviour in School

Please see enclosed copy of Appendix A: Behaviour conduct during COVID 19 phased re-opening.

Supporting positive learning behaviour

- If a child is struggling to follow the social distancing procedures in place, parents will be invited to discuss via a phone consultation the suitability of the child being able to attend school safely and we will work together to put a plan in place.

Supporting emotional well-being

- In addition to the curriculum mentioned, all staff will be available to provide support. Furthermore our SENCO will work to ensure that children's needs are met.
- There will be plenty of opportunities for children to discuss their feelings, play, re-build friendships and have 'break out' or 'chill out' spaces for times when they may feel overwhelmed.

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Protection at school for staff and pupils

- The government guidance is that it is for individuals working in school to decide if they would like to wear a face mask. Therefore, some of our staff will choose to wear face masks, some won't.
- It is up to parents to decide if they want their child to wear a face mask or not.
- Any staff taking on first aid, additional medical duties or cleaning responsibilities then further PPE equipment will be used if appropriate.
- Any staff carrying out an intimate care role with a child, PPE equipment will be used.

Hand washing

- All classes will have soap and hand sanitiser for the children to use.
- All toilet areas will have soap and paper towels.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose and eyes.
- Children will be regularly reminded to wash their hands at least at the following times:
 - When they arrive at school
 - Before/after each lesson
 - Before/after eating their lunch
 - Before/after each break/lunchtime
 - Straight after they have coughed/sneezed
 - There will be 'hand sanitising' stations setup in each classrooms

Cleaning and hygiene

- The school has been deep cleaned and each classroom that is used by pupils will be thoroughly cleaned every evening.
- All tables/chairs/other equipment used by children, as well as teacher equipment will be cleaned each day.
- All classroom and other door handles will be cleaned daily, cleaning high touch points during the day.
- All classroom sinks used by children/staff will be cleaned daily.
- All toilets will be cleaned twice a day.
- All classes will have a disinfectant bottle to use to clean during the day (if needed).
- Children will need to take all of their personal equipment (bags/coats/lunchboxes/water bottles) home each night and it is recommended that items are cleaned at home each evening.
- The children will store all their belongings either on the back of their chair, under their table or in their tray on the table.
- P.E kits will not be needed.
- Equipment that is easy to clean will be available for children in that bubble to share, although they will always follow social distancing rules. All this equipment will be cleaned daily.
- We have been mindful to minimise the number of resources in order to make sure they can be wiped clean.
- Wherever possible, resources which are not easy to clean have been removed.
- Some equipment (such as puzzles and reading books) which are hard to clean will be boxed and rotated with a gap of at least 72 hours between uses to ensure any infection by any virus is nullified.

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Lunchtime

- When only a few year groups are in, children will eat in classrooms or outside.
- In order to reduce 'contact points' we will stagger breaktimes and lunchtime when it is necessary for us to do so.
- Children can have a hot dinner or bring a packed lunch.
- The halls will not be used for lunches – the kitchen staff will 'deliver lunches in disposable plates and will provide disposable cutlery to each class.

Playtimes

- Each Pod will be timetabled an outside space to use. This will be in a rotation, e.g. field, front playground, back playground. As the term progresses, we will operate a weekly rota system so each group has an opportunity to go in the different playgrounds and on the adventure play area.
- Each bubble will be allocated outdoor play equipment to use which will be cleaned.
- The adventure play area will be out of bounds, before and after school.
- Children will be supervised at lunchtime by either the same staff they have been assigned in their 'pod' or by a different staff member maintaining social distancing routines.

Shielding Vulnerable Adults or Children

- Children and young people who are considered **extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding** should continue to shield and should not be expected to attend.
- Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. A minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.
- Guidance states children and young people who live in a household with someone who is **extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding** should only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and the child or young person is able to understand and follow those instructions. Please contact school so we can discuss the socially distancing measures in place and we can support your parental choice.
- Children and young people who live with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not extremely clinically vulnerable) as defined in the **social distancing guidance** and including those who are pregnant, can attend. *DFE May 2020*
- As part of our enhanced risk assessment it is important to have a conversation with all families who fall into the living with clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable people in their full time or part time households.
- By talking with all families who fall into these categories we can explain in detail; how the school day will be structured and how social distancing will be maximised.
- This will then enable families to make an informed decision on whether or not to send their child back to school. We understand that some families will be shielding vulnerable people may prefer not to send their child back to school yet.

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First Aid

- There will be a first aider on site and there will be a first aid kit available in each pod. The main first aid station will be located in the disabled toilet.
- For any minor medical issues (cuts/sickness) the child will be looked after in the classroom or on the playground.

Children and staff who present with COVID -19 symptoms

We will follow the Government guidelines set out below.

- If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education or childcare setting, they must be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).
- If a child is awaiting collection, they should be sensitively moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, they should be moved to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people. The areas we have allocated for this are – the studio, the peripatetic music room, the garden by the pond and the bench outside the office door.
- If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use the toilet by the Key Stage 1 entrance or the disabled toilet. The toilet used will then be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else. PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs). In an emergency, 999 should be called if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. You should not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.
- If a member of staff has helped someone who was unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home (although this will be offered to any member of staff if the case arises) unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test is available) or the child subsequently tests positive (see ‘What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?’ below). They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. See the [COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#).
- At the end of the school day, the pod that the individual has been in is collapsed and the other staff/children in that pod do not return until the outcome of testing is known.
- If the test is positive, then everyone in that pod must isolate for 14 days as per government guidelines.
- If the test is negative, then everyone in the pod can return to school.

Confirmed case of coronavirus in school Pod

We will follow the Government guidance which sets out below:

- If a child has Coronavirus symptoms whilst at school, they will be taken by a member of staff to an ‘isolation space’ – (see above) where they will be assessed by a first aider who will wear full PPE and you will be contacted to collect them.
- It would then be the parent’s responsibility to have their child tested.

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- When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days.
- All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.
- Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.
- All children and staff will be eligible for a test for COVID – 19 if displaying symptoms.
- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive, the rest of the pod they are working in should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group then develops symptoms.

This has been a week when I have shared a great deal of information with families. I hope you have found it informative and helpful and I once again thank you for your continued co-operation and support during these unprecedented times. We look forward to welcoming the first of our year groups back next week with the hope that we may have the opportunity to see you all back in school before the end of term. We are not just a school – we are a community and a family, caring for each other.

Take care and stay safe,

Eddie Brown

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