



21st May 2020

Dear Parents

Phased re-opening of school

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. Following on from my previous email earlier in the week, I am now in a position to advise you further about the re-opening of the school to more of our children in June. The exact date in June will be dependent on whether we can source all of the PPE, signage and cleaning materials that we need in order to ensure that we can open in as safe a way as possible.

We have been working extremely hard to create a plan to re-open the school to more children, as directed by the government. (YN, YR, Y1 and Y6) We recognise from our telephone conversations that many of you are still very concerned about your child returning to school. Many of you have taken the parental decision to keep your child at home for now, whilst others would like to know how we propose to operate to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community.

There is a significant amount of information that is contained in this letter. I would ask you to read it carefully and get in touch with us if you have any queries. I hope this will re-assure you that we are taking all the necessary precautions to make school as safe as we can possibly can, whilst recognising that we cannot remove risks completely in the current climate.

It is important to recognise that school will be a different place when the children will return, but the measures in place are designed to protect everybody based on national and local government advice and our own risk assessments.

Dates

The government expects that children will be expected to return from early June. Therefore, the school will be open as follows, so long as safety measures are in place:

Week beginning 1st June 2020 – Key worker and vulnerable children return

Week beginning 8th June 2020 at the earliest – Wider school opening to children in years N, R, 1 and 6 to ensure we have all of the signage, posters, PPE and new equipment to open in as safe a way as possible.

The school will shut at 2pm every Friday, to allow deep cleaning of the school.

Classes

Government advice is that there should be no more than 15 children in a class. This will be described as a 'bubble' due to these children not mixing with other children at any part of the day. We will have 4 bubbles with between 8 and 15 children in each. This means that your child will be taught by two different teaching teams over a two week period. None of these teachers will ever teach outside of the bubble they have been assigned to. We have been able to organise it so your child will always be with a staff member they know well and will always be in their own classrooms.

The government guidance is very clear that children must stay within their bubble for the day, including break times and lunchtimes, and that contact between groups should be minimal. We will let you know what class your child is in and what teachers they will be having the week beginning 1st June.



HEADTEACHER: Mrs K Baylis
Chace Avenue, Willenhall, Coventry CV3 3AD
024 76302882





Start and end of the day

We will be staggering arrival times. Specific times for year groups will be as follows:

Year 6: 8.30 – 8.40

Year 1: 8.45 – 8.55

EYFS: 9.00 – 9.10

There will be an adult on each gate to ensure a smooth entrance and exit process. The children will be able to enter the school site, with their parent, through the normal gate off Chace Avenue. Please ensure it is only one parent and please do not bring younger siblings if they are not secured in a pushchair. Year 6 children may come to school unaccompanied if you feel that is best for them and your family situation. Mrs Maguire and Mrs Borgeat will direct children into the school site, supporting social distancing measures. It is parent's responsibility to ensure that they and their children are adhering to social distancing measures whilst waiting to come onto school site. They will then go straight to their classroom, where they will wash their hands. Parents are not allowed into the school for any reason. We will be operating a one-way system and we ask that all parents who have brought their children onto the playground continue past the EYFS area and out of the side gate. Please, as always, use the pavements and do not cut across the car park. Children in year 6 and Year 1 will not be using pegs in the corridor or lunch trolleys so each child will put their coat (if needed) under their assigned desk. We would discourage the children from bringing a bag from home. At the end of the day, we will stagger departure times:

MONDAY - THURSDAY

Year 6: Depart at 3.00

EYFS and Y1: Depart at 3.10 once all Y6 have left. Entry onto the playground for parents will be controlled to collect the children who will be waiting for them on the playground at a safe social distance.

All children will have thoroughly washed their hands before leaving but we will remind you that they must repeat this process as soon as they get home. It is vital that year 6 go straight home.

FRIDAY

Year 6: Depart at 2.00

EYFS and Y1: Depart at 2.10, once all Y6 have left. Entry onto the playground for parents will be controlled to collect the children who will be waiting for them on the playground.

All children will have thoroughly washed their hands before leaving but we will remind you that they must repeat this process as soon as they get home. It is vital that year 6 go straight home.

We know it will take a little longer to get your children into school and to leave at the end of the day – please respect the fact that all measures have been put in place for the safety of everybody.



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Learning

In Y6 and Y1, the children will have their own desk and have their own tray of resources. We actively encourage all children to bring in their own pencil cases in with a pencil, pen and coloured pencils. If you do not have access to these, please let us know. This pencil case must remain in school until the end of the school term.

The morning lessons will be English and Maths, and in the afternoon the children will be taking part in a range of lessons with a particular focus on transition, PE and creative curriculums. We will be giving the children time to talk about their experiences during lockdown, if they choose to do so, and will offer any support to those children who require it.

Break and lunchtimes

Break times will be staggered. The children in EYFS will play outside in the usual outdoor area, remaining in their 'bubble'. Children in Y1 and Y6 will be able to use the playground, at different times, to allow for social distancing.

At lunchtime, if the weather is good, they will have a 'picnic' lunch on the field or an alternative allocated area reserved for them. In the event of poor weather, they will eat their lunch in their classroom. If your child is entitled to a free school meal, the kitchen will be providing a packed lunch every day. We ask that any lunches brought from home are brought in a bag that can be thrown. All wrappings must be disposed of also. The field will be divided into two areas and the children will be given a designated area to stay in. If we are lucky enough to have good weather, please ensure your child brings in a hat. We will not be able to support with applying sun cream so ensure this is done before they leave home.

Unfortunately, to conform to government guidelines, we are unable to let the children use sports equipment, including the trim trail, so these cannot be used initially. The children will be required to wash their hands before they eat their lunch and when they come in after break and lunchtime.

PPE

Government advice is that PPE is not needed in schools, however, we have purchased a supply in cases where it may be needed. For example, if a child needs first aid treatment where an adult is required to get close to a child or for time when one of the younger children might have a toileting accident.

Behaviour

We continue to have the same high expectations with regards to the behaviour of our children. We have also adapted our behaviour policy to incorporate Covid-19 guidelines and this is available to view on our website. We understand that social distancing can be difficult for children, however, we will take a strong stance on any child that deliberately goes against social distancing rules. If there are any children who simply cannot adhere to the rules, we will have to call parents and make a decision as to whether it is safe for them to remain on site. This is for the welfare and safety of all our school community. We obviously expect our parents be the role models of social distancing. Please do observe the rules outside the school gate and when on the playground. We ask that the children do not wear school ties during this second phase. It is also vital that the children wear clean clothes every day. If that means they cannot always be in school uniform that is fine. It is incredibly important, however, that they do not wear the same clothes on two consecutive days. All clothing must be washed as soon as the children come home to help protect other members of your own family.



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Cleaning

All areas of the school that are being used will be cleaned daily following recommended protocols. All school staff will be required to be off site by 3.30pm to allow this to happen. It is therefore vital that parents are on time to collect their children. The toilets will have an additional clean in the middle of the day, as will other items/areas that are used by multiple people e.g. photocopiers etc.

Other measures

- We will have marked the corridor and the playground every 2m, to support social distancing.
- We will be operating a one-way system on the stairs and on the playgrounds.
- We will not be using the corridors to store bags, coats etc.
- We are keeping the same staff with the same group of children as much as we possibly can, to keep contact with others to a minimum.
- We will not be having whole school assemblies and we will not be using the computers or ipads for any lessons.
- Any communication with school needs to be via text, phonecall or email. We will not be allowing any parents into the school building, including the school office. The automatic door will be kept permanently locked.

Windows around the school will be left open as much as possible to increase ventilation.

If a child is unwell

If your child is unwell at all, we would expect you to keep your child at home. We will be following the most up to date guidance from Public Health England and act accordingly. It is advised that parents take their child's temperature every day before coming to school. If a child does become unwell in school with a new continuous cough, a high temperature or loss or change to sense of smell or taste, we will move the child to the Reading Recovery Room, where they will remain until collected. If a member of staff needs to get close to the child for any reason, they will wear PPE. All areas where the child has been will be closed until a deep clean has taken place.

When a child or member of staff develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for 7 days. All other members of the household need to self-isolate for 14 days. We expect that any child (over 5 years of age) or member of staff who has symptoms of coronavirus gets tested. Where the child or member of staff has a negative test result they can return to school, and members of their household do not need to self-isolate. Where there is a positive test, all the members of that child's class will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. If this situation arises, of course, we will send you the latest Public Health advice about what to do.

Our expectations of you

We ask that you adhere to the latest government directives with regards to safety measures (social distancing etc). Please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for the latest advice.

If your child is unwell (not just coronavirus symptoms), please do send them into school.

Please ensure that your child washes their hands thoroughly before coming to school and when they get home from school every day.



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St Anne's Catholic Primary School

*"Love one another as I have loved you in our home,
school and Parish family"*

Water bottles must be filled at home and brought in every day. The water fountains will not be available for use. Water bottles must be washed every evening when they arrive home.

Girls **MUST** tie their hair back every day. They will not be allowed in site if it is down. No jewellery on hands or wrists can be worn by any pupil.

School will provide a packed lunch for all children who are entitled to a free meal. If you wish your child to have a lunch from home, it must be in a disposable bag that can be thrown away including all wrappings etc.

I hope you can see from the measures we are putting in place that we are doing our best to make the school environment as safe as we can and I hope this has provided you with some reassurance. We must point out though, that we **cannot guarantee** that the children are always 2m apart throughout the school day. This is particularly true of the youngest children who don't understand the concept of 2m and who are more likely to forget. We will do our best at all times, however, to adhere wherever possible. **Please remember, as illustrated above, that we will continue to close at 2.00 on a Friday to allow for a deep clean prior to a new week starting.**

All risk assessments are on the website for you to look at. They can be found under the Policies/coronavirus tab.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Keri Baylis
(Headteacher)



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