
Chief Executive Officer: Mrs L Whitehouse

Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Thank you for your patience with us as we continue to plan to welcome back children from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 into our school. We are working hard to make sure that the school environment is a **welcoming and safe place for pupils to return and that the nurture, care and wellbeing of children is at the heart of what we do**. This has proved to be an enormous task logistically, incorporating all the daily DfE guidance documents into our planning, many of which has only come out during the middle of this week. To this end, although staff have worked relentlessly since the Prime Minister's statement about primary school reopening, **we will not be in a position to start this face to face contact on 1st June**.

When we are told it is safe to do so by the government and we have all the appropriate adjustments in place, we will be reopening our school sites and implementing a phased return timetable. Our key work provision is due to restart on Monday 1st June for pre-booked children **on individual school sites** – Clifford Bridge, Hearsall, Stockingford, Walsgrave and Whittle.

When certain groups or year-groups return to school

To support social distancing and minimising the amount of adults on site, we ask that only one parent/carer drops their child off each day. We will also be introducing staggered start/ends to the school day. If you have indicated your child will be coming back on the above dates, a member of the school team will contact you about the time your child will need to be dropped off and collected. This could be: 8:45am – 2:45pm, 9:00am – 3:00pm or 9:15am – 3:15pm. It is really important that you adhere to the timings specified for your child, as we have worked hard to ensure different groups arrive at different times, in order to follow social distancing guidance. On Fridays, school will finish at the end of morning session to enable a thorough deep clean of the site. Children who are entitled to a free school meal will be provided with one to take home.

As parents/carers, please make sure you are aware of others around you and that you maintain social distancing at all times. Please can you only use the school office if it is urgent and you can't have your query answered by phoning the usual school telephone number. If you need to collect your child from school because they are unwell, you could come onto the school site in these circumstances.

Please can you talk through the following with your child, in advance of their potential return to school to help this to be as safe and smooth transition as possible:

- **Hand-washing** - At school, children will be washing their hands frequently and thoroughly with running water and soap.
- **Social distancing on the school site** - Everyone on the school site will be very conscious about keeping a 2m social distance wherever possible – within classrooms, other rooms and buildings, corridors and outside. We will be putting up posters, marking the floor areas with tape and stickers and other visual reminders of this.
- **Classrooms** - Chairs, desks and other items in classrooms will be moved and adapted to enable social distancing wherever possible.
- **Equipment** - We'll be making sure that children don't share equipment with each other – including pencils, pens, books etc.
- **Playtimes/breaks** - It will be a change for children to not be playing in close contact with each other. We will talk to the children about this and ways to have creative playtimes/breaks that keep social distance. Children will have staggered lunches to support social distancing.
- **Lunches** - schools will make sure children are socially distanced at lunch times by children staying in their learning groups. Equipment for lunchtime will be carefully cleaned and children must not mix cutlery, or share/swap food.

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- **Following instructions from school staff** - In order for everyone to stay safe, it is essential that all children carefully follow instructions from school staff on everything mentioned above and the way that our school will operate for the rest of this half term. We will also talk them through new routines and expectations when they return to school.

Families not intending to send their children back to school after reopening

We are aware that some families have said 'no' or 'don't know' regarding sending their children back to school. If you change your mind, and want to send your child into school when we are reopen, we would ask that you **give us at least one day's notice of this change of intention**. All school offices will be back open to take calls and bookings regarding this. This will help us plan for spaces and allow us to maintain social distancing standards.

Home Learning

We will continue to post weekly Home Learning projects via our school website, Class Dojo and our school Facebook pages. There will now be one project per year-group each week with two 'purple' core English and maths activities. We will link these resources to our in school provision for those who are attending school. We aim to continue to feedback on children's work postings onto Class Dojo but this may be slightly less frequent as we have a larger amount of school staff back in the building working with the children who are attending school.

School Uniform

We would prefer children to wear school uniform but understand that they may have grown slightly in the last 10 weeks away from school. Although we still intend to take the children outside for physical activity, we will not be getting children changed for PE, to minimise movement in the classroom. Instead we ask that children come to school in trainers so that they have appropriate footwear for outdoor activities. If they are unable to wear school uniform please could you ensure the children wear appropriate clothing and footwear to school. We ask that all footwear is suitable for outdoor play.

Website

We have added a new tab onto our school website entitled 'Reopening'. In this section, we have added the following documents to see the measures we have taken to prepare our site for reopening and some resources you can share with your children to reassure them as they return to school. Our resources include: school risk assessment (this is a live document which will be updated regularly over the coming weeks); map of school site showing drop off and pick up points; pictures of how classrooms will be reorganised to promote social distancing; and behaviour policy update.

Thank You

Thank you for your help with this as we all play our part. Our school experience will be different to what we have all been previously used to, but with fewer children in our school, there will be new opportunities for learning and development. For those children who are coming back into school we look forward to seeing them again after several weeks away from school.

As soon as we been advised it is safe to reopen schools and have completed our own local evaluations, we will be writing to you to confirm.

Take care,



Rob Darling

Head of Education, Primary

Inspire Education Trust