

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of the school's next steps in our hoped for partial re-opening of Brunswick.

Hove Partnership

As you are aware, the government has advised that, if certain targets and data levels allow, schools can reopen from the start of June. In light of this, our Hove Partnership has reached the following agreement in order for there to be consistency across Hove:

'Hove Partnership would like to thank all our families for their support with their child/ren's learning in such challenging circumstances.

All Partnership schools for primary aged children (Aldrington Primary School, Benfield Primary School, Bilingual Primary School, Brunswick Primary School, Goldstone Primary School, Hangleton Primary School, Hove Infants, Hove Juniors, St Andrew's Primary School, Stanford Infants and West Blatchington Primary School) have agreed to open for **4-4 ½ days** each week from **8th June at the earliest**.

The returns will be phased with each school having their own individual circumstances affecting the provision in place; due to site specific differences, staffing and pupil needs. School specific provision will be detailed in a separate letter.

Using Health & Safety guidance, each individual school will be assessing their own site to ensure that it is as safe as possible for all pupils, staff and the wider community.

As a Partnership we are looking forward to all children returning to school when it is safe to do so.'

Planned re-opening

Following this agreement, we are planning to open our school to Year 6 initially, on June 9th 2020. Following union guidance, we have worked hard to develop risk assessments to ensure safe practices, including maintaining social distancing and enhanced hygiene routines. We are doing everything in our capability to make Brunswick as safe as it can be. However, I need to be clear that: whilst **we are making every effort to minimise risk, we are unable to eliminate risk.**

Ultimately, it is for parents, carers and staff to decide what they wish to do once we have put in place measures which the government and its scientific and medical advisors have advised. Clearly, if a significant number of staff inform me that they do not feel that they can work then unfortunately I would not be able open the school.

PowerPoint Presentation

In order for you to make a more informed decision about whether you would like your child to return, we have created a PowerPoint presentation. This outlines the preparations that we are putting in place, the expectations for maintaining a safe working environment and what school would look like upon reopening. This includes putting children into 'bubbles' of no more than 12 children. Children will work, play and eat in their bubble, with staff making it clear to children that they are only to interact within their bubble. Please find this presentation on the front page of our website by clicking on the banner, 'Returning to School'.

Pupil non-negotiables

The health and safety of all of our school community, including our most vulnerable, is my prior consideration in any re-opening. Were you to choose to send your child into school there are three non-negotiables that they would need to adhere to: 1) Conform to best practice 2 metre social distancing expectations; 2) Hand wash thoroughly at key points in the day: upon arrival at school, before and after any physical activity, before and after eating, after going to the toilet and before leaving the school premises. 3) Staying within their bubbles and following adult direction.

Were your child to prove unable to adhere to these three non-negotiables then they would not be considered safe to be on site and would have to be collected. Please go through these expectations with your child so that they know what is expected.

Poll

In order for us to be able to plan effectively for the number of children that we can expect to receive, we will be sending out a School Ping asking you whether or not you would like your child to have a school place if we reopen. **Even if you responded to our last poll, please respond to this one as well so that we can be very clear about numbers.** Please ensure that you respond by the given deadline of Wednesday 27th May to secure your child's place. A 'yes' response is needed so that teachers can allocate the children to an appropriate bubble. **If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you do not want a place, and your child will not be allocated to a bubble.**

Possible Dates

We are looking at a potential reopening of Brunswick to Year 6 children on Tuesday 9th June 2020. The timetable for this is as follows:

8th June 2020 – School Reopening Preparations – Risk assessment training for staff to ensure that everyone is clear about the expectations for a safe reopening of the school. We will ensure that people are aware of everyone's responsibility to maintain a safe working environment.

9th June 2020 - We will welcome back half of our expected Year 6 children. This will give us time to have a site walk without any potential cross contamination along with a focus on ensuring the children are clear about the new expectations. These children will not be attending school on 10th June.

10th June 2020 – We will welcome the other half of our expected Year 6 children for their site tour and focus on new expectations.

11th June 2020 – We will welcome all of our expected Year 6 children back to school.

12th June 2020 – Half day for our Year 6 children. We will only be open for 4½ days per week, in line with the Hove Partnership agreement. This will give us an opportunity to ensure that there is time for a deep clean.

We shall continue to run remote learning and the provision we are currently running for vulnerable children and the children of key workers at our 'mini school'. The home schooling for Year 6 may not be the same as previously provided, as the teachers will be planning and teaching in school, but there will still be work for children who are not in.

Finally, thank you for the support you have shown the school, the staff and myself during this difficult time. I hope that the information provided to you in our PowerPoint enables you to make an informed decision.

Best wishes,

Shaun Collins

Headteacher