

### **Overview**

As schools have been asked to begin opening to wider groups of children, we have put a robust plan and set of risk assessments in place. We have made the decision to hold our wider opening date back by another week, in order to ensure all requirements and safety measures are securely in place. Our Year 6 pupils will be invited back first on Monday June the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please see our proposed wider opening schedule on page 2 for information regarding other year groups.

There is no requirement for any parent/carer to send their child from these identified year groups into school. **Any and all pupil absence will continue to be authorised until the end of the summer term.** The Department for Education has confirmed there will be no penalty for families who do not send their children back to school. We will reassess pupil absence guidance for September.

If you do choose to send your child into school, please be aware that we will be making significant attempts to ensure **some form** of physical distancing throughout our wider opening phase. However, in a primary school setting, it will not be possible for us to guarantee that your child will always maintain a distance from others. The government has admitted that primary pupils **“cannot be expected to remain two metres apart from each other and staff.”**

Any family choosing to send their child to school when we open to wider groups of children must accept that **ensuring social distancing may not be achievable.**

Key worker childcare will still be available in school for qualifying families in the other year groups. The same criteria to identify key workers throughout the current ‘lockdown’ will be applied. We have increased our capacity to provide key worker childcare places since June the 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Please know that any return to school this term will be a long way from ‘education as normal’ and the safety of our pupils and staff team remain our primary concern.**

### **Booking your child’s place**

First of all, we will contact families of each returning year group on Parentmail (the week before their child’s year group is due to return) to ask if you are planning to send your child back to school for the following week. If you choose not to send your child in that week, you may be given the opportunity to change your mind and send them into school in subsequent weeks if capacity allows.

We will also ask you to confirm that you understand we are not able to guarantee that physical distancing is constantly maintained whilst your child is in school.

Once we have had your replies and established pupil numbers, we can plan for the pupil groups for the coming week appropriately. If you have not confirmed your child’s place by the ‘cut off’ point the week before, your child will not be permitted into school if they turn up at school that week. This is because extra children will mean extra rooms and extra staffing, which we will not have had the chance to arrange beforehand.

### **Pupil numbers & class ‘bubbles’**

Due to the current situation of the Covid-19 virus, as well as the authorisation of any and all pupil absence for the remainder of this term, we expect significantly reduced class sizes during our wider opening phase.

We will be planning to work with groups, or ‘bubbles’, of around 10 to 12 children in each classroom and they will remain with this ‘bubble’ of children for the entire time they are back in school this term. There will be no mixing of children between different ‘bubble’ groups on following days, to help prevent any potential spread of Covid-19.

If pupil numbers become too large in certain year groups, more than one ‘bubble’ will be created per year group. After receiving initial responses from families on 08/06/20, it looks like this will now be the case.

If we have to accommodate too many ‘bubble’ groups for the limited number of classrooms we have available, we will have to scale back our provision across school.

Your child should not come into contact with or mix with children from another 'bubble' group for the remainder of this term. We will be working hard to ensure that each 'bubble' group will be kept separate at all times, even on the playground. This includes if there is more than one 'bubble' group for the same year group.

For example, if there are two separate 'bubble' groups for Year 6, the children from Year 6 group 1 will not mix with the children from Year 6 group 2.

Even with only around 10 to 12 pupils in a 'bubble' group per classroom, it will not be possible to constantly maintain social distancing measures in the classrooms. **Children will inevitably come into close contact with their peers and with staff members in their 'bubble' group.** Families must be prepared to accept that this is the case if they choose to send their child back to school this term. **If you cannot accept this unavoidable reality, do not send your child back to school this term.** Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

#### Proposed reopening schedule for this term

**Please be aware that our school reopening schedule is subject to change at any time we deem appropriate.**

	01/06/20	08/06/20	15/06/20	22/06/20	29/06/20	06/07/20	13/07/20	20/07/20
<b>Zone 1</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>
<b>Zone 2</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>	Key Worker <b>Childcare</b>
<b>Zone 3</b>				<b>Year 6</b> Group A	<b>Year 5</b> Group A	<b>Year 6</b> Group A	<b>Year 5</b> Group A	<b>Year 6</b> Group A
<b>Zone 4</b>				<b>Year 6</b> Group B	<b>Year 5</b> Group B	<b>Year 6</b> Group B	<b>Year 5</b> Group B	<b>Year 6</b> Group B
<b>Zone 5</b>					<b>Year 1</b> Group A	<b>Year 1</b> Group B	<b>FS2</b> Group A	<b>FS2</b> Group B

We have five separate 'zones' available in school, where each 'bubble' group can be kept separate from each other, as well as access a separate set of toilets and hand washing areas.

We will be closed on Fridays in the year group 'bubbles' to carry out a deep clean in preparation for the different 'bubble' group coming in the next week.

Key worker childcare is provided every day (including Fridays).

Lunch times will be staggered to allow each group some time outside on their own.

Please be aware, new guidance from the government has recently been issued for key worker childcare groups in schools. If your child has been accessing one of our key worker childcare 'bubbles', they must stay in these groups for the remainder of their time in school this term and will not be able to join the year group 'bubbles' now. I sincerely apologise if your child was looking forward to doing this, but it is out of our hands.

Each stage will have a review period beforehand to assess whether it is appropriate to proceed.

As the situation nationally and locally is changing all of the time, we are unable to share our plans for September. We recognise that this may be frustrating for some families and apologise for this.

#### Parent/Carer Information

Parents/carers must not enter the school building, unless they have a pre-arranged appointment.

If a parent/carers wishes to talk to the office team in the school entrance, only one of you may be in the foyer at one time and please stand away from the window hatch. Anyone else, who may be waiting, must wait outside. If there is a queue, please respect physical distancing measures.

We will have a 'drop box' in the office entrance area for any items you need to bring in, so you do not have to come into unnecessary contact with the office team.

### **Drop off and collection**

From Monday June the 1<sup>st</sup>, all children will be dropped off and collected from the school gate by the steps at a designated time, depending on their 'bubble' group. As we will have more families accessing our school after half-term, the school car park will be closed to families from June the 1<sup>st</sup>, unless you have disabled access.

<b>Pupil Group</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
Key Worker Childcare (Group 1)	8.40am	3.20pm
Key Worker Childcare (Group 2)	8.50am	3.30pm
Year 5/6 Group A Bubbles	9.00am	3.00pm
Year 5/6 Group B Bubbles	9.10am	3.10pm
Year 1 and FS2 Bubbles	9.20am	2.50pm

It is vital that families stick to these start and end times please, in order for us to avoid 'bubble' groups coming into contact with each other.

Only one adult parent/carers should be coming to school to drop off and collect their child please. If more than one adult comes, only one adult should line up in the queue. The other adults in your family should wait at a distance; for example, at the bottom of the hill.

Families will line up on the steps outside the school gate, at social distancing markers (like you'd find outside a supermarket). It is very important that families respect these distances please. Yes, your children will be mixing together in their 'bubble' groups in school, but parent/carers should not be mixing together.

You will come up, one family at a time, and drop off or collect your child from the gate. Families will then proceed (in a one way fashion) down the path to the left. This will be explained to you at the gate. There will also be signage to assist you.



If you are running late one day, and miss your drop off slot, we will unfortunately not be able to take your child that day, as they would arrive at a time when they would be mixing with members of another 'bubble' group. We cannot stop children mixing with other children from their own 'bubble' group but we have to do everything we can to stop children from different 'bubble' groups mixing together.

Families must also collect their child in the designated time slots please, for the same reasons outlined above.

The school office is a central area, so we will not be able to accept any child through this entrance from June the 1<sup>st</sup>, as it would mean that children and staff members would end up mixing between different 'bubble' groups.

There is really only one situation where children can be collected from the school office entrance and that is if they are being collected early, as they have been displaying symptoms of the Covid-19 virus. (More information on this circumstance is explained in the Health/Medical Guidance section)

If your child has an appointment during the day, which would mean you wanted to collect them during the school day, please keep them at home that day instead.

We are very aware that the limited nature of these drop off and collections arrangements make things tricky for families and we apologise for this. However, you will hopefully understand that elements like this are necessary in the current circumstances.

Our governors have been clear that any families not following these social distancing measures, and/or not adhering to the designated time slots, should have their child's places withdrawn. I know this sounds harsh and we really don't want to take this action as it doesn't fit with our ethos, but I understand their concerns and will follow this direction if required.

## **General arrangements**

*Some of the following elements may seem a little excessive. Please be aware that schools have been given clear directions to put many of these elements in place.*

Desks and work spaces in classrooms will be separated as far as they can.

Break times and lunch times will be staggered to create distancing between classes when they are outside.

Children will eat their lunches in their classrooms to maintain distancing between pupils.

All packed lunches must be disposable, including the bag the children bring them in. We are no longer able to allow children to bring in lunch boxes from June the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Children must not bring anything else into school apart from a water bottle and a coat or sun hat, depending on the weather. It is crucial they bring in their own water bottle (named), as sharing drinking cups is not permitted.

If it is a sunny day, sun cream must be applied at home before your child comes into school. They will not be permitted to bring their own sun cream into school.

We are planning for hot dinners to be available in school from the first day that the year group 'bubbles' begin to phase back into school. Currently, this is planned for Monday June the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please be aware that we will be running an altered menu.

Children should be having their clothes washed frequently, so there will be no requirement to wear school uniform for the rest of this term.

There will be no whole-school assemblies or whole-school gatherings.

Cleaning arrangements around school have been enhanced. Our cleaning team now come in at two points during the day; before school and just after lunchtime. The staff team will also be regularly cleaning throughout the day.

Guidance from the government requires that classroom doors will be propped open (where safe to do so) to limit the use of door handles and to aid ventilation. This does not include fire doors.

We will be preventing the sharing of stationery and other equipment in classrooms as much as we can. Shared materials and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected frequently. Children will have their own 'zip bag' of stationery which won't be shared with anyone else.

If your child is in FS2 or Year 1, and may need spare clothes in case they have an 'accident', please bring these into school in a labelled bag on their first day back. We will keep this stored in school in case they need it.

Displays in the classrooms and corridors (which the children can reach) will either be covered or taken down.

Hard to clean items like reading books, toys and soft furnishings have been removed from the classrooms.

Breakfast Club and After-School Childcare will not be running. This is to ensure children from different 'bubble' groups do not mix with each other. After-School Clubs will not be running either.

We will not be using supply agency staff to cover staff absence this term. Our existing staff members will be reallocated, if we have significant staff absence.

There will be a 'relaxed' curriculum delivered in school for the final few weeks of term.

All school trips and events have been cancelled until further notice.

Our Fort Adventure and Climbing Wall on the playground will not be available to the children when they are outside, as we do not have capacity to clean it thoroughly after a 'bubble' group has been on it.

## **Health/Medical Guidance**

Children will have a temperature check with an infra-red thermometer on entry to school. If a high temperature is recorded, they will be sent home immediately to self-isolate for 7 days. We may send a video clip of this process

out to you all on your Seesaw accounts. We ask that parents/carers explain this process to your children before they come back to school, so they are not nervous about this.

If your child begins to display symptoms of the virus, you will be contacted to collect her/him from school immediately. Testing for children over the age of 5 is now available for children displaying symptoms. School can arrange for the test to be sent out and parents/carers can administer them at home.

If a child is sent home because he/she is displaying symptoms of Covid-19, all the families of the children in his/her 'bubble' group will be informed that an anonymous child has been sent home. This will allow them to make an informed decision on whether to keep their child in school or not, until we know the results of the test.

If the test has a positive result, your child must self-isolate for 7 days and the rest of your household must self-isolate for 14 days. The rest of your child's 'bubble' group will also be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. At this point (as at any point) we may also decide to close the whole school to allow 14 days of self-isolation for all.

If the test has a negative result, your child can return to school and your household can end your self-isolation.

Children and families classed as being 'clinically vulnerable' due to pre-existing medical conditions have been advised to shield. This includes any parent who is pregnant. This means we will not be permitting these children, or any of their siblings, into school until the guidance states otherwise.

If anyone in your household develops a fever or new continuous cough, you are advised to follow the Covid-19 guidance for households: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

### **Home Learning**

Online Seesaw learning tasks will continue to be available for each year group until the end of this term, unless their child's class returns to school. We are aware that many families will be keeping their child at home when their child's class reopens but, if their child's teacher is working in school all day, they cannot be expected to also maintain an online classroom.

If your child's teacher is working in school, their class will only have a 'light touch' approach to the online Seesaw home learning package, with only a small number of online tasks being posted. In addition, the children's work on Seesaw will not be monitored in the same way that it has been whilst most of the school has been closed. I apologise if this is not the best situation for your family, but it is a matter of capacity.

### **Inset Days in September**

As the children will have been away from school for a very long time by September, we have moved the majority of the Inset days out of that week and will reschedule them for later in the year. This means that the return date for children is planned for Wednesday September 2. Our plans for September will be shared with families as soon as we know what they are.

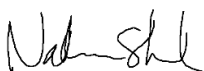
If you have already booked a family holiday for the September Inset days, and the government has reintroduced permission to go on holiday by then, please allow yourselves to go on the holiday and enjoy your time there. We will not be chasing you up for non-attendance that week.

### **Thank you**

Thank you for your support and understanding throughout all of this. I am aware that there is an awful lot of information here. Please know we are not trying to be 'awkward' about any of this, much of which is set by local authority and government guidelines which we have to follow. We are doing the best we possibly can to ensure the safety of the children in our care and for our staff team.

If you wish to discuss any items in this plan, or anything to do with school reopening, please do give us a call in school. We will be happy to talk through things with you.

Yours sincerely,



Nadeem Shah  
Headteacher



Paul Smith  
Chair of Governors