



Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are aware government has released guidance regarding our school re-opening for on 1st June 2020. After much consideration regarding the safeguarding of the children and ensuring the school site is safe and prepared for the children's return we will be opening the school to staff for the initial week with the school opening for some children on June 8<sup>th</sup>.INITIALLY THIS WILL ONLY BE OUR RECEPTION, YEAR ONE, YEAR SIX AND KEY WORKER/ VULNERABLE CHILDREN (Rainbow Group).

This letter is an overview of our current plans; there will be more detail later in the coming week including risk assessments.

**Staying safe:** We have developed a plan of how reopening will be implemented, including detailed risk assessments, but we will not hesitate to suspend or delay the opening of the school in the event that Public Health or Health and Safety measures would be compromised. The key to the guidance is keeping small groups together, and away from other groups, with social distancing and regular hand cleansing; sanitiser will be available across the school.

**The Bubble:** Our aim is to reduce the class sizes as far as possible below 15 with workstations in each class two metres apart - in line with social distancing where possible. Teachers and teaching assistants who are able to come into school will be working with the same group of children - in the same area to reduce the risk of infection. This means your child may be working in a different classroom than they were before the pandemic and possibly with a different adult. The adult assigned to each group will 'bubble' with them for the remainder of this term, remaining together to reduce the risk of infection. This will mean a group of children will stay in the same 'bubble', entering school together, learning together, playing together (in their own defined area), eating together (in their classroom) and leaving school together, whilst following the two metre social distancing guidance where possible to reduce the risk of infection. Classes will be thoroughly cleaned every day. Please see risk assessments.

**Uniform:** There is not an expectation that children will return to school wearing their school uniform. We ask that the children are sent to school in clean clothes daily, which are suitable for outdoor play. Clothing must be clean daily to reduce the risk of the spread of infection. If a child has the same clothes on as the previous day they will be asked to be collected from school and won't be able to return till the following day.

**Lunchtime:** There will be no hot meals during the return to school initially. By offering daily packed lunches to the children we can reduce movement around school, with children being able to either eat these in their designated room or outside. **Please note all children attending school from June 8<sup>th</sup> must have a packed lunch provided by our school kitchen to minimise the risk of infection. These will be free of charge. They will need a clean, full water bottle each day.**

**Intimate Care and Medical Appointments:** If any child soils themselves during the school day the child's parent will be contacted and the parent will be asked to collect the child. The child will not be permitted to return to school that day. If a child has a medical appointment they should not come to school on that day to ensure 'bubbles' aren't burst.

**Key Worker/Vulnerable Children (The Rainbow Group):** Key worker and vulnerable children will access our bubble known as 'The Rainbow Group.' We will be asking whether your child will be accessing school full time, or not and what your weekly requirements are regarding this linked to shift patterns etc. This group will be receiving educational learning from the 8<sup>th</sup> June onwards not childcare which was the previous arrangement. This group will be bubbled in the Ozzie Owls room.

**Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 & Year 5 Children:** The government have stated they would like to have all children back in school for a month before the end of the summer term; we will keep this under review and update you weekly of developments as they arise. Although we will be following government guidance, the safety of our children will be at the heart of every decision we make and if this is not possible due to space and staffing the children in these year groups will not return at present. This will be reviewed regularly with the first review taking place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020.

**Entering and leaving school safely:** Start and end times for the day have been revised to allow for the safe arrival and departure of the children to and from the school site. The school day will run from 8:45 - 3:15 with designated time slots for different groups. We will also have a designated gate for entry to the site and one for leaving the site, along with demarcated lining up stations to keep a two-metre distance and enable the flow of people, thus reducing the risk of infection. Parents/Carers will not be permitted onto the school site at all during this time and **SHOULD NOT** attempt to speak to staff on entry or leaving the school as this will cause congestion at the school gates. If any parent has any questions regarding their child's day in school please can they email the bubble member of staff.

We would encourage children to walk or cycle to school however if this isn't possible please can we ask that parents and children stay in their car until the member of staff opens the gate for their bubble? There will be no Ozzie Owls or after school clubs in the Summer Term.

**Punctuality:** Punctuality is essential in order to ensure everyone is safe. A timetable of allotted timings and gates is attached. If a child is late and the bubble have already

entered the school building the child will not be allowed entry to school until the following day.

**Decision-making:** There have obviously been huge planning implications for school in terms of children returning to school . As a result, this is why we have needed to establish numbers in order for us to organise staffing, arrange timetables for break times, set up 'bubbles,' organise staggered start/finish times etc. to maximise your child's safety.

For parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children there are currently three options:

1. Return to school full time on 8th June 2020.
2. Review date may allow for further places to be offered on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 this needs to be indicated and may not be guaranteed.
3. Not return to school in the summer term.

Bubbles have been set up for June 8<sup>th</sup> based upon your Google Form responses and will remain fixed according to the government guidelines. We will NOT be able to admit your child if you change your mind, until we have reviewed the provision later in the term; this is to ensure the safety of the staff and children in each bubble. Following the review, there may be an opportunity to set up new bubbles, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Whether you have chosen for your child to return to school this term is your decision as a parent/ carer. I fully respect whatever decision you have decided upon. If you have decided to keep your child at home during this period, there will be no fines or further action taken by school; the children will also continue to have a virtual home learning to access.

Kind regards,

Helen Smith

Headteacher