

Please be aware that the information in this letter may change in line with changes to Government guidance

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you are all keeping well, staying safe and are making the best of the current situation. The government has stated that primary schools should open for some children before the end of the summer term. This decision will be confirmed on 29th May, at the earliest. In response to this, we will be opening the school for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in a staged process.

All plans have been made in line with the most recent government guidance.

- If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable or living with someone in this group, they should not come back to school at this time, and should continue home learning.
- If your child is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), you should follow medical advice about coming back to school.
- **If you or anyone living at home shows any symptoms**, you should self isolate for at least 14 days. Your child should not come back into school.

We understand that sending your child into school may cause anxiety and that you will have concerns. Below we have shared some important points we feel you need to know before making your decision:

- Sending your child to school is **your** choice and there will be **no** penalties for non-attendance.
- School will be **very** different to how it was before lockdown and will **look and feel different** due to social distancing guidance as outlined in government guidance.
- As we are sure you can appreciate, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain two metres apart from either each other, or staff.
- We recognise the importance of reducing contact between individuals. We will try to achieve this by ensuring children and staff only mix in a small, consistent group.
- School will **not** open on 1st June 2020 for all groups. We will communicate the return date for each year group with you in due course.
- Government guidance **does not recommend** the wearing of **PPE** and as such we have **not** been provided with PPE by the Government.
- Parents are asked to maintain social distancing guidelines as far as possible, when dropping off and picking up children and to remain a minimum of two metres apart at all times.
- We will operate staggered start and end times of the day to minimise congestion at the school gates and allow for social distancing. To support this, only **one adult** per family will be allowed on site. No parents/carers will be allowed in corridors or classrooms.
- Following Government guidance, children will be organised into 'bubbles' – meaning they will work with a consistent group of up to a maximum of 14 other children and two adults.
- Where possible, 'bubbles' will be kept separate from each other at all times during the day, meaning that contact between children and staff outside of a bubble should not take place. This enables us to limit social contact and reduce transmission risk.
- We cannot guarantee that children will work with their usual class teacher, but will try to ensure they are with familiar adults wherever possible.
- We cannot guarantee children will work in their usual classrooms.
- We cannot guarantee children will be in 'bubbles' with close friends, but will endeavour to bring this about where possible.
- The school will make all decisions about the staff/children in each bubble.



- Movement around school will be timetabled and systems will be in place to limit, but we cannot eliminate contact with other 'bubbles'.
- Lunches will be eaten in 'bubbles' in the classrooms.
- Children will need to bring in their own water bottle, as cups and access to water fountains will not be provided.
- Outside play/learning will take place in 'bubbles' and will be socially distanced as much as possible through staggered timings.
- We are aware that our youngest children may find these new restrictions **very** difficult. They will not have access to some of the resources they normally would. Young children learn by touching, doing, being with others and sharing – all of which will have to be limited as far as possible.

We will try to make the return to school as positive an experience as possible, and recognise that children may be anxious and may need time to adjust. Our curriculum will aim to address this by ensuring children have the time to talk, reflect, play, learn and slowly adjust to their new normal.

Please be reassured that we will do our utmost to ensure the safety of our children and will endeavour to reduce risks to a minimum, but we should all recognise that as soon as the number of children in school increases, so does the risk of transmission.

It is your decision whether to send your child to school. If you are worried about the potential risk, you can keep them at home and we will continue to provide online learning lessons through our virtual school. We will not issue any fines for non-attendance during this period.

If you make the decision that your child will return to school, we ask that they do so on a full time basis to ensure consistency for your child. If you have not already done so, please let us know if you wish your child to return to school by completing this [form](#).

We will be in touch as soon as we have more information.

Yours sincerely,