

Phased Re-opening of Educational Settings Home-School Agreement from May 2020

The Department for Education has issued outline plans and guidance for the possible return of some children (presently Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6) from the earliest date 1st June 2020 (conditional on scientific advice deeming it safe for schools to do so), and for those students who are facing exams next year in Year 10 and Year 12 to have contact with their teachers before the summer holidays.

We want to reassure you that your child's and our staff's safety are of paramount importance and we will only open once we have clearance from the government, agreement with unions and staff and feel confident to do so.

It is important to note that our provision will not be a return to school as it was before the government lockdown, as there will be significant changes and challenges to routines and timetables to ensure we operate with COVID19 safety guidelines. We need to know that you understand these are some of the rules that we would all have to adhere to.

Additionally, if a child was a risk to the health and safety of others, eg spitting, biting, scratching, or disruptive behaviour, they would not be able to attend.

Provision may not be in your child's usual classroom.

Parents do not have to send their child to school during this period and there is no fine system in place during this period. The safety of our children and our staff is a priority.

In recognition of the changes to our normal provision, we are implementing a new home-school agreement (below) which recognises the important and ongoing partnership between parents/carers, pupils and the school, and which sets out our actions and expectations to support the safety of pupils and staff.

Please could we ask you to read and sign the revised home school agreement below ahead of any confirmation of the phased re-opening of schools when it is safe to do so.

Many thanks,

Headteacher

Phased Re-opening of Educational Provision
Home-School Agreement
Amended: June 2020

Outline

The government guidance on 11th May acknowledges that 'one of the key issues for schools will be class sizes, availability of staff, and ability to remain 2m apart from each other and staff'. One of the ways we can possibly do this is if we have classes on a rota with designated provision on designated dates.

Children will be in small class groups (maximum of 15) chosen by the school and will remain wherever possible in these groups throughout the day not mixing with each other or other groups. The DfE call these groups 'bubbles' in their guidance.

Children may be at their desks for the majority of the day, eating lunch and socially distancing during planned breaks including toilet breaks, as set out in the guidance.

We will endeavour to make the experience as positive as possible for children returning to school, and recognise that children will be anxious; the small groups and staff support will help with this as much as possible.

School Provision and Organisation

- Children will be asked to wash their hands immediately on arrival at the school and the school will operate handwashing regimes throughout the day.
- Children will be in small class groups (maximum of 15 mainstream/ 7 in Specialist Provision) chosen by the school and will remain wherever possible in these groups (called 'bubbles' by DfE) throughout the day)
- Provision may also not be in your child's usual classroom environment.
- Desks will be 2 metres apart and a walkway will be included
- Children wherever possible will not mix with other children from other 'bubbles'.
- Children will work at an assigned desk for the majority of the day, including eating lunch and using equipment which only they will have access to on their desk
- All equipment for learning activities will be provided by the school on each child's desk and at their allocated seat (and collected in by staff)
- Social distancing will be supervised during planned breaks including toilet breaks, as set out in the guidance. This will include designated areas for each child to play in and operating staggered breaks.
- Shorter, re-timed lessons will be broken up with outside time for exercise, outside learning as appropriate and risk assessed, and breaks for toilet/handwashing to stagger access.
- If a child was a risk to the health and safety of others, eg spitting, biting, scratching, or disruptive behaviour, they would not be welcome to attend and the offer of provision may be withdrawn. Provision may also not be in your child's usual classroom. Parents do not have to send their child to school during this period and there is no fine system in place during this period. The safety of our children and our staff is a priority.
- Should your child become unwell at school, we will contact you, or one of your nominated contacts immediately to arrange their collection from school. If a child shows any of the signs of a potential Covid 19 infection then they will be either refused entry or sent home immediately to prevent the spread of an potential infection to other. It is therefore important that you are able to pick your child up at any point throughout the day to ensure they can attend.

Parent/carer responsibilities

- To ensure that your child is healthy and well to attend school with **no signs or symptoms of any illness (Please do not send your child to school with any symptoms or if they are unwell.)**
- To ensure the safe arrival of your child at the allocated agreed staggered start and end to the school day in order to maintain social distancing and safety for other parents/carers, children and staff, and to avoid all parents/carers and children arriving at same time. (Parents will not be allowed on school site)
- To follow the clear plans in place at all sites which are based on site-specific entrances/exits
- Where possible, for only one parent/carer to accompany their child to the school entrance to minimise numbers at the entrance and exit to our school site.
- To ensure that children arrive with clean hands and clothes each day
- To use the designated school email address to contact the school with any queries as it will not be possible to communicate with you in person at the start, during, or at the end of the day. We/I will let the school know about any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour during this time. The school will endeavour to respond to you as soon as possible.
- To support the school in ensuring that your child understands the expectations of the amended home-school agreement to minimise your child's anxiety and to keep all children and staff safe
- To share the responsibility for the behaviour of your child with staff and to support the school during this unprecedented time.
- To agree to support the school by ensuring that your child follows the school's rules and expectations during this phased reopening for the safety of all children and staff (in line with COVID19 safety procedures adopted by the school in its behaviour policy).
- If your child becomes symptomatic or is unsafe to be in school, then you have a responsibility to remove them from the school site as soon as possible.

Pupil responsibilities

- To listen carefully to, and follow the instructions of staff at school at all times, especially the new expectations that we all have to follow for social distancing, cleanliness and spaces inside, and outside school in line with COVID19 safeguarding measures.
- To attend school as agreed with my parents/carers and teachers during this different time
- To behave safely at all times in school, recognising that my actions have consequences for my safety, and the safety of those around me
- To travel safely to and from school to make sure that I don't put my parents/carers, other children or any members of the public at risk
- I understand that I may be working in a different classroom, with different children that my school have decided throughout the day, and that I must stay with the group I am working with.
- I understand that I will be allocated a space at a desk which is my space to work in, and which will have the equipment that I will need for my learning. I know that I must not touch or use other children's equipment or approach other children at their designated desk.
- I understand that I will eat my lunch at my desk and not share food or drink with any other children. (Packed lunch only)
- I understand that there will be extra times when I will be expected to wash my hands, always after visiting the toilet and before and after eating and I will wash them properly as per our hand washing guidance.

- I understand that during break/lunchtime I will be able to play outside, but only when my 'bubble' class is allowed, and I must keep safely apart from other children.

Signed: _____ Parent/Carer

Signed: _____ (student)

Signed: _____ Headteacher

Parent/carer email address: _____

1st Emergency Contact Name and Number: _____

2nd Emergency Contact Name and Number: _____