



A community of inspiration, aspiration and enrichment

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, our school has remained open during this lockdown period to provide childcare for key-workers' children. The government has now issued further guidance on allowing more children to safely return to school. Many of you will have questions about what this means for your child.

As a school, we want to have children returning; school is a very strange place without them and we are missing them being here. However, we know we must not put our community at risk by doing so.

The key priority for our school is to ensure the safety of everyone. We are currently undertaking a detailed risk assessment and putting in place a range of protective measures before we decide whether we will be able to open our doors to more children. There is more detail about what this may look like on the following pages of this letter.

We are planning changes that are as safe and supportive as possible for children and families, whilst being manageable for our school. The government has set an ambition for more children to begin to return to school from the 1st June with Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 being the first year groups to return.

We have been advised that the decision about whether the tests have been met and the Government deem it safe to open schools will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> May. This means we will be informed on either 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> May, leaving very little time to finalise our plans and communicate the detail with you, if it is decided that schools can open on 1<sup>st</sup> June. For this reason, we will need to use the first week in June to ensure we are completely ready for more children to attend and, therefore, will not be able to reopen until the week beginning the 8th June at the earliest. We will only welcome groups of children into school if we are satisfied that the measures put in place will enable us to provide the safest environment possible for everyone in our school community.

I would like to thank you all for your understanding at this time of great challenge. Comments made on the recent questionnaire, during phone calls, in emails and on Twitter, have been incredibly kind about how we are managing things as a school, showing sympathy for the very difficult decisions we have to make and expressing concern for the safety and well-being of our staff and wider community. It is heart-warming to receive so much positivity and compassion from so many of you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Pecheur'.

Mrs. S. Pecheur  
Head Teacher

## Overview of Plans for Children Returning to School

To manage the risk effectively, there need to be some significant changes to the way our school works. Children will be returning to a very different school from the one they left.

### Dropping Off and Picking Up Children

Entering and exiting school will be through the Wheelers Lane Entrance. There will be a one-way queuing system in place – similar to those used outside supermarkets.

The teachers will collect children from the main playground gate.

There will be a staggered start and end to the day with different year groups arriving and leaving at different times.

### Class Rota

One class from each of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will come in each day.

Each class will be split into three small groups of 5 – 10 children, each with a teacher or TA. Each group will be in a different classroom.

### Classroom Environment

The tables will be placed two metres apart with one child to each table. They will keep all of their belongings in their table area.

In Early Years, the classrooms will be zoned to support social distancing.

Children will spend most of the day in their classroom. The playground will be timetabled for use in lessons with available time slots shared evenly between all groups.

Individual packs of equipment, including pencils and pens, will be provided for children. They may choose to bring their own, providing they are not shared with anyone else.

### Curriculum

The curriculum will focus on basic skills in Maths and English, PSHE, well-being, transition and creative activities.

For children not in school, these activities will be provided as home learning on the school website.

There may be timetabled curriculum time outside to do PE or outdoor learning.

### Break Times

Children will have staggered breaks and will not mix with other groups.

Breaks will be outside in the playground with zones for each group.

The large play equipment will be out of use as it requires deep cleaning.

### Lunchtime

Children who have free or paid school meals will be provided with a school dinner. Children who usually bring a packed lunch will continue to do this.

Lunches will be eaten in the classroom. Children will have half an hour outside in their zone of the playground.

### Uniform

Where children have school uniform, they are asked to wear it. Where it no longer fits, we ask that children wear dark (e.g. black, grey, navy) trousers, skirt or shorts and a plain top, in one of the school colours if possible (white, yellow or green). Trainers are fine for their footwear.

Children do not need to bring PE kit; they will do PE in whatever they are wearing.

### Hygiene and Cleaning

The school has had a deep clean and all classrooms to be used will be cleaned and disinfected in the week before opening.

Toilets and touch points will be cleaned regularly throughout the day by the site team.

Children and staff will be required to wash their hands often and hand sanitiser will also be available.

Each classroom will have its own supply of cleaning materials.

There will be a hand sanitiser unit at the gate for children to use on their way in. Other units will be placed around school.

### PPE

Guidance states that school staff do not require PPE unless they are dealing with first aid or medical needs.

Our staff may choose to wear face masks and other PPE to protect themselves and others.

### Illness

If children have any type of illness, they must not come to school.

If a child complains of feeling unwell, for any reason, when they are in school, a parent or carer will be contacted and asked to collect them. The child will be kept separate from the other children and staff until they are collected.

If a child complains of Covid-19 related symptom, they will be isolated from the other children and a parent or carer will be contacted to collect them. The child will only be permitted to return to school once a negative test result is confirmed or, if the test is positive, once the required quarantine period has been completed and the child is completely symptom free.

Parents and carers of children in the group will be informed if another child or the designated member of staff is being tested for Covid-19.

### Childcare for Keyworkers

We will continue to run childcare for children of keyworkers. As we need to use classrooms for groups of children, this will take place in the halls. Because of the limited space for each group, the number of children we can take will be limited in order to ensure social distancing.

There is currently a waiting list for childcare.

Parents and carers will be given detailed plans of the return procedures in the week before the return.