

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you safe and well. Thank you for your support and understanding during these very challenging times. We are really missing everyone and appreciate your great efforts to support the children's learning while they have not been at school. Our dedicated staff have been working very hard to keep the learning going for those children at home, for vulnerable children and the children of key workers in school.

As you will know, the government announced that schools might reopen for Nursery children, Reception, Y1 and Y6 after the half term holiday from June 1st at the earliest. Vulnerable children (if deemed appropriate) and children of key workers will also continue to come to school regardless of their year group.

We have received further guidance, which is helping us to create an action plan for this phased reopening. The plan we are now working on has the safety of your children and of our staff as the highest priority. There are a number of measures we will need to implement in school in order to minimise the risk of infection and to maintain as much social distancing as is possible with very young children.

It is important that you appreciate school will be very different to what your children are used to.

The bullet points below set out some of the details within the guidance.

- From June 1st we will begin to re-open to pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This will need to be prioritised, based on the space available and staffing available. We do not have the capacity to re-open nursery at this time.
- We will continue to care for children of key workers and vulnerable groups.
- The number of pupils in any classroom will be restricted to 8.
- Pupils will be placed in a 'bubble' and will be expected to stay with the same adult and the same group of children until school structures change.
- Pupils groups will not be able to mix with other pupil 'bubbles' to minimise risk of transmission.
- Movement around school will be very restricted with break and lunch times being staggered to allow for minimal contact.
- There will be limited hot meals available and packed lunches will be offered as an alternative.

Pupil and staff safety will remain the primary concern in any planning and it may not be possible to welcome back all pupils in the way the prime minister described. We have contacted parents and carers of children in the specified year groups to get an indication of whether they are willing to send their children back to school and these **parents will get a letter to show they have been allocated a place.**

It is also crucially important that you inform us if a member of your household is identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable – that is, they have received a letter or text from the NHS informing them to shield for a minimum of 12 weeks.

We will do our utmost to ensure that school is as safe as possible, however we fully understand if you have concerns about your child returning to school. It is important that you make an informed decision as to whether you choose to send your child back to school since only you know your children and your personal situation best. During this time, no parent will be penalised if you choose not to send your child. There will be no attendance proceedings or consequences during this time. We are very keen for school and your child's education to return to normal however, we must ensure that we do this as safely as possible and in collaboration with parents and carers. Therefore, home schooling is to be continued where possible, and weekly tasks will continue to be set and sent home through the normal channels.

We will continue to keep you informed as we receive further information. Please check our website Facebook and Marvellous Me regularly for up-to-date information.

This has been, and continues to be, an extremely challenging time for everyone. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns and most importantly, keep safe. Thank you again for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Ms K Gleave



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