



Tuesday, 26 May 2020

### **Phased Return Survey Comment Responses**

#### **URGENT - AIP & Lunches**

AIP have confirmed today that their online booking system is now back up and running. Unfortunately due to timing, orders for next week must still be completed by midnight tomorrow, Wednesday 27th May, in the usual fashion. All parents wishing to order their children a packed lunch (options online), including keyworker families, must order it online whether they are entitled to Universal Free School Meals or not.

Due to timing and circumstances there is no flexibility - the school will phone the parent of any child without a lunch and ask for you to provide one. If there is any doubt around your child's lunch order being submitted successfully, please provide one on the first day back to be sure; there will be no spare food due to the nature of the packed lunches and the associated hygiene. Thank you

#### **Class Groups**

With 31% of families who responded 'undecided', it is impossible to commit to class groups prior to Monday morning. Class teachers will be asked to organise groups based on everyone attending and these will then be subject to change on the day depending on turn out. We understand your decision and the children's happiness about returning to school will be based in part on friendships and staffing however in order to provide this phased return as directed we cannot make any guarantee. Based on this arrangement, we would hope to inform you of your child's class group, and therefore their start/collections times by Friday at the latest.

Please note that the same staff will be with the same children all week; part time staff will return to support the same class group on each of their working days.

#### **Toileting**

Children will not be limited to specific toilet slots unless absolutely necessary at peak times; this will be no different to normal school practise. They will however be limited to which toilet facilities they can use to assist with hygiene and isolating class groups. Children with specific medical needs will be addressed separately and provided for.

#### **Class Dojo**

Class Dojo will be paused, not closed, the week beginning June 1st but staff will not be posting new activities during that week. Children will still be welcome to use it and upload items however whilst we settle into our new routines, staff need to focus on the children on site.

#### **Learning, Marking & Feedback**

Understandably there have been several questions about the nature of the learning which will be taking place. As the phased return document stated, there will be a distinct difference between the current keyworker childcare provision and the other class groups; the on-site school provision will be taught curriculum-based lessons all day, every day. More specifics of what is being learnt will be shared as soon as possible but there will be a focus on English, Maths and PSHE (which includes well-being, mental health and Year 6 transition).

What will be slightly different is the nature of sharing resources and the extent to which staff interact with the children in lessons. With up to two adults per class group at any one time, they will be circulating, discussing and feeding back to the children in the usual fashion. As a school we had already moved to a more verbal feedback style earlier this year so whilst this will continue we will be avoiding unnecessary handling of the

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

children's work and books so physical, 'traditional' marking will be minimal. As feedback overall is a crucial part of the learning cycle this will continue as normal.

Please note that reference to keyworker children being a priority was a factor when addressing our capacity to effect the phased return on June 1st however this does not impact the provision provided in each instance – the quality and expectations of our lessons & learning will not be affected by any other school provision.

### **Uniform**

As the phased return document states, on-site school children in lessons will be expected to wear uniform however we cannot monitor or insist on a daily change of clothes. Albeit good, healthy practise we cannot expect working parents or key worker families to have the time to launder or possess enough uniform items to make this possible. We do not expect parents to buy new uniform for this short period before the summer and we have never insisted on branded items.

### **PE kit**

We hope to welcome Mr Boland (Coach) back next week to continue PE lessons however we do not have the space to manage changing for PE in the usual fashion. Once we have confirmed Mr Boland's involvement and his exact availability and timetable (Wednesdays and Thursdays) we will inform you which day your child has PE so that the children can come to school in their kit and wear that for the day. We hope this will keep matters around changing simple and provide another change of clothes option for parents. Please note that all PE will take place outside.

### **New Rules and Regulations**

Our aim is to keep as much about school life as normal as possible but, in order to meet the latest requirements, as outlined in the phased return document, changes will be necessary. We will make every effort, especially on the first few days, to ease the children back in and explain what is happening and why – it is important both for their well-being and the smooth running of the school during this period. Expectations and instructions will be provided and supported in our usual fashion, striking a balance between reassuring the children and making sure nobody is put at unnecessary risk.

### **Social Distancing**

Some parents are seeking reassurance about social distancing and how we will manage this in and around school. As the phased return document states, children will be distanced in how they are seated indoors or by group activity tables. Outside, and at playtime, children will only be outside in their class groups in any one area and where possible we will be using the playground, courtyard and field. We will speak to the children prior to going out and talk about some techniques for checking distance, reminding them about not playing contact games etc. but ultimately it will rely on constant staff supervision and reminders.

All areas of school provision, including keyworker childcare, are being brought in line with the latest Government guidance and, although they state that 2m social distancing is not practical with younger children, we will do our absolute best.

### **Attendance**

As the phased return document states, we respect and accept any entitled families' decision not to return their children to school however we cannot accept indecision where families may be considering part time attendance or making a different decision at a later date.

Whilst I sympathise with the political and information minefield in which we find ourselves, in the interest of everyone's health and establishing our class group 'bubbles', parents please need to commit from June 1st unless the development of a medical situation requires us to make alternative arrangements. I appreciate some parents would like more information about current arrangements and what might occur in the coming weeks however we do not have any further details to provide at this time.