



Hi All,

2nd June 2020

I hope that you and your families are well. We had a lovely first day with Reception today.

Following last Friday's letter to all families I wanted to give more clarity to our situation at school and hopefully give more explanation of life in school. However, with the focus at the moment on the greater return to school I want to start with a thank you to the parents/carers who have supported their children's learning at home. We know that it is really not easy to manage learning for children of different ages while also managing home-working yourself, and we appreciate the lengths that everyone has gone to in order to make this such a success. I have been able to look at the different content that the children have been posting on Class Dojo and Tapestry, and have been amazed at the variety of imaginative approaches that have been taken to the challenges they have been set. Just to confirm, going forward the children working at home will receive more Oak Academy lessons and today I have been contacted by a few families that like the different approach, as it has reignited their children to have a go. This is great to hear, thanks.

So, just to confirm, the decision to send children back to school rests entirely with parents/carers. We completely respect and support the choices that you will make in the best interests of your family. There will be no fines issued or referrals to the education welfare service should you choose not to send your children back at this point in time. We would, however, ask that children who remain at home do engage with the online learning that will be set for them.

Please be aware that as requests to return increase, there may be changes to bubbles. Also, larger bubbles will be organised into smaller bubbles of children to limit contact at break times. Thank you.

It was the intention of government to have the offer to open schools to more children from 1st June, for Reception children, then Year 1 and finally Year 6. Our offer to Year 6 remains that due to numbers, the children will be in four bubbles with children attending every other week, Monday to Thursday:

w/c 1st June:

Wednesday 3rd June: school remains open to the children of keyworker parents and Reception children

Thursday 4th June: school remains open to the children of keyworker parents, Reception children and children in Year 1

Every Friday school is closed to all groups except key worker children, for deep cleaning.

Friday 5th June: Please be aware, key worker children in Reception and Year 1 who have attended this week in their year group bubble can attend on Friday but will be placed in a smaller bubble of children in their year group.



Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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w/c 8th June onwards:

Monday 8th June – Thursday 11th June: school reopens for Year 6 children in Indigo 1 and Violet 1 groups and remains open to the children of keyworker parents, Reception children and children in Year 1

Monday 15th June – Thursday 18th June: school reopens for Year 6 children in Indigo 2 and Violet 2 groups and remains open to the children of keyworker parents, Reception children and children in Year 1

Every Friday school is closed to all groups except key worker children for deep cleaning.

Fridays from 12th June onwards: key worker children in Reception and Year 1 who have attended the week in their year group bubble can attend on Friday but will be placed in a smaller bubble of children in their year group.

All schools have had to make significant changes to their provision to take into account the risks associated with virus transmission, and we are no different. While we will, of course, manage the children's anxiety about returning by supporting them in talking about their worries and trying to keep as much the same as we can, I must make sure that you all realise that school will be a different experience for those returning, at least for the time being. To keep our children and staff safe I respectfully request again that you adhere to the national guidelines of 2 m social distancing and not meeting outside in groups of more than six.

I have had a few questions regarding our school routine and hope the information below builds on the information already sent:

Changes to routines will include:

- **School uniform:** to only be worn on a Monday. Children should wear their own clothes Tuesday to Thursday (or Friday for key worker children), including trainers, which should be fresh on each day (trainers to be wiped down at home) and which are easy to wash and dry. The clothes that they would usually wear for sports week would be great while the weather is warm. It is imperative that children have sun-cream already applied before arriving at school, and preferably be able to reapply their own. Staff will not be able to apply this to children as it will impinge on the 2m social distancing rule that we will be making our best endeavours to maintain. We will be spending as much time outside as possible during the rest of the term.
- **No bags** will be needed in school. Children should only attend in the clothing they need i.e. no coats if the weather is good. **No pencil cases** from home will be accepted, we will provide the children with everything they need and this will remain on their workstation at all times. There will be no opportunity for sharing resources like pens and crayons. Each child will receive their own equipment in class.
- **Staggered drop off and collection** times giving a half hour window at the start and end of the day to support social distancing. Staggered break-times and lunchtimes to ensure that contact with other children from different bubbles is minimised.
- **Access to classrooms** will be altered and a one way system will be introduced on the playground for drop off and collection. Parents will not be permitted to enter the playground prior to collection, and will be expected to leave immediately on drop off.
- Parents will be asked to respect **social distancing** and asked to not come onto the school grounds; any communication with the school and teachers should be by telephone or email to reduce face to face contact. Parents will not be allowed into the school building.



Organisational changes will include:

- No Breakfast Club or After School Club will be available to any children.
- Children will be organised in bubbles of no more than 15 children per group, although the physical space available in our classrooms allows a maximum of 12 children in a group.
- An amended curriculum will be delivered, which will reflect the requirement for social distancing i.e. no close work with groups or partners.
- All children will have their own workstation, 2m from the next child, and they will use this for all of their work and also to store their pencils/ resources etc.
- Children may or may not be taught or supervised by their usual class teacher or teaching assistant, but there will be a teacher and teaching assistant allocated to each bubble.
- Lunch will be eaten in classrooms, not in the hall. Only packed lunches will be available from the school kitchen in the first instance.
- Handwashing on entry to the building, before and after every activity and before leaving the building.
- Only one child will be allowed in the toilets at any time.
- Children will only be able to bring one reading book home on a Thursday and it needs to be brought back on a Monday to allow for 72 hours to be left.

As I mentioned on Friday, children (in KS2) and parents/carers will be expected to sign an amendment to the Home School Agreement which will clearly set out our expectations around behaviour and working together. I'm sure you all appreciate that we cannot accept any behaviour which might compromise the safety of children and adults in our community. **Once again, I request families to return the new home/school agreement by sending an email acknowledging and agreeing to it by emailing the school inbox: tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk, thanks. An email will suffice.**

With the situation ever being updated, all of these measures will be constantly under review and may change depending on the advice available and profile of the virus within our community. If you wish to change the decision about your child attending, I need all information by 10 am on the Wednesday preceding the start of the week.

We also request that families inform us of any outbreak of Covid-19 at their workplace or home; if they have been contacted by the latest track and trace system; or if they have been requested to have a test or self-isolate, so that we can act accordingly at school. Thanks.

I realise that this is a lot of information to digest. If you do have any further questions then please don't hesitate to get in touch and I will answer them as well as I am able to.

Many thanks,



Tracey Hart
Headteacher

