Dear parent/carer,

I hope you are all well. We have been busy all week finalising numbers and planning how to manage school form 1st June. The plans are as follows:

* Nursery and Reception will be in one ‘bubble’. Unfortunately, we are only able to offer a morning session for all Nursery children even critical worker children.
* Year 1 ‘bubble’
* Year 6 ‘bubble’
* All other critical worker children (Y2,3,4,5) ‘bubble’
* Each of these ‘bubbles’ will have allocated staff who will only be with that group. They will also have their own allocated toilet.
* To maintain social distancing we will have staggered drop off and pick up times (please see attached). Please can I request that you adhere to the times. If you miss your allocated time, you will have to wait until it is safe for your child to enter the school.
* I have a system in place to aid social distancing. It is very much like the supermarkets have done with allocated markings on the ramp leading up to school and markings on the playground where the children go to be collected by their teacher and the reverse process at the end of the day.
* We will have a separate space in case a child displays symptoms of coronavirus where they can wait safely before being collected.
* If someone from the ‘bubble’ displays the signs of Covid 19 then the whole group has to remain at home (including staff) for 14 days. They will be entitled to have a test.
* All staff will have PPE but we will not be wearing it unless a child becomes ill, has an accident or needs help with toileting. However if a member of staff wishes to wear it then they can.
* I will be staffing the office and gates. Parents/carers will not be allowed at any point on the school premises. Please communicate via telephone or email. I will also be cleaning the toilets and corridors regularly through the day and the staff will make sure that they clean frequently touched surfaces often in their bubble. In Early Years any equipment used will be cleaned and sterilised every day.
* Our cleaners and caretakers will obviously clean all areas thoroughly every night.
* We have purchased extra equipment such as hand sanitiser and lidded bins as suggested the guidance.
* All children will need to be wearing school uniform, which the guidelines suggest should be washed every night.
* Children are not permitted to bring anything in from home apart from their drinks bottle and packed lunch if required.
* Reception and Year 1 children will be entitled to a free packed lunch from the school kitchen.
* All other year groups will be required to bring in their own packed lunch. If you are in receipt of free school meals, I will be keeping the voucher system going after the holidays.
* The playground will be zoned off and we may have to have staggered playtime too.
* Children will be encouraged to practise good hand hygiene through frequent washing, particularly before eating and after using equipment or playing with large, moveable toys such as bikes, etc.
* All soft furnishings, soft toys, toys with intricate parts, water, sand and playdough have been removed.
* Children will be discouraged from sharing such resources as paint brushes, glue sticks, toys such as small world and construction items and these objects will be washed each day.
* Children will be discouraged from touching their faces or putting objects in their mouths.
* Children in Early Years will be allocated a carpet space for teaching and story time. Children in Y1 and Y6 will be sat at individual desks. Children will not be permitted to sit next to another child/in groups to play, work or eat.
* Markers line the floor in corridors to help children and staff to socially distance when moving around school.
* Risk assessments and the behaviour policy will be updated to reflect measures needed to keep all children safe. A place cannot be offered to a child who spits, bites, licks or

persistently hugs other children or staff. In such a case, after discussions with the parents/carers, the child would continue learning from home.

* The children in school will be completing the same work as the children at home. Staff will do their very best to feedback online as much as possible but I am sure you will understand it may not be at the level it has been so far.

The guidance we have been given has imposed severe limitations on the experiences that we can offer in school. I know that children learn best when they are working together with a range of materials and resources. I apologise if the tone of this letter is not typical of past communication and we acknowledge that these many changes could be confusing and upsetting for your child. The staff want nothing more than to welcome every child back to school. However, at this time, we all know that this is not possible but we want to continue to work in partnership with you. This is a very complex situation to plan for and we must ensure all risks are assessed. We really do hope that we can return to normal very soon and thank you in advance for your support and positivity at such a challenging time.

I will continue to review the situation when required and keep you updated. If your child is attending school, please talk to them about what will happen and emphasise the importance of good hygiene. Please let me assure you we will all do our very best to keep your child as safe as possible but as the guidance states ‘**We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff.’**

If any of you no longer require a place, please just email me. At this moment in time, we are unable to offer places to more children but again I will continue to review the situation. If your child is in Y2,3,4,5 and you are critical worker please continue to use the weekly booking form.

We will not be setting any work in the half-term ‘holidays’. You all deserve a break from online learning but if you want to catch up on anything then please do. I want the teachers to also have a break from the online work so they will not be commenting on any work uploaded. They will, however still be coming into school next week for any critical worker children and to set up the school for 1st June.

As I have said previously thank you so much for your support. I tell everyone how supported I have felt by our lovely school community!

Take care

Katie Haycock