



Headteacher: Mrs V Giliker

19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Update: proposed partial re-opening of school**

I hope that you and your families are well. I am writing to keep you informed about developments in school. As you are aware, the Government have proposed a phased re-opening of schools from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, starting with Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. There has been a lot of discussion in the media about whether or not schools will re-open on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The Government has said that schools will only re-open if the level of infection remains low enough. We understand that infection rates are under constant review and schools **will be told on 28<sup>th</sup> May if we will be allowed to re-open.**

From May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 29<sup>th</sup> (originally the half term holiday) we will be closed to all children to allow us to prepare for the proposed phased re-opening of school. We need to ensure school is ready, with safety procedures in place, to accommodate the increased number of children on site. Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June is **no longer** an INSET day, therefore, the first day back for children of critical workers and those in Y6, Y1 and Reception will be Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Parents of Nursery children will be advised of their start date separately – this will be no earlier than the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Please note that children will not be required to come to school in their school uniforms.

**The guidance from the Government states that no one with any symptoms should attend school. Children should also stay at home if they are self-isolating or clinically vulnerable. If they share a house with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, they should only attend school if stringent social distancing rules can be adhered to, and the child is able to understand and follow these instructions.**

### **Emergency Care for children of Critical Workers**

Since lockdown started, we have remained open, providing emergency childcare for the children of critical workers including those on the NHS frontline and workers in care homes. Once the phased re-opening of school begins, this provision will continue to be available for those children of critical workers in Years 2,3,4 and 5; school will provide emergency childcare and some learning and creative activities for these children, along with lots of fresh air and exercise.

If you are a critical worker, and have no other option of childcare, please let school know via email to [admin@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk) by Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May if you require childcare for the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June. All the current arrangements with regards to drop off and collection will remain the same for this group of children.



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### **Arrangements from 1st June for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children.**

Thank you to parents in these year groups who completed the survey last week, now that we know how many children will be attending in each year group, we are busy sorting the children into small groups (of no more than 15) and organising staff. Each group of children will be staffed with a teacher wherever possible, and some groups will also have a teaching assistant, depending on the age and needs of the children in the group. Children will remain in their groups, with their adults, and other than their allocated Midday Supervisor, they will not come into close contact with any other children or adults whilst in school.

Before the 1<sup>st</sup> June, I will write to the parents/carers of the children in Y6, Y1 and Reception who will be returning to school, to let you know:

- Who your child's teacher will be (but not which other children are in their group due to data protection). Children may not have their usual teacher as classes have been split into smaller groups.
- Which classroom your child will be based in. To minimise contact, children will stay in their allocated classroom, which will be arranged to space out the children, and pupils will have their own desk and pack of resources. Resources will be washed regularly wherever possible.
- Where you will need to go to drop off and collect your child and at what times (there will be different drop off and collection times for different groups).

Break and lunch times will be staggered for the different groups and the children will be taken outside as much as possible, in outdoor areas allocated to their group. Children will not mix with any other children or staff outside. Children will also be encouraged to wash their hands often and the cleaning of rooms will be more frequent. Lunch will be eaten in their classroom.

We are setting up provision to limit contamination where possible; however, you will appreciate that it is difficult for small children to socially distance. We will ensure resources are not shared with other children unless they can be washed in between use.

By reducing the number of pupils in school, this enables us to put in measures to allow social distancing as much as possible. Whilst in school, we will do our best to keep pupils two metres apart. I am sure you appreciate that is very difficult and virtually impossible with young children and those with additional needs. There will be no additional adults (including parents and carers) permitted in the school building; staff will meet children at the door (specific collection and drop off points will be allocated for each year group).



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In line with other schools in the town and local area, school will **close at 1pm on a Friday** to all pupils other than those of critical workers. This is to enable us to complete extra cleaning and prepare for the following week. I am sure you will understand that this decision has been taken to enable us to make the school safer for the children.

### **Learning at school and at home**

Children in school will be accessing the same learning activities as the pupils at home. Teachers of all year groups will continue to set work and share via our website, Google classroom, Tapestry, Purple Mash or Class Dojo. You will still be able to contact your child's class teacher via their email address (on the website in the class areas) or via Tapestry/Purple Mash/Dojo.

### **Further information**

The following link provides information for parents about the Government's plan to re-open schools:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june#contents>

### **Finally**

I will keep you informed of any changes to the information provided in this letter. We will continue to work hard to provide as safe an environment as possible, following Government guidance and risk assessments. Please contact us if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours sincerely

V Giliker (Headteacher)



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