



Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School

Learning together achieving forever

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Website: www.newhamstpetersschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Nolan

Friday 21st May 2020

Dear Parents

Following last night's governors' meeting I can confirm that the school will be reopening for children in Pre-school, Reception, Year One and Year Six if the government confirms on the 28th of May that it is safe to do so. The first of June will be a whole staff Health and Safety day and we will begin to welcome children back on the 2nd of June. These dates are subject to change and will be based on government guidance.

The health and safety of our children and staff and their families remains our highest priority. Having done a thorough risk assessment, we will be opening the school on a part time basis only.

- Children in Pre-school, Reception and Year One will either attend school on Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday.
- Children in Year Six will be able to attend school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the first instance. If other year groups return to school this will be reduced to Thursday and Friday only.
- The school will be closed to all but Key worker and vulnerable children on Wednesday to allow for additional cleaning between groups.
- Key worker and vulnerable children will continue to access full time care.

(Note: in selecting the group for your child we will ensure families come to school on the same days to enable parents who need to work to do so).

Children will be taught by the same adult in small social groups (this will be their class teacher or teaching assistant) The groups will not mix during the school day and we will be looking to use the outside environment as much as possible. Group sizes have been set based on the physical size of the classroom and desks have been spaced 2m apart. All of our group sizes are below the government's cap of 15. Whilst we have put provision in place for social distancing we recognize that it is not always possible for children, especially young children to stay apart. We have taken many precautionary measures to mitigate risk but can not remove risk altogether.

To enable you to be able to wash your children's clothing frequently we will not be asking the children to wear school uniform. We will be asking them to be dressed appropriately for outdoor as well as indoor activities. They will not be bringing a PE kit to school.

To support with social distancing, we will be introducing a staggered start and finish time and each class will use a separate entrance to the school building. Playtimes and Lunch times will also be staggered to enable children to be outside at different times and we will be making use of different outside areas.

As children return to school our focus, in the first instance, will be on well-being and understanding all our new rules to keep us safe. We have lots of exciting activities planned!

Although, according to the recent parental survey, the initial uptake of pupil places will be low for all Year groups except Year Six our plans have been made to enable every child who is entitled to return to school. If you do not wish your Pre-School, Reception, Year One or Year Six child to attend school you will not be penalised for keeping them home and we will continue to set work online for all year groups. We will continue to provide a take away lunch option for infants for those children not in school.

In the next few days we will be contacting all parents/ carers of children in the first phase to ask if you intend to send your child back to school when we first reopen. We will be providing further information about the school day as well as asking you to sign a COVID-19 home school agreement.

To support you in making a decision the schools risk assessment and plan for reopening will be available on the website over the weekend.

We are in the process of launching our new website. You will be able to access this in the same way as the old one, at the same address.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and this time and my staff for their commitment both to supporting the children through this period and for the work they have been involved in preparing for reopening.

Best wishes,

Anne Nolan