



Northlands Primary School and Nursery

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all keeping well and staying safe. I wanted to write to you to inform you of what the provision in school will be like from the 1st June should schools be reopening so that you can make a more informed decision about whether to send your child back to school. As you can imagine, the school will not be as you know it and we will be following all the Government's guidance. The safety of both the staff and children is paramount and must come first.

The staff and I have been working hard planning and making changes to the environment in order to reduce the risk of infection to staff, children and you at home.

It is your choice whether you wish to send your child into school and there will be no penalties for non-attendance.

Our current plans are:

- Having a phased return to school starting with Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and year 6
- Splitting children into small teaching groups (pods) with the same children and adults together as much as possible during the school day.
- Aiming to maintain social distancing between adults and children.
- Children of key workers, if they are in years 2-5, will be in a separate pod.
- As a result of smaller class sizes, children will not all be taught by their current class teacher but may be taught by another teacher or teaching assistant.
- Although we will try and group children with a friend or someone familiar to them, this may not always be possible and they will be encouraged to maintain social distancing.
- Pods will not be mixing and there will be staggered playtimes and lunch times for these pods and there will be structured games to play rather than tag or football etc.
- There will be staggered start times and pick up times and strict social distancing measures will be put in place with a one-way system around the school which must be adhered to. This is for the safety of all members of our school community. Parents will be expected to follow this one-way system when dropping off and picking up their children.



- Please can you ensure that only one parent at a time picks up or drops off so that we can maintain social distancing
- No parents are to be in the school without an appointment, this includes the main Reception area.
- Children must not bring in any bags or items from home apart from a named water bottle. They will have their own equipment (provided by the school) which they will keep on their desk. We will not be exchanging reading books from home.
- Regular handwashing will be encouraged.
- There will be a reduced lunch menu on offer and children will have their lunch in their classrooms.
- There will be no breakfast club provision apart from for key worker children.
- If any member of a child's household is unwell and has symptoms of Covid 19 then we are insisting that you do not bring your child to school.

I will need to have accurate numbers of pupils in order to allocate children to a class pod, therefore you must inform the school by midday on Thursday 21st May whether you are intending for your child/ren to attend. If you do not let the school know, your child will not be assigned to a class pod. Should your decision change for any reason, your child will not be able to attend until we can allocate them to an appropriate group.

I will endeavour to make the experience as positive as possible and recognise that there are a lot of anxieties around school's return. Depending on the number of children attending we may have to establish a rota system of either 2 days in and a day for cleaning and then reopening for a second group or a one week in / one week out approach. Teachers will continue to plan and make contact through the normal ways: DB primary, Tapestry and phone calls for children not returning.

I hope the information is useful in helping you to make a decision, which I appreciate is very hard. Please let the office know as soon as possible if you are bringing your child back to school. Please do this through either Study Bugs, or by opting for option 1 if you choose to telephone the school.

Once plans have been finalised, you will receive a phone call to let you know what classroom your child will be in and your drop off and pick-up times will be confirmed.

Yours faithfully



Jane Young
Headteacher



