



Whitby Heath Primary School

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'Excellence in a Caring Community'
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Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, I have been working closely with our Governors and staff to risk assess and plan how our school can move forward with regards to our school's phased reopening for children in the three year groups identified by the Government for a phased return to school (EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6).

Over half term and this week, our staff team, Governors and I have continued to risk assess and prepare for a wider reopening following our recovery planning (key points of which I shared with you all before half term).

Based on this work and the current guidance, we are now able to provide further details about this planned phased reopening. As always, pupil and staff safety remain our priority in all our planning and, as a result we are ensuring that the plans for a phased return are being managed with caution and in a gradual manner based on our school building/site and pupil and staff numbers.

As per Government guidance, our school's primary focus remains on providing childcare for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. As lockdown restrictions have begun to be lifted over the last few weeks, we have seen a significant increase in demand for these places and this has therefore had to be considered in our planning and risk assessment of phased reopening of school as we can only expand the number of pupils attending our school site as it is safe to do so. The physical limitations of our number of classroom spaces, circulation routes, access to outdoor space and toilets, handwashing facilities matched against the guidance of having no more than 15 children in one space are all factors in this planning.

Having evaluated the increased demand for key worker childcare and our recovery planning for reopening of school for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6, **Governors have decided that we will commence with our plans for reopening from Monday 8th June in a phased way for each of these three year groups. Key Worker and Vulnerable children childcare will continue to be provided daily each week.**

As I outlined in my updated before half term, due to the numbers of children in these year groups in our school and the physical limitations of our school building, this reopening will be on a part time basis for all three year groups. Therefore, our plan is to open school for these three year groups in the following way:

From Monday 8th June - School will reopen for pupils in Year 1 only with Beech Class (Mrs Stewart's class) attending on Monday and Tuesdays and Ash class (Miss Pugh's class) attending on Thursdays and Fridays.



From Monday 15th June - School will also reopen for pupils in EYFS with Elm Class (Mrs Golding's class) attending on Monday and Tuesdays and Oak class (Mrs Williams' and Mrs Buttery's class) attending on Thursdays and Fridays.

From Monday 22th June - In the third phase, School will also reopen for pupils in Year 6 with Maple Class (Miss Brighten's and Mrs Morton's class) attending on Monday and Tuesdays and Birch class (Miss Williams' class) attending on Thursdays and Fridays.

Phase 1 - Monday 8 th June		Phase 2- Monday 15 th June		Phase 3 - Monday 22 nd June	
Year 1 only		EYFS and Year 1		EYFS, Year 1 and Y6	
Mon/Tues	Thurs/Fri	Mon/Tues	Thurs/Fri	Mon/Tues	Thurs/Fri
Beech Class	Ash Class	Elm Class	Oak Class	Maple Class	Birch Class
		Beech Class	Ash Class	Elm Class	Oak Class
				Beech Class	Ash Class

Wednesdays will be used to provide separation between these class groups and their associated staff on site and will include preparation and clean down of resources, equipment and all areas in school.

Please note, due to the constantly changing updates and announcements, the dates for EYFS and Year 6 are dates we are planning to reopen from however if there is a change to the R rating or local/national guidance before these dates, these plans may have to change.

Each year group will have staggered drop off and collection times to enable adults and children to observe social distancing on to and from school. **If you have a child in Key Worker/Vulnerable children childcare or Year 1, one of our staff team will be telephoning you by Friday of this week to let you know your staggered drop off and collection times. Parents and carers of children in EYFS and Year 6 will be contacted by telephone the week prior to their child returning to school to provide these timings.**

Parents and carers of children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 who attend Key Worker/Vulnerable childcare will be able to continue to access childcare on the days school is not open for their child. On days school is open for their child, their child will be able to join their year group bubble and should therefore be dropped off and collected as per the timings for their year group on these days.

From Monday 8th June, we will be operating a one way system for drop off and collection for school and childcare. A pedestrian one way system will be used at these times:

Year 1 and Year 6 - children are to be brought on to school site via the Wyedale gate by Pre School only - one way arrows are in place on the playground to show the route from this gate to the playground to drop off/collect and across to the Clydesdale gate to leave site.

EYFS - children are to be brought on to school site via the Clydesdale double gate by EYFS only - a one way system will be marked to show the route from this gate to the EYFS gate to drop off/collect and loop round to return to the same gate to leave site.

Key Worker and Vulnerable children - children are to be brought on to school site via the Clydesdale gate by the S4YC entrance only - a one way system from the gate to the S4YC door will be in place to drop off/collect and loop round to return to the same gate to leave site.

Members of our school team will be available at the gates and on the playground to support social distancing during these times - we will be easily identified as we will be wearing hi vis jackets whilst on duty at these times.



Please be mindful of our local residents and other families dropping off and collecting from school across the new staggered timings and, wherever possible, walk to and from school. If it is necessary to drive, park away from the gate areas and not across local residents properties and return to your cars promptly once your child has been dropped off/collected. Please ensure you maintain social distancing at all times when coming to and from school.

All children are to be dropped off and collected by an adult - no child will be permitted to walk to and from school alone at this time. If your child is to be collected or dropped off by a child minder or adult unknown to school, you must inform the member of staff who telephones you regarding drop off and pick up times so we can make a note of these arrangements on our records.

We ask that parents and carers who are using child minders or other relatives to collect or drop off their child/ren, support us by ensuring they update the person collecting/dropping off about the staggered drop off/pick ups, one way systems and the need for promptness arriving and leaving school site as outlined above.

Parents and carers will not be allowed into the school building at any point and only **one adult** should accompany their child for drop off and collection to reduce the number of people on site. Staggered drop off and collection times must be adhered to and social distancing will be required by parents and carers at these times. Adults are asked to leave school premises promptly once they have dropped off/collected their child.

There **will be no breakfast or after school club provision provided by S4YC on site apart from for key workers** to ensure children from different 'bubbles' do not mix on the same day. **We ask that this is only used by key workers when absolutely unavoidable to limit the risk of your child's 'bubble' being 'burst' when they come into school.**

All children are asked to wear clean clothes each day (uniform will not be expected). Please ensure your child comes to school dressed and prepared for being outdoors including suitable footwear, as we will be increasing our use of learning outdoors wherever possible.

Our school kitchen will provide packed school lunches and there will be a choice of ham, cheese or tuna sandwiches for these lunches. No hot meals will be provided at this time. **If you prefer to send your child into school with a lunch from home, please ensure this is sent in in a disposable bag - no lunch boxes/bags are to be brought into school.**

We will not be providing a snack during the school day but ask that you provide several healthy snacks for your child e.g. fruit, breadsticks, cereal bar when they are in school as we will be having increased break times across the day as we are mindful that many children will find the structure of school day and timetabled lunch breaks difficult to readjust to and may need further energy boosts across the day.

Everything your child requires for childcare and lessons will be provided in school - **we therefore ask that children do not bring anything from home at this time - this includes bags, toys, etc.** The only items we would suggest your child does bring into school is **a named water bottle** that they will keep with them in their bubble in their bubble zone in school on the days they are on school site and **this will need to be taken home each day to be cleaned.** On sunny days, please provide a sun hat and apply sun lotion to your child before they leave the house as staff cannot apply lotion to any child at this time and we will be spending more time outdoors than we usually do.

Keeping our school community safe

The health and safety of our school community is paramount and **we insist that if your child is complaining of any of the symptoms of Covid-19, that you do not bring them into school and get them tested immediately. If your child displays symptoms whilst at school, they will be isolated and you will be required to collect them immediately and have them tested. Only when your child provides a negative test will they be allowed back into school.** If they test positive, then you must follow the isolation rules set out by the Government. Additionally, if there is a positive test by any child or adult in your child's bubble, the whole group will be required to isolate for 14 days.



We ask that parents and carers continue to support us to keep everyone as safe as possible by continuing to observe the current social distancing guidance at all times both on and off school site so that contact with people beyond your households is limited to the current social distancing guidelines.

Other year groups

Given the ever changing landscape and guidance, we are unable to provide any further information regarding the Government's ambition for all year groups to return to school before the summer break at this time.

The Government have provided two documents to support parents and carers at this time. These can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

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

Our plans will continue to be constantly reviewed with regards to the local R rating and local and national guidance. Our best endeavours will continue to keep children, staff and families as safe as possible as we move forward.

I will continue to provide you with further updates as we move forward and I would like to once again thank you for your continued support and understanding in these challenging times.

Warmest wishes to you all

RJewitt

Headteacher

