



Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School

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21st May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Re-opening of Stanhope Barrington CofE Primary School

Further to Paul Rickeard's letter yesterday and advice from our Health and Safety Partner, I am writing to outline the plan for the re-opening of our school. Please note that this is a joint letter from the Senior Leadership Team and Academy Council.

Our rationale:

Our first priority is to ensure that we can open safely and ensure systems and procedures can be put in place to safeguard our staff and children.

Our plan has been based on the responses we have received from parents in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

We are required to protect spaces for children of our key workers and vulnerable children.

We can only safely fit 9 children into a classroom whilst maintaining the current social distancing and health and safety requirements.

We can only safely open three classrooms – or bubbles as the government is referring to them.

The following plan depends upon decisions at government level and may change.

The Plan:

Week commencing 1st June 2020

- We will open to existing key worker children only
- We will open from 8.30am until 3.15pm Monday – Thursday with a finishing time of 2pm on a Friday to allow deep clean of the school
- Children should be brought to and collected from the main entrance
- These children will continue to attend in the hall and receive childcare as they have the previous 9 weeks

Week commencing 8th June 2020

- We will open to our key worker children plus reception children whose parents have confirmed a place
- We will be open from 8.30am until 3.15pm Monday to Thursday with a finishing time of 2pm on a Friday to allow a deep clean of the school

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- Children should be brought to and collected from the main entrance
- Reception children will join the key worker group in the hall as the small numbers allow us to do this safely

Week commencing 15th June 2020

- We will open to key worker children, reception and Year 1 children whose parents have confirmed a place
- These children will be split into three 'bubbles' and will remain together with the children and staff in that bubble from now on due to the increase in the numbers
- Key worker children should arrive at the main gate onto the yard for 8.30am and wait 2m apart
- Key worker children will be given a continental style breakfast if they wish
- Non-key worker children can arrive from 8.45am at the main gate onto the yard
- Each bubble will have a staggered playtime and lunchtime
- Each bubble will have a staggered pick up time which will be within 5 minutes of each other
- The school will close from 2pm on a Friday to allow a deep clean to take place

Week commencing 22nd June 2020

- We will open to key worker children, reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children whose parents have confirmed a place
- All arrangements outlined above will continue

Week commencing 29th June 2020

- The above arrangements will be constantly monitored and reviewed as necessary

Week commencing 6th July 2020

- The above arrangements will be constantly monitored and reviewed as necessary

Week commencing 13th July 2020

- The above arrangements will be constantly monitored and reviewed as necessary

During the week commencing 1st June 2020 all key worker families who have already registered to attend will be contacted by phone and asked to confirm whether they wish to take up their protected place. If a protected place is wanted, it is expected that the child will attend school full time Monday- Friday.

We will also be in touch with those parents in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who have already registered, to confirm whether they still wish to take their place.

Once spaces in the bubble are confirmed for each child, we will write out to individual families to confirm the exact arrangements for dropping off and collection; identify what children can and cannot bring to school with them and detail specific health and safety advice.

Children attending school will be following an individualised curriculum which will be designed to meet the needs of the children in each bubble.

Supporting Children at home:

During the week of 1st June each year group will be given a 'Challenge Grid' which the class teachers will design for the children to complete. Each activity on the grid will be worth a certain number of points and the children can choose which activities they want to complete in order to achieve a target number of points. This will give parents and children a little bit more structure and support but we would still ask parents to check the website for ideas, activities, resources and of course, our very popular, Head Teacher Challenge!

In addition, from 1st June 2020, one of our teaching staff will be available as a Parent Learning Mentor. This teacher will offer telephone support to parents who may have questions about any aspect of teaching and learning. Further details of dates and times of availability will be issued after the half term holiday.

Emotional Well-Being and Mental Health

As you may know, Mrs Howes is a qualified Thrive Practitioner and therefore from 1st June 2020 she will not be classroom based but will support the teaching staff within the bubbles to work on developing emotional well-being and helping the children to adjust to what will be a very different school experience.

Due to the small numbers involved in this re-opening plan, the Senior Leadership Team and Academy Councillors are confident that we can open safely and maintain government social distancing guidelines. However, I am sure you will appreciate that keeping very young children 2m apart will be an impossible challenge and therefore we are unable to guarantee that this will be the case particularly in the bubbles containing the youngest children.

We do appreciate that this is an incredibly difficult time for everyone but can promise you that this plan is well-thought through and is flexible and adaptable in the event of changing government decisions and guidance.

We will be contacting all families of children who will be returning to school after 1st June 2020 but if you do have any queries in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Myers & Mrs D Cross
Senior Leaders

Dr S Haynes
Chair of Academy Council on behalf of
the whole Academy Council