



22nd May 2020

Dear Parents,

1ST JUNE PHASED RE-OPENING ARRANGEMENTS

We hope that your family remain safe and well.

A message from our Governing Body

Our school has not closed during the recent difficult period – it has remained open to children of key workers / vulnerable children. Now the government have asked us to plan the phased reopening of the school from 1st June. When your children return there will be a number of new procedures and ways we are working to follow government advice to ensure safety.

In making plans to reopen we have considered:

- Children – their educational needs, welfare and safety
- Parents – including concerns about the safety of children returning to school and those parents who may currently be prevented from working due to childcare responsibilities
- Staff – their safety and well being
- Government advice about how to reopen a school safely

Considering the above, we have planned to reopen to Reception only on a part time basis from 1st June. We know that Government advice has suggested that both Reception and Year 1 could start to return from 1st June however for an Infant School (as opposed to Primary) the advice is to prioritise Reception. We are bringing children into school on a part time basis as our staff and building capacity is not sufficient to bring back all year groups full time and we want our plans to be sustainable.

As parents and representatives of the local community we want to reassure you that the best possible plans have been made for the reopening. We also want to thank Ms Charman and her team for remaining on the front line serving the community throughout the recent situation and their continuing skill, expertise and dedication during the phased reopening of the school.

Adrian Ham, (Chair of Governors)

Message from the Headship Team

As you know the Government have proposed that schools will partially reopen, potentially on 1st June for certain year groups, in addition to remaining open for children who are vulnerable or children of key workers. This will only go ahead if the school's risk assessment shows it is as safe as possible in these circumstances.

We have planned our return using our knowledge of the school and the site, alongside the ever changing Government guidance. An action plan has been completed to ensure the safety of our whole school community is the highest priority. There are many challenges to consider, including the space constraints of our small site and the age of our youngest children.

In addition, the Government recognises, and we know, that unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. Although where they can, it will be encouraged.

Please understand that if guidance changes or if our ongoing risk assessments indicate that it is not safe to open on 1st June, then we will not be opening. The health, safety and welfare of your children and our staff is our main priority.

Are all children returning to school on 1st June?

We will be open for Reception children only, on a part time basis, from 1st June 2020. Our risk assessment, based on Government guidance, (no more than 15 children in a class at one time), shows that due to the constraints of our small site and the number of staff we have available to us, this is all we are able to manage at this time. We will keep you updated as the situation evolves.

Please note there will be no breakfast or after-school club provided by Park Hill Junior School during this time.

Does my Reception child have to return to school on 1st June?

The Government is encouraging Reception children to return to school. After analysing our school survey, data shows that the majority of parents have decided not to send their children back if the school was to partially reopen on 1st June. However, every parent should make their own decision regarding what is best for their own child/family circumstances. All decisions will be respected. Please note we will be following government guidelines that there will not be any penalties on parents for non-attendance of children.

For those children who may be coming back on 1st June, we are making detailed and ever changing plans to endeavour to make the school as safe as we possibly can.

In order to adhere to the maximum of 15 children in each class – we will be splitting Reception children into two groups – Bubble A and Bubble B.

Bubble A will attend on Monday and Tuesday.

Bubble B will attend on Thursday and Friday.

Wednesdays will be open for childcare for keyworker / vulnerable, (KVV), children only, and for deep cleaning of the classrooms. Children and staff will not mix in other Bubbles until the end of the school year. If there are any shortages of teachers, teaching assistants will be allocated to lead a Bubble.

I have said my Reception child is returning on 1st June, what should I do now?

If you are choosing to send your Reception child back on 1st June and our latest risk assessment shows that it is as safe as possible to open – we will email you separately over half term to inform you of which bubble your child is in and which days they will attend. We will also inform you of some changed arrangements for drop off, collection and timings of the school day.

Please be aware that children should not wear school uniform as they need to wear a fresh set of clothes each day and we are aware that you may not have more than one set of uniform. Children will be doing some form of physical exercise daily, so please ensure they wear comfortable clothes and shoes / trainers to run around in. A large proportion of the day will focus on outdoor learning.

As we are experiencing warm weather, please ensure your child comes to school with a named sun hat to wear outside. Please apply sun cream to your child before school, at home. Sun cream should **not be** brought into school.

The school day will look very different to usual. Resources will need to be limited and your child may not be able to play and work alongside their usual friends. It may well not be possible to have their usual teacher / teaching assistant. Close contact between adults and children, and children and their peers will need to be limited as much as possible given the age of these very young children. Please prepare your children for the changes that they will face.

If I have a child who is eligible to go to school on 1st June can their siblings return at the same time?

No. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate pupils in other year groups at this time. This will necessitate further risk assessments and planning. We recognise the inconvenience this may cause, but it is important that we adhere to the guidance as set out by the Government for Infant Schools.

I have said my Reception child is NOT returning on 1st June, what should I do now?

If you have decided not to send your child into school on 1st June, you may report your child's non-attendance on a weekly, rather than the usual daily basis. Please email the school, enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk by 9.30am each Monday, of each week to report their non-attendance. As previously stated, you will not be penalised for your child's non-attendance during this time.

Home learning will continue for those Reception children who are not attending and will be the same learning that the Reception children will be doing in school. Our aim is that the children who remain at home for whatever reason will not be disadvantaged.

It will not be possible for Reception teachers to continue calling their class on a weekly basis. The reception email address remains open for communication and submission of home learning.

What happens to my Year One / Two child whilst they remain at home?

Home learning will continue for Year One and Year Two children. In addition, teacher welfare calls for Year One and Year Two will continue on a weekly basis. The Year One and Year Two email addresses will remain open for communication, support and submission of home learning.

My child is in the KWV group; can they continue to attend every day?

The school will remain open to KWV children and they can continue to attend every day if needed. Please continue to inform the school on a weekly basis regarding the days you wish your child to be in. All KWV children, regardless of their year group, will be in teaching Bubble A.

Year One and Two KWV children should continue to bring their home learning to school as this will be completed during this time.

Should staff or children wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or face covering and masks when in school?

Based on scientific evidence, the Government does not recommend or require staff or children to wear a face covering or face mask in school. PPE is only recommended in a very small number of cases including if a child becomes unwell

with symptoms of Coronavirus while in their school, or if direct personal / intimate care is needed for a child. We are however, making PPE equipment available to staff if they wish to use it.

What does the Government say about parental contact with the school?

- Parents / staff / visitors should not enter the school site if they are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus.
- Only one parent should accompany their child to school
- Parents and children should be allocated a drop off and collection time and informed of the process for doing so, including protocols for minimising adult to adult contact (for example which entrance to use)
- Parents are not permitted to gather at entrance gates or enter the site (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment which should be conducted safely)

How will the schools cleaning procedures be adapted?

- Staff will be maintaining high levels of cleanliness, using detergents and cleaning practices, as outlined in relevant government documents
- The school has organised for a ‘deep clean’ to take place prior to 1st June
- The school has employed an additional cleaner until the end of July
- Additional hand sanitiser has been purchased, and will be readily available for use in all areas of the school
- Additional anti-bacterial spray has been purchased for all areas of the school, to allow for frequent and thorough cleaning of resources
- Children should bring their own personal water bottle to school daily. This must be named clearly. Children will be given time to fill up their water bottles during the day if needed, and will be supervised whilst doing so.
- Children should not bring any other personal items or toys to school. **No book bags / rucksacks. No PE kits.**

COVID-19 Procedures

It is imperative that you do not send your child into school if they or family members are displaying any of the COVID 19 symptoms (new cough, high temperature, or loss of taste or smell). The person displaying the symptoms should self-isolate for 7 days and anyone within the household for 14 days. If a child displays symptoms at school, they will be isolated in another room and parents will be called to collect their child. Parents will be advised to get their child tested and to inform the school of the result as soon as possible. If a child tests positive, the rest of that ‘bubble’ will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

If your child or a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 at any time, you need to notify the school immediately.

A reminder that the school will be closed to **ALL** children, including KWV children, on 22nd June for staff training.

We hope that you have found this information useful and thank you for your continued support and understanding in these very difficult times.

Once again, we want to say a huge thank you for the overwhelming support and understanding that we have received from you, our families. Despite these challenging and difficult times, it has been such a privilege to be part of our Park Hill community, which has joined together with kindness, compassion and resilience, to work together in the best interests of all.

Thank you everyone, you are truly amazing.

With very best wishes, *The Headship Team*