

Barlby Bridge CP School
Thomas Street
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Selby
North Yorkshire
YO8 5AA
Tel – 01757 703650



Acting Headteacher – Mr G Dyer

Acting Deputy Headteacher – Miss J Ellis

20th May 2020

Reopening of School from June 1st 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to you because your child falls into one of the classes or categories that have been identified by the Education Secretary as being part of a phased return to school.

You will no doubt be more than aware of the news surrounding this decision and the range of conflicting opinions, advice, science and worries that have accompanied it. You may be concerned about the time frame that has been set aside for this phased return, the uncertainty of if or when it will happen. You will be faced with what you may feel is a difficult choice; feeling that you must compromise between education over your worries about safety. I share these concerns and uncertainties when I consider not only the safety of the children but also yourselves and the staff.

Scientific evidence is contradictory as to the risk to children of the disease but also the risk to adults through transmission. I will be clear. Nothing would please me more than to see all our children coming back to school, to continue their education that we value so highly, for our excellent teaching staff to be able to do what they do best and continue with the vocation that they love and see the next generations given the very best start to their futures. But I must tell you that there can be no expectation within the guidelines and framework offered to schools, and the requirements of social distancing, that education and the school environment as we know it, can continue in the same way as it would normally.

Inevitably, the changes that have had to be made in order to comply with government guidance, will have a significant impact upon the education that can be provided and the environment that your child will return to. As much as we can we have planned to make school as consistent a model to the one that our children would expect on a normal school day. However, it is important to understand, that with the best intentions the way school will look and feel will be very different.

Children will not be able to undertake their usual routines and socialising, see and communicate with other members of staff, social distancing will be a significant part of the day, and children will be in smaller groups that they must remain in, possibly away from their peers. Traditional playtime activities and games will not be permissible, and a vast array of classroom resources will not be available.



Building stronger families



We have risk assessed and planned in minute detail for the phased return and essentially how we can maintain the very highest standard of safety for everyone. The school has been open throughout the lock down period for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, so many measures are already tried and tested.

During the school day we will endeavour to keep children safe from infection by observing social distancing and minimising contact with others. But as anyone with children knows, this is difficult, sometimes impossible to do and I can make no guarantees that even within all of this planning and preparation, that children will not potentially catch or transmit the virus and it would be wrong of me to suggest otherwise.

Despite the focus on social distancing, the guidelines have also said that early years and primary children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres away from each other and staff. It is important that you are aware of this as you make your decision.

Should you chose to return your child to school I have every confidence in the work that we have undertaken to set up the school and routines, in the health and safety measures in place and in the abilities of our dedicated staff to make your child's school day as rewarding and as enjoyable as is possible within the framework that we have been provided.

Equally should you feel that your child is safer at home and you wish to continue with their home education, school will support you in this decision and you will not be penalised for this through attendance monitoring. This has been suspended for this period.

Below we have set out an overview of when and how school will open, the school day, drop off and collection arrangements and other key information that you will need when bringing your child to school. I hope that you find it answers any questions you have and allows you and your child to prepare for returning to school. A return slip is attached and this needs completing and returning to the school by Tuesday 26th May. Please do this either through email to admin@barlbybridge.n-yorks.sch.uk or by putting the slip into an envelope and leaving within the school entrance for a member of staff to collect. In order for us to plan properly, **if you have not contacted us by 12pm on 26th May we will not be able to allocate a place for your child either now or at any point within this phase of school opening.**

As I said at the beginning of this letter, I fully appreciate the difficulty of the decision that you must make. Its complexities and uncertainties are clear. Please consider the information below and share this with your child, but rest assured that whether you chose to return to school or continue home learning, you will be supported in this.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Dyer

**Gavin Dyer
Acting Headteacher**

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO ADMIN@BARLBYBRIDGE.N-YORKS.SCH.UK OR PLACE IN AN ENVELOPE AND LEAVE IN THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE.

IF YOU HAVE NOT CONTACTED THE SCHOOL BY 12PM ON TUESDAY 26 MAY 2020 YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ALLOCATED A PLACE NOW OR AT ANY POINT WITHIN THE PHASE OF SCHOOL OPENING.

I confirm that I have read and understood all the information provided to me in this letter and can confirm: -

My Child: _____ *Will/Will Not be returning to School on 1st June 2020
(*Please delete as appropriate)

I will provide my child with a pack up:

My child will require a School Pack up:

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Name: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Information for Phased School Opening – 1st June 2020

The School Week

To comply with the stipulations set out, we have had to make decisions about how the week will look and what timetable we can put in place. We are currently able to open for all eligible pupils at the same time, but this may change depending on additional numbers of classes being asked to return. Unfortunately, we are only able to open school for **4 days each week- Monday to Thursday**.

On Friday school will be closed to ensure that we can deep clean classrooms and to allow teachers to plan and prepare for the following weeks lessons. Children of key workers that require attendance on Fridays will still be admitted into school and this will be staffed in the same way as it has been currently.

Phased Entry

To ensure the smoothest possible transition for pupils and staff we will **phase entry for classes over the 2 weeks from the 1st June**.

On the 1st June (or the first day of any rearranged opening date set by government) school will be closed to allow for all the essential health and safety checks to be completed. On **Tuesday 2nd June** (or the 2nd day of any rearranged week) school will open by phased opening. Following government guidance, we will open to the youngest children first and then phase in the other year groups over the next 2 weeks. This will consist of **Rockets and Mercury classes** starting first on 2nd June.

Children in **Venus will attend from Thursday 4th of June** with **Neptune class attending a week later, on Thursday 11th June**.

Health and Safety

A detailed risk assessment has been completed and a full health and safety check will be undertaken before school is opened to pupils.

Cleaning and hygiene

Our expectations about cleaning and hygiene are as follows:

Once children are back in school, all frequently touched surfaces, equipment, door handles and toilets used during the day will be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day.

There will be plenty of availability of soap and hot water in every toilet and in classrooms

Hand sanitiser will be at the school entrance for pupils and any other person passing into the school to use, and this will be used on entering and leaving the school building.

Bins will be available for the disposal of tissues and any other waste and will be double bagged and emptied twice a day.

We will have a good supply of disposable tissues to implement the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach in each classroom and this will be something that we will be teaching the children as part of their lesson provision.

How the school Day will look

Class organisation and staffing

Government guidance states that we must ensure that children, young people and staff, only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group stays away from other people and groups. Therefore, classes will be split in half, with no more than 15 pupils per small class group with one teacher and a teaching assistant. In the event of a smaller number of children attending school children will be allocated to 1 class group as long as this does not exceed 15 children in total.

Within this class group children will be divided into smaller 'bubbles' of no more than 5 children. We have to ensure that children and young people are in the same small groups at all times each day, and different groups are not mixed during the day, or on subsequent days. We also have to ensure that the same teacher(s) and other staff are assigned to each group and, as far as possible, these stay the same during the day and on subsequent days.

Children will use the same classroom or area throughout the day, with a thorough cleaning of the rooms. In Year 1 and 6, desks will be spaced as far apart as possible within the space that is available. Children will be assigned a specific place and this will be theirs for the duration of their time in school.

Classes and Teachers

Nursery: Mrs Wass and Mrs Brant will teach children attending Rockets as is currently the case.

Reception: Mrs Aston, Mrs Morton, Miss Finley and Mrs Wadsworth will be working with children attending from Mercury

Year 1: Miss Craggs, Mrs McCormack, Mrs Cockerham and Mr Wood will be working with children attending from Venus

Year 6: Mrs Walker, Mrs McManaman, Mrs Burns, Mrs Hosford, Mrs Calvert and Mrs Leach will be working with Children attending from Neptune. We have allocated extra adults to this group to support with transition.

Key worker children who are not within the year groups specified to attend school will be allocated to a class group closest to their year group as we do not have enough teaching staff to cover this group as a separate class bubble. They should only attend if there is no other provision to look after them at home.

Class groups will be assigned by your child's usual class teacher and you will be informed of which group your child is in and the classroom they will be using once all replies have been returned and we know the exact number of children returning to school.

On Friday when school is only open to key worker children, Mr Chappell and Mrs Herrington will be working with this group. They will support the work of the other classes, remotely, during the rest of the week.

Mr Dyer and Miss Ellis will continue in their usual roles leading the school and will support year 1 staffing if required.

Learning Provision

Unfortunately learning provision for children, particularly in Early years and year 1, will not be the same as is currently provided. Unnecessary items from classrooms will need to be removed. This includes soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean. Equipment that is used must be cleaned after use. This will impact on the amount of free flow provision that we can offer.

Children will be allocated their own resources such as pencils and glue sticks etc within a wipeable plastic wallet which will be cleaned regularly. Teachers will clean surfaces, door handles and other areas that have been touched throughout the day.

We will need to limit the amount of shared resources that are taken home and also limit the exchange of take-home resources. Therefore we will not be able to send home reading books. So we would ask that book bags are not brought to school. Items from home such as toys are not permitted on site.

Where possible we will try to use the outdoor space within school for lessons, but this will again be only permissible within their own small class and social group. Groups and classes will not be able to mix when outdoors.

Assemblies will be led in class by the teacher.

Playtimes and Lunchtimes

These will be staggered and will be timetabled. These times will remain the same each day. Lunch will be served in classes and children will sit in their designated place for lunch. After lunch children will be allowed time to play outside but again they are only permitted to do this within their small designated group and we will use 2 separate playgrounds to limit the risk. Again this outdoor playtime time will be staggered

We are unable to provide a hot dinner because the design of our hall and kitchen does not allow compliance with social distancing rules, so children having a school meal will be provided with a pack up or an alternative option. The kitchen will provide a menu. When the weather allows, lunches will be eaten outside, again within their small class group.

An MSA will be allocated to each class group, and as teaching and support staff, they will have to stay assigned to this group and will not be able to work with other groups across school.

Children will not be able to use the play equipment in the playground. Instead other play provision will be provided that is easy to clean between use by each group.

Payments into school

In order to maintain safety the school **WILL NOT** be accepting cash payments.

A new PayPoint payment provision is now in place for those parents who do not have access to or do not use internet banking. If you usually pay for school meals and **DO NOT** already use the School Money system, please contact Mrs Dixon who will provide you with a unique barcode which you can take to any PayPoint to make payment. PayPoints are usually found in local convenience stores or post offices and payment can be made anywhere you see a PayPoint sign.

If you do not have access to internet banking or have previously not used our School Money system please contact Mrs Dixon either by email at admin@barlbybridge.n-yorks.sch.uk or by telephone on 07580412840 who will provide you with your unique barcode and further information on how to make your payments.

Arriving at school

In order to maintain safety, we will be making changes to the start and finish times of school for different year groups and children will enter school at different locations depending on their year groups and class groups.

There will be **staggered arrivals of 10 minutes per year group and it is essential that these are adhered to** for the safety of everyone. Only 1 adult is allowed to accompany your child to school and where possible please do not bring siblings who are unable to attend. It is recommended that journeys to and from school should be by walking or cycle.

Whilst waiting by the designated door please ensure that you maintain a 2 meter distance from others. There will be a strict 1 way system around the school. All children will enter the school premises via the nursery playground (this is the first turn on the right before the first car park and the main entrance). A member of SLT will be present to help with this. Once children have entered school, we ask that parents leave the school site via the gate by the main entrance. This effectively creates a circular route that limits unnecessary contact.

Nursery Children: Rockets class **will arrive from 8.45 and no later than 8.55**. They will enter school via the usual nursery entrance and will be admitted by a member of the class staff. You will not be able to accompany your child into the classroom. Any communications with the teacher can be done via the teaching assistant on the door. Please then leave the school via the route described.

Reception children: Mercury children **will arrive no earlier than 8.55 and no later than 9.05**. They will enter school through the classroom door and will be admitted by a member of the class staff. You will not be able to accompany your child into the classroom. Any communications with the teacher can be done via the teaching assistant on the door. Please then leave the school via the route described.

Year 1: Venus children **will arrive no earlier than 9.05 and no later than 9.15**. They will enter school through either the Key Stage 1 or 2 door depending on the class group that they are in and the classroom that they are based in. There will be a member of the class team at the door to greet them upon arrival. Any communications with the teacher can be done via the teaching assistant on the door. Please then leave the school via the route described.

Year 6: Neptune children **will arrive no earlier than 9.15 and no later than 9.25**. They will enter school through either the Key Stage 1 or 2 door depending on the class group that they are in and the classroom that they are based in. There will be a member of the class team at the door to greet them upon arrival. Any communications with the teacher can be done via the teaching assistant on the door. Please then leave the school via the route described.

Please ensure that you observe social distancing rules at all times whilst on the school site and when communicating with staff. We would ask that you leave the school site as soon as your child is safely in the building.

Collection form School

There will be **staggered times for collection of children and these are limited to 10 minutes per year group** and it is essential that these are adhered to for the safety of everyone. Only 1 adult is allowed to collect your child from school and where possible please do not bring siblings who are unable to attend school. It is recommended that journeys to and from school should be by walking or cycle.

Nurse Children: Rockets class **will be collected at 11.45** via the usual nursery entrance and will be allowed to leave the school site using the usual exit as there will be no other children departing at that time. Please observe social distancing rules when exiting via the alley way that leads to Thomas Street.

Reception children: Mercury children **will be collected at 2.50**. They will leave school through the classroom door. Please then leave the school promptly via the 1 way circular route described.

Year 1: Venus children **will be collected at 3.05**. They will leave school through either the Key Stage 1 or 2 door depending on the class group that they are in and the classroom that they are based in. Please then leave the school via the 1 way circular route described route described.

Year 6: Neptune children **will be collected or leave the school site at 3.15**. They will leave school through either the Key Stage 1 or 2 door depending on the class group that they are in and the classroom that they are based in. Please then leave the school via the circular route described.

In order to maintain the highest level of safety that we can on the school site you must be prompt and only attend at the time allocated for your child's class.

Movement around the school

We will endeavour to reduce possible contact between different groups of children, and between adults as they move around the school. However, there will inevitably be some occasions where classes will be moving around school simultaneously and we will reduce this as much we can. We have been advised that brief, transitory contact such as passing in a corridor is low risk.

School Uniform

Children will be required to wear school uniform. They will not be required to wear face masks. If your child wishes to wear a face mask when travelling to school we will ask you to remove it and take it home before entering school.

First Aid

We will continue to administer first aid as we would during normal school opening. Staff will wear protective clothing and we will inform you as per our normal procedure

Behaviour

Normal school rules will apply. However, there will be some additional rules in the light of the current situation. Where children do not comply to these rules they may need to be isolated for the health and safety of all concerned. Where necessary parents may be asked to collect their children from school if we feel their behaviour is putting the safety of others at risk. Government guidance states that: *settings may need to carry out a risk assessment, if it is deemed that a child or young person may not be able to follow instructions, to determine what mitigations need to be put in place and whether, in rare circumstances, they should stay at home.*

Other Frequently Asked Questions

What should my child bring to school?

- Children should only bring a pack up, if required
- All children may bring a named water bottle
- Children should not bring any other items such as bags and rucksacks
- Where children require medication such as inhalers, these should be brought into school and will be kept by the child on their desk
- School will provide adequate soap and hygiene equipment – children should not bring these to school
- In the event of hot weather please ensure sun cream is applied before school

How will the school site be cleaned?

- As before lockdown, we will continue with a high level of daily cleaning.
- Throughout the day staff will wipe down surfaces such as door handles, tables, equipment and resources in between use.
- School will be closed on Fridays, except to children of key workers, to allow for a deep clean before the start of the next week.

Will the teacher or my child need to wear PPE?

- Children and staff will not be required to wear PPE / face coverings
- There will be PPE available for those needing to carry out intimate care with pupils or if a member of staff is required to supervise any child or adult who may be displaying symptoms of COVID 19

How will I contact school?

www.barlbybridge.n-yorks.sch.uk

As parents are not permitted within the school, the office will be closed. Contact with the office staff will still be via the admin email address and/or the mobile telephone number. We have set up cashless payment systems as previously stated above, please contact Mrs Dixon via email about this.

Will there still be home learning available?

We will continue to provide home learning activities on our school website. From June 1st for children both at home and school these will include some reading, writing and Maths activities. This will continue to be updated each Monday.

Will there be Before and After School Clubs?

There will be no wrap around care for the remainder of this year.