

Message from Mrs Bradbury

Tuesday 26th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of you for your patience while waiting for further information from school.

Thank you so much to Parents and Carers of children in Foundation 2, Year 1 and Year 6 for contacting school to inform us about your decision about your child returning to school as part of a phased return during June. Just a reminder that it is your decision as to whether you believe it is best to send your child to school. There will be NO fines issued if you choose not to send your child to school at this time.

Our approach may be different to other schools and it should be as we are focussed on what is best for Team Kingsway within our fantastic but challenging two-storey Edwardian building. We have been providing consistent childcare since 24th March to a relatively high number of children of key workers and vulnerable children and the government expects this to continue.

I need to emphasise that the information below is our plan for a possible phased return. This has been developed alongside risk assessments based on all of the information available at the moment and is dependent on the success of each phase of the return. This staggered approach will give us the opportunity to identify any issues and revisit risk assessments in order to provide the safest environment we can for our children at Kingsway.

As part of our preparation we need to ensure that the school is fully ready for additional children and that staff have had the opportunity for Health & Safety briefing meetings on the new procedures and protocols. With this in mind, we do not intend to begin our phased opening to more children until Wednesday 3rd June at the earliest.

Below are details of how we hope to implement the phased return of children in Foundation 2, Year 1 and Year 6 at Kingsway. Please read this very carefully as there is a lot of information for each year group but we felt it necessary to share as much as we could at this point. Once again, this may need to be adapted as guidelines are changing daily.

Monday 1st June and Tuesday 2nd June

➤ **Children of key workers and vulnerable children who have already been attending and who we have already booked in**

On these dates we will **only** be open for children of key workers and vulnerable children who have already been attending and who we have already booked in. The times for pick up and drop off will remain arrive 8.55am – home time 3.30pm via the main entrance.

It is very important that parents / carers ensure that, if they have already been allocated a place for their child, that they book in advance. From Monday 1st June children in this group will now be grouped into their 'bubbles' of a maximum of 15 and they will be required to stay in these groups.

From Wednesday 3rd June

➤ **Foundation 2 children**

From Wednesday 3rd June we plan to welcome back children in Foundation 2 (Red and Blue Butterflies)

Arrival will be at 9.45am and Home time will be at 2.45pm via the area outside of the main entrance.

Please note that on Friday Foundation 2 children will need to be collected at 12pm from the main entrance area to allow a deep clean of the school to be carried out and to provide usual weekly planning time for staff.

From Monday 8th June

➤ **Year 1 children**

From Monday 8th June we plan to welcome back children in Year 1 (Dragonflies and Ladybirds)

Arrival will be at 9.30am and Home time will be at 3.00pm via the area outside of the main entrance.

Please note that on Friday Year 1 children will need to be collected at 12.15pm from the main entrance area to allow a deep clean of the school to be carried out and to provide usual weekly planning time for staff. If they have a sibling in Foundation 2 they should be collected at 12.00pm with their sibling.

From Monday 15th June

➤ **Year 6 children**

From Monday 15th June we plan to welcome back children in Year 6 (Owls and Eagles) Arrival will be at 9.15am and Home time will be at 3.15pm via the area outside of the main entrance.

Please note that on Friday Year 6 children will need to be collected at 12.30pm from the main entrance area to allow a deep clean of the school to be carried out and to provide usual weekly planning time for staff. If they have a sibling in Foundation 2 they should be collected at 12.00pm with their sibling. If they have a sibling in Year 1 they should be collected at 12.15pm with their sibling.

The school day has been staggered in order to allow for social distancing. With this in mind we ask that only one parent / carer comes to drop off or collect children and that everyone observes social distancing whilst dropping off and collecting children. We will confirm the specific details with you in advance of the start date for each year group via the email address used to confirm that you would be willing to send your child into school during the phase return.

As mentioned in the update from 18th May 'staggered start and finish times should be implemented for groups to reduce the number of people on the school site in the interests of infection control. Where it is usual for parents / carers to gather on the playground or enter the building this should no longer be allowed.' We can not achieve this phased return on our own and your children's safety and health will also rely on parents / carers carefully following all of the new guidance and structure school has put in place.

Below are the points from the previous update but they have been adapted to include more specific information and actions which parents / carers will need to take.

- No more than 15 pupils should be in a class, however, due to the physical size of some of our classrooms this is likely to be reduced down below 15. Due to smaller groupings not all children will be supervised by their usual teacher when at school or be in their usual classroom. At Kingsway each year group usually has two classes and this will be at least four groups if most of each year group attends. Therefore, some children will be taught by a different member of staff in a different room. As government guidance states, '*Normally one teacher should be allocated to a group but if there are any teacher shortages then support staff may be used to lead groups, under the direction of a teacher.*'
- Groups or 'bubbles' are not to mix, therefore social times, such as break and lunch, should be staggered for each group. The government states that once children are in these groups they must not socialise with any other groups and will therefore have different break and lunchtimes in or to keep them apart.

- Key worker and vulnerable children will also now be split into bubbles as rooms will now be used differently. Once bubbles are established children will remain in these and can not be swapped between. You will have to decide whether your child will attend at the key worker timings or at their year groups timings.
- School will not be providing hot meals during the foreseeable future so will therefore continue to provide packed lunches to those children eligible for free school meals. Other children need to bring a packed lunch which could be eaten in either their classrooms or outside on the school field.
- As we need to prevent the sharing of resources to prevent the spread of the virus children will only need to bring their lunch to school. Reading books can not be changed so there is no need for a book bag. School will provide each child with the equipment they need in the classroom to carry out their work so no pencil cases should be brought into school. No mobile phones should be brought into school.
- Learning in the classroom will be very different during the phased return. Classrooms will be arranged in a way which observes social distancing and staff will not be able to support children in close proximity. The Government does not expect schools to follow the full National Curriculum at this time therefore we will adapt the curriculum to take into account these restrictive measures.
- New systems put in place will be included in addition to the usual behaviour policy for children. For example following instructions of who they can socialise with at school, following specific instructions related to moving around school, following instruction on hygiene such as handwashing, expectations about coughing, sneezing, use of tissues etc. Parents / carers will need to support their child in understanding this before they return to school.
- In order to prevent the spread of the virus we would be expected to come in a clean set of clothes each day which are suitable for outdoor PE.
- If anyone in the school community develops coronavirus symptoms they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days and their household members should self-isolate for 14 days.
- Parents must continue to use phone calls and emails to the office@kingsway.notts.sch.uk address to communicate with school. You can also use the class emails.

Once again we are sure that we can get through this but it will take everyone playing their part to make any potential phased return to school possible. We will continue to do what is manageable, practicable and safe for all the members of Team Kingsway.

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

Stay safe and be kind.

Mrs Bradbury