



19.5.2020

Parents and Carers,

STAGGERED RE-OPENING OF SCHOOL from 1st JUNE.

I am sending out this letter to try to give you an update as to where we are as a school with regards to our re-opening plan.

As you will all be aware, the Prime Minister recently outlined plans for schools to start opening to some year groups from 1st June 2020. **The plan is to open for Nursery, Reception and Years 1 at Tottenham.**

This is a conditional plan which will remain under regular review in a fast moving situation. **As a school we will use the guidance of the Department of Education to support us in ensuring that we keep our children, staff and families safe.** We receive a daily update from the Department of Education and are preparing a strategy and risk assessment for our re-opening based on the guidance below

DFE Planning guide for schools-Published 14th May 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools?fbclid=IwAR0onLh-67J6RMQNrIFZKjYDIAQGO6WKg4PARGSQInfQThBxgRe0Fi4FabE>

As parents and carers you will of course have many questions and my aim in this letter is to answer **some** of the questions you may have. I will update you regularly in regards to our school opening when I have vital information about pupil numbers and staff availability. The safety of our pupils and staff is paramount and we need more information in order to be fully prepared for our school to eventually reopen.

We know that our children miss their friends, teachers and staff – we miss you all too! Parents and carers are being strongly encouraged by the Government to return their children to school **when schools indicate that it is safe to do so. It is likely that parents and carers will have the opportunity to keep children at home if they wish to do so. Parents will not face attendance fines if they make this choice and the school will understand.**

What will school 'look' like when children return?

The short answer is that school will be very different and you will need to prepare your child for the new reality. To ensure the smooth operational running of the school, and using government advice, we are beginning to plan the following;



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- ❖ To ensure safe social distancing, everyone on site will have to try to abide by the 2-metre rule; however this may not be possible with such young pupils
- ❖ **No class groups will be larger than 15 pupils.** We will be aiming for no more than 10 pupils. Children will be supervised in groups which we are calling “Bubbles.”
- ❖ To ensure we adhere to the government guidance, your child may be supervised in a different classroom with a different teacher or a member of the support staff. Staff may be wearing PPE based on their individual preference.
- ❖ In Key Stage One children will be allocated their own folder with resources to use for the rest of the term. They will not need to bring anything to school except for **their water bottle.**
- ❖ School uniform is not required and we expect the children to come into school with **clean clothes everyday** so to minimise the risk of contamination between the children and staff.
- ❖ Pupils will be in their ‘Bubbles’ and kept apart from other pupils (and staff) as much as possible and be based in their set area with their set adults. The pupils will also eat in their ‘Bubble’ classroom.
- ❖ Our curriculum offer will need to be narrowed to minimise movement of children and staff around the building. We know that this time has been very stressful and upsetting for pupils; on their return we will predominantly be continuing with the Home Learning resources and also focusing on well-being lessons and activities within their group.
- ❖ Resources will need to be limited within the classrooms to minimise the risk of transmission.
- ❖ The Local Authority has strongly advised that breakfast clubs and after school clubs do not recommence. This is in-line with government guidelines recommending the minimum ‘mixing’ of different groups of pupils. Therefore, our breakfast club and After School Club will **NOT** be running.



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- ❖ We will NOT be able to accept the siblings of pupils from other year groups.
- ❖ We strongly recommend that only one adult drops and collects your child to school and to always be aware of social distancing and the 2-metre rule at all times. Children should not be running ahead of any of the adults at any time.
- ❖ **The fixed playground equipment will be completely out of bounds at all times.**
- ❖ School start and end times will be slightly staggered to aid with social distancing during the busy periods. We will confirm these times and points at a later date. Playtimes and lunchtimes will also be staggered. **(We will be liaising with St Michael at Bowes School on times and days).**
- ❖ Pupils will attend on a part –time basis.
- ❖ The school will be closed on Wednesdays except for vulnerable and key worker children. The closure is to enable a deeper clean and for teachers to continue to manage online learning.

We understand that some parents may be very anxious about any return to school and we totally understand this. Our staff are here to support the children and as a school we will understand if you may not be ready to return in June or before the end of the summer term.

We are currently in contact with parents and carers to establish how many children will come back to school on either **1st June or 8th June 2020** so that we can plan and prepare accordingly. The initial start date will be dependent on whether it is safe to do so. If you decide not to bring your child, then after our initial two week trial period you can request a place. The school would need at least a week's notice to make the necessary arrangements.

Every school has a unique setting and will be making choices and implementing a plan that is best for our school community. Please avoid making comparisons with other schools. We are also working very closely with St Michael at Bowes Junior School.

We all miss you and look forward to seeing you again and as I have stated earlier, safety and health are the most important factors. It is our intention that those pupils not attending school will continue with Remote Learning Provision.



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On our return to school the well-being of our pupils and staff is vital and as Head Teacher I will do everything that I can to ensure school life is a positive experience once again. This will of course take some time and many adjustments will have to be made. We would like to reassure you that we are planning for the school to have a deeper clean before school re-opens and all areas will be cleaned throughout the day.

Social distancing measures to combat this hidden virus are so important. Please ensure all rules and guidelines are followed on the school site at all times. The school office will **not** be open for face to face enquires. If you have any queries, please contact the school office via telephone 02088291100 or email office@tottenham.enfield.sch.uk . I thank you all for your understanding with this matter during this difficult time. We need to protect each other, be socially aware and keep our values in mind at all times.

We will be in contact with Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents and carers later this week.

Many thanks and best wishes; stay safe.

Sian Mainwaring

Headteacher
Tottenham Infant School



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