

5/6/2020

Dear Parents and Carers Reception Class:

I write to you to set out the arrangements we have made to begin to reopen Our Lady and St Joseph Primary for more children from Monday 8th June.

Before we set out these arrangements, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their understanding and cooperation since we had to close the school to the majority of pupils from 20th March. We know that this period has been challenging for many families and we appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.

As you may be aware, we have remained open for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children since school closure March 20th and have been operating with smaller group sizes and additional hygiene and infection control measures.

Protective measures we are taking in light of coronavirus (COVID-19)

First and foremost, it goes without saying that the safety of your child and of our staff is our top priority. We are working hard, following the latest government guidance, to develop and implement a number of new ways of operating. This will allow us to open as safely as possible, focusing on measures that will help limit the risk of coronavirus transmitting within our setting.

Some of the steps we are taking in readiness for reopening include:

- Asking that anyone who is displaying coronavirus symptoms, or who lives with someone who does, not to attend the setting. That includes children and staff who work here.
- Keeping our children in small groups with as much consistent staffing as possible, and minimising contact with other groups around the setting. This however needs to be flexible and may change over time.
- Cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash

their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.

- Ensuring our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment.
- Asking parents and carers to physically distance from each other and from staff when dropping off and collecting their children and to limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household. (Start times will be staggered between 8:50 and 9:10 to further limit contact/transmission.) Entrance and exit via Culford Road.
- Asking children not to bring toys or any other items from home to school. Each child now has their own labelled learning pack ready.
- Children may wear their own suitable clothes or school uniform which should be changed or aired daily. Please use slip on shoes for ease of use and no laces.
- Packed lunches will be provided for all pupils. It is therefore not necessary for parents to provide any food or drink and it is in the interest of health and safety that this is strictly adhered to.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?

When a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and children who are attending school will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and will be encouraged to get tested in this scenario. Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. Where the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise us on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases a larger number of other children, young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group.

If a child develops symptoms at school, they must be collected immediately. For this reason, please provide three up to date emergency contact numbers for your child.

We ask that you please sign the slip attached to indicate that you will comply with these guidelines.

We hope that this letter has given you the information you need to understand what arrangements we have made to enable children to return to us from 8th June. We are looking forward to welcoming your children back and I hope that you have some reassurance that we have taken all possible steps to ensure safety for all in our school.

Reception classes

There is a short film now on our website to show you where each group should line up in the morning in Culford Road. Children will come in one at a time. Please be on time.

MONDAY to THURSDAY	START	FINISH
Green Turtle Group -----	8.50am	3.00pm
Red Squirrels Group -----	9.00am	3.10pm
Blue Whale Group -----	9.10am	3.20pm
FRIDAY		
	START	FINISH
Green Turtle Group -----	8.50am	12.10pm
Red Squirrels Group -----	9.00am	12.20pm

Blue Whales Group -----

9.10am

12.30pm

I have fully read and agree to comply with the guidelines contained in this letter.

My 3 contact numbers are in order of priority:

1.

2.

3.

Signed:

Dated:

Please return this on Monday 8th June.