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Current proposed return

Year 6 - From week beginning 15th June (Mondays and Tuesdays)

Year 1 - From week beginning 22nd June (Wednesdays and Thursdays)

Year R - t.b.a.

Children of Key Workers, etc. - ongoing

Dear Parents and Carers,

We recognise that returning to school after any significant absence can present different challenges for different children and their families. This will be especially so because of the circumstances surrounding the current enforced closure.

We have therefore tried to compile a list of things for you to know and to share with your child/ren before their return.

First and foremost, if you or your child have any significant worries or concerns, please contact school by email or phoning the office. We are here to advise and assist.

In general terms:

- Tell them that it is normal to be anxious and concerned returning to school.
- Tell them they are safe, secure and loved both at home and in school.
- Tell them that if their brother or sister is not yet returning to school, that is not because they are being punished or that school don't want them back.
- Remind them to trust their parents, teachers and each other.
- Remind them that routines may have changed:
 - That they may have a different class base.
 - That they may have different adults looking after them, teacher or teaching assistant.
 - Some lessons will be different to the ones they are used to.
 - That they will be given their own equipment like pencils and rulers so that they don't have to share anyone else's. If they have to use

equipment that other people might have needed to use, it will have been sanitised afterwards.

- That they won't be allowed to bring things in from home like pencils cases or toys.
 - That there will be no school dinners only packed lunches, and they might need to eat in their classroom or outside and not in the school hall.
 - That they need to bring a water bottle to school that has been already filled as they won't be able to use the water fountains.
 - That if they are the child of a Key Worker they will be taught in a group with children from other classes. They might hear these groups called "bubbles".
 - That there are no assemblies.
 - That playtimes and lunch times might be different for each group.
 - That there will be areas of the school that they might not be able to use and that they might enter and leave the building by a different door to one that they are used to.
 - That there will be different rules about which toilets they can use and how many children can use them at a time.
- Remind them of the 2 metre social distancing rule and that they must try to keep within a span of their outstretched arms away from others.
 - Remind them that they will still need to follow all the school rules.
 - Tell them that when they arrive at school in the morning that they will need to wait on the playground near the coloured spot that their "bubble" has been allocated.
 - Tell them that they will see tape or markings on the floor and that they will need to use these to guide them and to show them where to wait.
 - Explain to them that they might have different play times and lunchtimes. They might also have different arrival and leaving times to their friends who are in in a different "bubble".
 - All classrooms will be well ventilated and equipped with hand gel, surface wipes, tissues and disinfectant spray. At all hand washing basins there will be access to hand pump soap, paper towels and a bin to throw away waste.
 - Explain that only one person will be allowed to use the toilet at a time and they may have to wait until it is free before they can use it.
 - Explain to them that staying in their "bubble" is really important and they won't be able to be with their friends or siblings if they are in a different one.
 - Tell them that there will be a lot of new things to remember and no one will be told off if they forget.
 - Explain to them that they will be wearing their school uniform but also trainers so that they can go outside for PE and play without needing to change. Tell them that you will wash their clothes at the end of every day so that they can have clean, fresh uniform ready for when they are next in school.
 - Explain to them that sporting activities will not be contact games and that equipment will be sanitised between groups.

- Tell them that each “bubble” will be allocated its own set of balls, etc, for play times. These will be sanitised after each break but it is important that only they or other children in their “bubble” use that equipment.
- Explain that they will be washing their hands for 20 seconds in the morning on arrival, after every activity and play time, before and after eating, going to the toilet and before going home.
- Explain to them that they may be asked to help sanitise equipment that they have used, e.g. wiping keyboards or i-pads.
- Remind them that there will be only one person in the toilet at any time so they need to ask to go, and not leave it to the last minute. Staff will let children go during lesson time.
- Tell them that if they are injured or feel unwell the adults will look after them as normal. Explain that if they are coughing or feeling very poorly, they might need to wait with an adult in the White Room until a parent comes to collect them.
- Tell them that no adult or child needs to wear a face mask, but that any first aiders will have face masks and some will have a face shield if the circumstances warrant it. These are both disposable and washable.
- If you choose to send your child in with a face mask, they will not be asked to remove them if that is what you wish.
- We currently have no plans to hold a fire drill practice, however all staff have been told about some changes to our emergency evacuation procedure.
- Reassure any child who is in Year 6 that Mrs Coop and Mrs Mahony will be delivering some of the activities surrounding transition to high school. If a Year 6 wishes to wear their Leavers hoodie instead of uniform, they can (however, as with all uniform, it does need to be washed before it can be worn in school again).

The above is an extensive but not exhaustive list. If there is anything you are unsure about or feel that we have overlooked, please get in contact.

There will be opportunities for the children to talk and write about lockdown, their experiences of learning, new ways of playing and any concerns or worries that they have. They will be encouraged to express their feelings and emotions around missing their friends and trusted adults. Any worries or concerns will be communicated to you by phone.

If there are serious behaviour issues, we will contact you to collect your child and discuss this with you. You will not be able to discuss matters with us in the foyer entrance or at the hatch, but we will arrange a telephone call back or an appointment for you to come into a room where we can use social distancing rules.

Thank you for your understanding and support,