



Donnington Wood Infant School & Nursery

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Headteacher: Mrs C Boddy

learning, caring, preparing

21st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Government announcement of a potential wider re-opening of schools from 1st June we are planning how this could work for our school and nursery. As an Infant School our priority year groups are Nursery (3&4 year olds) and Reception. We are also expected to continue to offer places to vulnerable and keyworker children.

We are currently working through the government guidance documents to prepare for having more children back in school and nursery, if infection rates and the government's other tests at the time allow it. The wellbeing and safety of children, staff and the wider community is our priority.

In preparation for a phased wider opening, we have considered the measures set out in the Government guidance 'social distancing and implementing protective measures in school'. In response we are working to ensure the following

Hygiene

- Plenty of soap and disposable towels for children (and staff) to be able to wash their hands on entry to school and with sufficient staff available to supervise regular handwashing/toileting arrangements throughout the day
- Maintaining social distancing by following the Government's hierarchy of safety measures that include: avoiding anyone with symptoms, frequent hand washing and good respiratory hygiene practices, regular cleaning of the setting, minimising contact and mixing of groups
- Increased toilet cleaning and regular classroom cleaning
- Cleaning systems in place for regular toy/resource cleaning including all equipment and areas used being cleaned in readiness for the next day.
- All soft toys and games removed with only hard, wipeable equipment remaining. Toys with intricate pieces will not be used, and children will be told that they must not share the toys/ stationery/ equipment that they use in the day with another child

Children

- Children grouped up to a maximum of 10 in each class (although this may not be with their usual teacher). This will remain a consistent group until we are advised to change this by Government guidance
- Staggered and zoned playtimes/lunchtimes to ensure lots of space to play safely.
- Increased times outdoors when learning wherever possible.
- Spaced out classrooms with high risk items that are difficult to clean removed.
- Increased ventilation in classrooms.
- Identified pathways through school to minimise contact.
- Children given stationary and resources to use as their own, rather than sharing.
- Children eating with their small group
- Children to bring in own water bottle and take home for careful washing each day.

We do not require that children wear masks or gloves – this is in line with government guidance – Coronavirus: implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings.

Parents

- As few parents on site as possible to ensure swift drop off and pick up with no groups of people gathering
- Staggered start and end of day times to ensure we do not have large numbers of parents and children moving around the site at any one time

Illness

- Anyone showing symptoms (high temperature, new persistent cough, loss of taste/smell) should not attend school or nursery
- Anyone (child or member of staff) with symptoms to go home immediately and return following government guidelines
- Should anyone fall ill with COVID-19 (children or staff) within the small group, everyone in that group will be required to remain at home for a period of 14 days self-isolation

Communication

- Any messages will need to be communicated through the office via the telephone or email to avoid having parents on site unnecessarily.
- We will communicate regularly with everyone via email and the school website

You will appreciate that with social distancing measures in place and heightened hygiene measures, a day in school or nursery for children will look completely different from a normal day prior to lock-down. Children will need lots of support and careful supervision to check they are washing their hands properly and to limit the sharing of equipment. We will do our very best to remind children of these guidelines and do everything we can to reduce risks, but we cannot guarantee that your child will not come within 2 metres of another person. This will be challenging, if not impossible, in situations relating to first aid, managing movement around the classroom or simply comforting children if they are upset.

Nursery (3&4 year olds) and Reception

We have attempted to contact all parents of these year groups this week to ask if they will be sending their child in if there is a wider opening in June. If you indicated 'yes' then you will receive more information after the 1st June explaining the arrangements for your child returning. We have made arrangements for these children to gradually return from 8th June. If you indicated 'no' but have changed your mind and do want your child in school (Nursery 3/4s and Reception only) you need to contact us via phone or email and we will add you to a waiting list.

From Monday 1st June –

- keyworker and vulnerable children ONLY to attend
- all rooms prepared (cleaning, resources, furniture)
- risk assessments completed and signed off
- all staff aware of new procedures and routines
- all hygiene measures and routines in place
- learning planned for children in school / nursery and at home
- detailed arrangements for children returning sent to parents

We will continue to offer support for home learning via the 'Home Learning' page on our website for those children who are not back in school or nursery.

We are doing our best to follow guidelines and keep both children and staff as safe as possible. All of the above arrangements are subject to updates and further guidance from the government. We will continue to update parents as we receive any new information or guidance.

If you have any question or queries about the wider opening then please email school – donnwood.infants@taw.org.uk or phone the school office -386640.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Boddy
Headteacher