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CHADDESLEY CORBETT ENDOWED PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

22nd May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

School re-opening on June 3rd, 2020

As you are aware, the Government will make the final decision on 28th May about whether to enter the second stage and reopen schools. If the evidence does not support further reopening, it will be delayed.

There has been a huge amount of media coverage and debate about this, which of course has raised many questions for both Education professionals and parents/carers. We would very much encourage parents to download the track and trace app as soon as it is available as this will help us to keep our community safe.

At Chaddesley Corbett Endowed Primary School we have taken a practical and constructive approach as we wanted to be fully prepared and be ready to welcome your children as soon as possible. The whole staff have been wonderfully supportive and positive, governors and I are very proud of their adaptability and professionalism.

The advice to schools sets out that each setting will complete risk assessments and risk management plans, which I have completed and consulted with the governors and the senior leadership team. We have added a tab about reopening on the school website and have put the documents there should you wish to look at them. I have also put on the website all the letters that have been sent out regarding reopening so that you can refer to them if necessary.

I am sending this letter to **all** parents/carers, although currently it only applies to the children of key workers, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 at this stage. I imagine that lots of our parents/carers will have similar thoughts and concerns.

I have addressed some of the questions you may have:

What will the day look like?

Pupils will be organised into small groups (bubbles) of 15 or less and will be organised to spend all day with the same pupils to avoid unnecessary contact.

Bubbles will each have a designated class base, it may be different to their normal classroom. Each bubble will have their own entrance, exit and toilet space to use.

Children will arrive at the normal time. Please limit the number of additional people on site as much as possible. If younger siblings are with you please ensure that they are under strict control, we will of course apply common sense to family groups. You will be informed by your class teacher as to exactly where your entrance and exit is. Nursery pupils will enter the separate nursery and wraparound building, Reception pupils into Reception and adjoining Nursery room. Years 1 and 6 will enter by the gate and go to the Y5 or 6 classroom or Y2 or 1 classroom. Miss Edwards or I will be there to ensure adequate social distancing and to support families. Children will not be playing on the playground.

The playground / outside space will be zoned so that children will be able to play with their bubble in a designated area. Children will not be allowed to play with other children outside of their own bubble. While we understand this may be upsetting for some children and difficult for them to understand, unfortunately this is essential in order to minimise the number of people your child has contact with.

Equipment / resources will be cleaned regularly and, where possible, children will have their own. Resources that are difficult to clean have been removed and will not be used.

Will children be with their friends?

Teachers will organise groups to consider friendships, however there will be little flexibility once we are up and running.

How will I contact the school during the day?

If you need to contact the school, please email or call the school at any time during the school day. There will usually be somebody in the office but please try to avoid visiting the office unless absolutely necessary. If you do need to go to the office, please ensure that only one person is in the lobby at one time. Other than emergency first aid the office staff will not be having contact with the children so please ensure that your child brings everything they need to school in the morning, in order to minimise the handling of your child's belongings by members of staff not allocated to your child's bubble.

What will key worker's children be learning from 3rd June?

Key worker's children will be educated on site using the home learning resources available to all families. This is how it has been working from the outset. Year 5 key worker's children will be integrated with year 6. This is because we have a larger number of Key worker's children from June 3rd and have room to accommodate them within the year 6 bubbles. All bubbles will be 15 children maximum.

What will children be learning from the 3rd June?

There will be a structure to the day and plenty of outdoor learning. Initially, settling the children and setting out our expectations for routines and procedures will be the priority. Our main consideration will be our pupils' wellbeing so there will be a lot of nurturing and listening activities. We will focus too on how we learn best. We will assess where pupils are in their learning and wellbeing, making necessary adjustments to their curriculum over the coming weeks.

Will home learning still be sent home?

Detailed and bespoke home learning packs will continue to be sent to year groups that are not involved in the initial reopening. For children in those year groups that are invited into school, home learning will be continued but may be more reliant on external websites. These will be signposted to you by the class teacher who will guide you as to what they would like you to do. They will be updated weekly.

Will the children be wearing school uniform?

The children will be expected to wear uniform, but we understand that shops are not open, therefore if they have grown out of their uniform we would appreciate them wearing something as similar as possible.

Will lunch be provided?

Shire services will offer a packed lunch, this will be free to pupils in Reception and Year 1. Children from Year 6 and the key worker's group can bring their own or will need to prepay via their ParentPay account and we will order on the day as requested. Generally, there will be a choice of 3 different sandwiches, fruit, biscuit and a carton of drink. Nursery children will need to bring their own lunch. Lunches will be eaten in their classroom.

Will snack and drinks be provided?

Fruit will not be provided by school so children should bring in their own healthy snack of fruit for break time. Please make sure that all children are sent into school with a water bottle. Milk will be available for Nursery and Reception pupils that are under 5 years of age.

What equipment does my child need to bring into school?

Children will be asked to bring in their book bags daily with water bottle and packed lunch. If you would like to provide your child with their own pencil case, please do. If not, we will give them a bag with their own pencil etc for their exclusive use. When the weather is warm, please ensure that you send your child in with a sunhat and make sure they have applied sun cream before coming to school. Children will be encouraged to wash their hands and if your child's hands are being affected by soreness then please feel free to bring in hand cream for them to apply themselves.

What will you do if children are scared of PPE while administering first aid?

We already use basic PPE whilst administering first aid, such as gloves and sometimes aprons, so this will be no different. Masks will be used at the discretion of staff, when they are in very close contact with children. This could involve first aid or help with toileting or eating. We feel that parents/carers have a big part to play in preparing their children for seeing adults wearing masks. Masks are evident in the community and will quickly become part of our school routine for pupils. It is unlikely that teaching staff will wear masks, however staff will be given the option to wear a mask at any time they are in school, so it may be that children see staff in masks. For first aiders we have provided full face visors so that children can see the adult's expression and be reassured.

How will social distancing work?

The government guidance clearly states that early years and primary age children **cannot** be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. So, our aim is to minimise mixing and the adults they come into contact with, each adult will be designated to certain bubbles to reduce the amount of adult contact. We will of course care for and comfort pupils if they need this.

How will drop off and pick up work?

Our plans for this are focused on observing social distancing, avoiding congestion and keeping a flow of pupils and parents on the site. Chats at the door with teachers/LAs will not be possible in the same way, so parents / carers will be encouraged to keep messages clear and concise and communicate to a designated adult on site.

All children will be grouped into a bubble. If possible, children are encouraged to walk to their entrance alone, particularly children in KS2. If given permission by parents, children in year 6 can be dismissed alone at the end of the day and make their way sensibly to their parent/carer in an awaiting vehicle.

We will be asking parents to queue in 2m intervals from the entrances, where a designated member of staff will greet you. At collection, the parents will be asked to queue at the same place and the class teacher will bring the children up and dismiss each child as their parent/carer comes to the front of the queue.

If you have children in different groups, provided you keep social distancing, go first to one entrance and then to another.

Can I change my mind later after I see what the model will look like and send my child in?

Yes, if your child is eligible to attend you can send them. Please give us one week's notice so that we can arrange staffing. We'll let you know if they can attend before a week has passed. Please inform the office.

What if a child in my child's bubble becomes sick?

If the symptoms appear to be those of coronavirus, then all the children in the bubble will stay at home until we have the result of a test. If the test is negative, your child and all those in their bubble can return to school. If it is positive, then your child's bubble will all be off for 14 days and your child will return with them. EYFS children under 5 can't be tested, so that will mean that the bubble must remain at home for 14 days.

What if my child becomes sick?

If your child become ill at school, we will inform you, just as we always have, to come and pick your child up. If the symptoms appear to be those of coronavirus, we would like you to take your child for a test and to inform us of the result. If the test is negative your child can return to school as soon as they feel better. If it is positive, then your child's bubble will all be off for 14 days and your child will return with them. EYFS children under 5 can't be tested, so that will mean that the bubble must remain at home for 14 days.

What if someone in my household becomes sick?

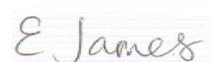
If someone other than your child in your household becomes sick then you will self-isolate as per government guidelines and your child will not attend school until the end of that period. The other children in that bubble will continue to attend.

I hope that the above information is helpful to you, I have tried to think of everything but am bound to have some queries. I will write again on Monday 1st June to confirm either way and to address any questions you may have.

How years 2, 3, 4 and 5 are invited back to attend school will very much depend on the rate of infection and what happens nationally.

Have a restful and relaxing half term. I hope the weather stays lovely.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "E James". The signature is written in a dark blue or black ink on a white background.

Emma James
Headteacher