



St. Nicholas C of E Primary School  
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Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your families are all well.

Apologies another long letter!

It has been a very confusing picture for us regarding our return to school. Late last week the local authority emailed us saying they 'were comfortable with wider opening from the 8<sup>th</sup> of June', hence our change of date. In consultation with the Governors I have made the decision to stick with the dates we declared last week to ensure that everything is safe for the pupils in Reception, Year 1 and year 6 to return. This is later than the Prime Minister has announced but we are still awaiting the arrival of some of the PPE we need to have on site should a staff member or child be taken ill, so this pause will also ensure we are properly equipped and fully ready for when school begins to re-open.

I don't envy anyone the decision some parents have to make, the truth is the future is unknown and I am unable to guarantee that I can keep everyone safe from COVID 19. **Parents who choose not to send their child will not be fined until school returns to normal.**

What I do know is that we have worked hard to try and lessen the risk. I also know that, should your child return, school will be nothing like your child is used to.

Currently we are expecting around 50% of the children across years R,1 and 6 back. We will be phoning around next week to double check who we should expect back. We will not be able to tell you who will be teaching your child until they arrive at school as the number of classes we need will depend on the number of children actually attending.

**Returning pupils should return on the following days;**

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June – Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Closed to all pupils <b>except</b> key worker's children and those pupils deemed vulnerable.
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 6 return</b>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Year 1 return</b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Reception classes return</b>

**At the following times;**

Year group	Drop off	Pick up
Key worker and those deemed vulnerable	Between 8.25 – 8.30	3.45
Year 6	Between 8.35 – 8.45	3.35
Year 1	Between 8.50 – 9.00	3.25
Year R	Between 9.05 and 9.15	3.15

Pupils returning to school will be expected to attend every day unless they are ill. Children should not flex in and out of the provision as this is very disruptive for all. If you have children in two year groups across R, 1 or 6 ALL children are expected to attend – so if you have a year 1 and year 6 child you should not just send one child. **The decision you make should be for your whole family and you should stick to it so the staff are not messed around.**

### **Shielding Letters**

Pupils with a shielding letter **SHOULD NOT** attend school, we will continue to support these children at home.

Parents who are shielding because they are in the extremely clinically vulnerable group **SHOULD NOT** send their children to school as we cannot guarantee that your child will be able to stick to strict social distancing.

### **Uniform.**

The uniform shop is open for orders and will be open for personal callers from 15<sup>th</sup> June. Details of how to order uniform will be sent separately.

### **Masks**

It is fine for pupils to return in masks but please can you check that your child can be heard at a distance of two metres and that they are able to cope with wearing a mask all day. **Any masks found around school will be thrown away as they are a risk to others.**

### **Life at school**

I need to reiterate that school will be **very different** (not what any of us would choose but we need to be honest and try to keep the children safe). I would be grateful if you could speak to your children about the following things;

- **Parents will not be allowed in school (please phone with messages)**
- **There is likely to be a longer wait to get into school, so please be patient.**
- **Children can only be escorted by one parent and must stay by their side until they enter school, they must not run around. (they will be told to return to their parent if they wander)**
- **Pupils will have their temperatures checked on arrival and if it is higher than 37.8 they will have to go home.**
- **If you arrive late you will have to wait in a waiting area in the car park until the end of the next year group has arrived and been registered and left the hall.**
- **No items can be brought to school or taken home.**
- **Children in years 1 and 6 will be allocated a seat in their classroom, it will not change, they will not be sat next to anyone.**
- **They will not be able to move around the classroom.**
- **They need to try and stay at least two metres apart from the other children and the staff.**
- **Their classroom will look very bare as much of the equipment has had to be removed.**
- **They may not be taught by their old teacher.**
- **They may not be taught in the classroom they were in before lockdown.**
- **They may not be with the same classmates. (So if on day one 14 boys and 1 girl arrive that will be the pod, if on day two 5 girls arrive then they will be in the second pod)**
- **Pupils from different pods will NOT learn together at all. They will not be able to mix on the playgrounds.**
- **Books will not be collected – they will be marked under the direction of the teacher by the pupil.**
- **Everything they need and use will be provided by school and kept in their tray under their desk.**
- **They will be asked to clean their desk and wash their hands numerous times a day.**
- **There will be a one-way system down the corridor and up the outside – we hope it won't rain but sometimes it might!**
- **Only outside doors will be used to go into and out of the classrooms**
- **Some teachers may wear masks or need to put them on**
- **If your child gets ill they will be asked to put a mask on**
- **They will only be able to mix with children in their small new class of 15 in the part of the playground that has been designated for them. And even in this group 2m social distancing will need to be kept.**

- In the hall for lunch and arrival and leaving pupils must ALWAYS sit in the same place they cannot swap.
- If a lunch is brought in EVERYTHING must be disposable including what it is carried in.
- Football is not allowed.
- They will be able to play with a ball with one other child, they should not touch one another.
- There will be no social events this term, no special assemblies, no special meals, no trips. (Year 6 events will happen in the Autumn once we are out of lockdown as previously announced)
- Staff from secondary schools will NOT be visiting our school.

#### **Behaviour Policy;**

##### **The following change to the behaviour policy has been made;**

Pupils will be reminded about social distancing and will not be punished for failing to follow the social distancing rules through genuine mistake. Pupils who use social distancing rules as a threat to other pupils and staff will be sanctioned according to the behaviour policy flow chart up to and including exclusion.

These threats include (but the list is not exhaustive);

- Spitting
- Threatening to infect another child or staff through getting close
- Coughing in an aggressive fashion towards another child or staff
- Describing another pupil, member of staff or family member as 'Covid'
- Accusing a Chinese national or other nationality of being the cause of the pandemic (this could result in permanent exclusion as it is racial abuse.)

#### **The school's response to the COVID 19 symptoms;**

Should a child have any of the following symptoms

- Cough
- Temperature 37.8 or above
- Loss of taste or smell

NB even if the symptoms are mild the following will happen (the school's decision on this will be final and we expect everyone to follow this for the protection of everyone)

however mild the following procedure will be followed.

- The child will be separated from the group on a chair outside the classroom.
- The Head teacher or School Business manager will put on PPE and go to the child.
- The office will phone the parents to ask them to come and get the child immediately.
- The child will be taken to The Brook.
- The child will be given a mask to wear.
- The COVID symptom sheet will be filled out.
- When child is picked up Parent will be advised to book household testing.
- COVID 19 advice sheet will be given to parent.
- The child will only be allowed to return should they show negative test text or email or after seven days since symptoms appearing.

Should a child or staff test positive the whole pod and staff will be sent home to quarantine for 14 days.

No action is taken for those who remain in school unless a positive test comes through.

It may become necessary to close pods or the whole school at short notice due to staff shortages or because of Public Health England advice to do so.

**There will be no exceptions when dealing with symptoms please respect our decision as final – we are just trying to protect our whole community.**

#### **Key Worker Children and Pupils Deemed Vulnerable**

Children already booked with us will continue to be admitted from Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are a key worker who is currently not using the provision you will need to send a letter from both you and your partner's employer and your shift patterns to us before a place can be considered, if a place is available we will then contact you with a start date. Places are very limited and we will need to prioritise pupils who have both parents working as key workers. Pupils deemed vulnerable should continue to attend.

### **Work Packs**

During the first week back paper packs will be available for drive through pick up at the following times. (walk through is available for families who do not drive but please try to only have one member of the family come to pick up the packs). All children will have a pack – please use them in order if you are planning on your child coming back to school as the same packs (we are photocopying two lots!) will be used in school! Pupils returning to school DO NOT need to bring back their packs – this is to prevent viral transmission and means that you will have the packs at home should your child have to isolate in the future.

Work Packs can be picked up at the following times;

Year R Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 9.30- 10 am

Year 1 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 10.15 – 10.45am

Year 2 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 11-11.30am

Year 3 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 11.45 – 12.15pm

Year 4 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 1. – 1.30pm

Year 5 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 1.45 – 2.15pm

Year 6 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2.30 – 3pm

Although the work packs sent home will be the same work packs as the children in school use, I cannot guarantee that learning in school will not veer away from the packs should the teacher decide it is appropriate to do so.

If you have any questions please do email me at; [head@stnicholasschool.co.uk](mailto:head@stnicholasschool.co.uk) or phone the school office on Monday and if I am not available I will get back to you as soon as I can.

I look forward to the day when the whole school is back together until then please rest assured we continue to work hard to keep everyone safe and learning. Stay safe.

Kindest regards,

Nicki Smith.

Headteacher.