**COVID-19 UPDATE- 22.05.20**

**Conditional opening subject to guidance from Government – only for those families that have contacted us by 21.05.20.**

**You do not need to send your children into school if you do not feel it is safe to do so; you will not be fined; it is not compulsory.**

We would like to update you on the steps that school are taking to reopen. This has been undertaken with a huge amount of thought and consideration for the health, safety and wellbeing of all members of the school community and in consultation with all members of staff, following feedback from the questionnaire to parents and with the local authority and governors and drawing on guidance from the Department for Education.

We are determined to do the right thing for our children and staff; this may not fit in with some of the guidelines set out by the Government but is what we have identified as being workable and safe in the current situation.

School will reopen, **should we be advised it is safe to do so**, from **Thursday 4th June**. During the week Monday to Wednesday, staff will be in school carrying out training, preparing the classrooms and circulation spaces around school and deep cleaning.

**On Thursday 4th June we will open for Pre-School and Reception children only.**

The following week, and for subsequent weeks until informed otherwise the following timetable will be in place:

**From Wednesday 10th June and each Wednesday, Thursday, Friday thereafter** – **Year 6** who will be split in two groups due to the number of children returning. They will be placed in Group A or Group B (we will inform you which group your child has been placed in nearer the time).

**From Wednesday 10th June and each Wednesday, Thursday, Friday thereafter** – **Year 1**, **Reception and Pre-School**

We need to make it clear at this point that your child is unlikely to be with their normal class teacher for all or part of the week and may be in different classrooms than normal. This is due to the large number of teachers (5 in total) shielding due to being clinically vulnerable.

There will be no before and after school club for the foreseeable future. Key Care for those children of vulnerable families and key workers will continue each day, this will now take place in the Year 3 and Year 6 classroom. We will be in touch with those currently accessing key care to clarify arrangements and to notify you of upcoming changes.

**Arrangements for drop off and pick up**

Drop off and pick up will be as follows:

* **Please remember that no parents will be allowed in the school building at any time.**
* **Pre-school and Reception** please use the front door of the infant building (straight off the road, up the steps). Please drop off at 8:30 and pick up is 2:30 from the same location. Can parents please wait on the pavement, making sure they social distance until your child’s teacher brings the child to the door or calls your child to enter the building.
* **Year 1 –** infant playground gate, your child will enter the building through Year 2 outside classroom door, drop off is 9:00 and pick up is 3:00. Please adhere to the social distancing floor marking and wait for your child to be called.
* **Year 6 –** Group A enter hall by outside fire door and their drop off time is 9:15 and pick up is 3:15.

Group B will use main-entrance door, their drop off time is 9:30 and pick up is 3:30. We advise parents to ensure their children are safely dropped off and not to allow them to walk up the hill unsupervised.

**Key Care –** drop off and pick up will now take place at the Year 6 door at the usual times and will be held in Year 6 and Year 3 classrooms.

**Moving around the school site**

There will be a one-way system in place to drop off and pick up, using the zig zag path around the infant building for entry and exit via the drive. **Please do not stop at any point to talk to other members of the school community** including other parents to adhere to social distancing and help keep us all safe. Markings will be used to ensure social distancing is maintained.

**Steps we will take in school include:**

* Class sizes, or aim is to keep the class sizes to no more than 10. Based on the size of our classrooms this is what we feel is safest but may have to increase if more children wish to return, but will never be more than 15 in any classroom.
* School will be deep cleaned on a Monday and Tuesday and cleaned daily.
* Classes will be supervised by a class teacher or teaching assistant known to the children but may not be their usual class teacher.
* Children will sit at their own desk/space and will be provided with their own resources, they must not share these with other children.
* Resources or personal possessions are not to be brought in from home, please keep any home learning work you have completed at home.
* Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered to reduce the risk of contact with other children and adults.
* There will be no breakfast or afterschool club.
* PPE will be worn by staff for administering intimate care or first aid – staff may also decide to wear PPE out of personal choice – school will be providing this.
* Strict toileting and handwashing provisions will take place at regular intervals throughout the day.
* Children will not be permitted to interact with children from other groups to ensure the ‘bubbles’ in place are maintained.
* If a member of a ‘bubble’ tests positive for the virus (this includes staff and children), all other members including school staff are to self-isolate for 14 days, this is in accordance with new government guidance.
* Sadly, there will not be the traditional ‘rights of passage’ that take place in Year 6, there will be no performance, leavers service or picnic; all trips have been cancelled and most disappointingly, there will be no guard of honour down the hill on the last day. We hope to welcome you all back later in the year when it is safe to do so for this long- standing tradition.
* Children are not expected to wear uniform, they must come in clean clothes each day that are suitable and easy to wash.
* If a staff member in a bubble is absent for any reason, that bubble will not be able to attend as there are insufficient staff to support all the children. A text will be sent by 8am to inform you of this

Furthermore, we will be implementing a new behaviour policy during this time which will include a zero-tolerance approach to disruptive behaviour that may impact on the safety of any school member.

These are slow and measured steps, as a school we have a duty to ensure everyone feels safe and we trust that you will support us in implementing these steps. Although we will take every measure possible to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of your child, unfortunately we cannot guarantee that your child will not come into contact with a carrier of COVID 19. Ultimately, it is your decision whether you want your child in school and it is **not compulsory for your child to attend**. The decision to open only on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday is based on the available staffing and taking into consideration the governments ‘ambition’ for all primary school children to be able to return to school before the end of the school year.

**Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6**

If you have not contacted us already to request that your child returns to school through the questionnaire, sadly we are unable to cater for you at this time. If you do turn up at school, we will have to request that you leave the school premises as the staffing we have available will be based on the numbers of children confirmed to be in and it will not be safe for additional children to be brought in.

We will be in touch with those that have requested their children to attend school to confirm their place in school. We will inform you of the members of staff that will be leading each bubble at this time. You will hear by Tuesday evening (26th May). Again, please only turn up at if you have confirmation about your child’s attendance.

**Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has any of the following:**

* a high temperature
* a new, continuous cough
* a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

[**Check the NHS website if you have symptoms**](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/)

Please note the new symptom recently added.

**Home Learning**

Home learning will continue for those still at home, we will strive to ensure it continues to the same standard though work is unlikely to be responded to due to staff taking on additional responsibilities. Those staff that are shielding will take over year groups of those teachers in school. The information on who to contact will be sent out in due course. We will also be cutting our usual 2-week half term holiday to continue home learning after a one week break on Monday 1st June.

Keep safe and look after each other.

The Senior Leadership Team, Teaching and Support Staff and Governors of Clayton-le-Woods CEP.