



### **What the June return might look like in a little more detail.**

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey I sent out at the beginning of the week, I know it was quite difficult to make a decision without a better understanding of what that might look like in school, so that is what I will try to outline in this letter.

As you know the Government has asked primary schools to start planning for a return to school for selected year groups from the beginning of June at the earliest. You will have noticed that there is a lot of debate about whether it will be safe to do so at that time. Can I just say that we are planning for a return but that doesn't mean it will happen then, it rests upon certain procedures being in place for it to be safe to do so.

In order to return with reduced class sizes, our plans will be to take half of each of the identified year groups (R, 1 and 6) back for a week in school and then alternate with the other half the following week. The children when in school will remain in the same bubble of children and adults all day for that week. They will finish at lunchtime on Friday to enable the school to be deep cleaned before the other half of the year group attend the following week.

We may start back incrementally; allowing one year group bubble back on one day and then another the next, until they are all in after the first three days. This will give us the chance to assess and respond to new issues with different organisational procedures as we go along.

- There will be staggered starts, breaks and lunches so that each year group bubble doesn't mix with any other. A timetable of which I will share nearer the time.
- Only one adult will accompany a child to school or pick them up at the end of the day. Parents and children will observe social distancing at drop off and pick up times. These times will be staggered to avoid barriers to social distancing. Specific areas for drop off and pick up will be shared nearer the time.
- Each bubble will have their own classroom areas and entrance and exit doors to prevent contact.
- Where possible outdoor learning will take place to facilitate ventilation and allow distancing.
- Each bubble will have their own toilets, sinks and will eat in their class areas to prevent any mixing with other year groups.
- Children will have their own learning area and will not work together.
- Children do not need to wear uniform-comfortable, appropriate clothing that they can both learn, play and exercise in to prevent unnecessary changing is fine. If possible this should be clean each day.
- Bags and coats will be kept at their learning areas to take the cloakrooms out of action.
- Fixed play equipment will be out of bounds due to contact contamination between bubble groups.
- Children attending school will not bring equipment into school, individual sets will be provided in school. Books/ folders will not travel between home and school.
- Children bringing a packed lunch will need to do so in a disposable bag which will be thrown away in school along with any contents.
- Where possible children will be grouped with friends in their year group bubble.



- School lunches, mainly sandwiches will be delivered in a named disposable sandwich bag to class. There will be no contact with kitchen staff. These meals can be ordered in advance using Parentpay. There will be the choice of sandwich filling along with the occasional hot lunch as we proceed.
- A plastic water bottle may be brought in from home but will need to be disinfected upon return home.
- Wherever possible social distancing will be encouraged, although this cannot be guaranteed with our younger pupils.
- Children will wash hands frequently throughout the course of the day.
- Children will use toilet facilities individually.
- Surfaces and contact points will be cleaned throughout the day.
- PPE equipment will be used by staff who are administering first aid/intimate care.
- School lunches provided will be distributed in individual named bags and eaten and disposed of in school.
- Although Government guidelines suggest that PPE is unnecessary in schools your child may wear a mask if you want them to, there is no need for gloves as hand washing is a better preventative measure.
- Your child may be taught in a different classroom and depending on numbers may be taught by a different teacher.
- Home learning will not be monitored as closely for those children in the identified year groups during the week they are not in school
- School will still be open for the children of Key workers to attend. Key worker children will stay on Friday afternoons and their area will be deep cleaned at the end of the school day.

It is important for you to remember that you have the choice whether you want to send your child back to school at this time and under these conditions. There will be no fines or unauthorised attendance marks if you do not feel comfortable with your child returning to school in this first wave.

As yet the Government hasn't decided that they will ask children to return on that date, that is still dependent on the 5 key indicators being met but if we are asked to go ahead this is an overview of what it will look like at Florendine. I hope that helps you make a more informed choice in these challenging times.

Current scientific advice to the Government suggests that **“the first thing we need to have in place is a well-functioning track and trace system,”** the member of the government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies stated, when asked about the safety of a return for children on June the 1<sup>st</sup>. It is not certain at the moment whether this will be in place at that time.

Once again these are our plans but they may not be implemented on that particular date depending on further scientific advice. As you can see there's a lot to consider and if there any additional measures I need to put in place prior to your children's safe return, I will of course communicate those to you at the time. If there are any individual points you want to clarify please get in touch.

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