



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

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Thursday 21 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Keyworker, Vulnerable, Foundation, Yr1 and Yr6 children

Governors have approved the Phased Return to school plan and risk assessment. The plan and risk assessment cover all aspects of school and have been very carefully considered to ensure that we keep children, staff and families as safe as possible; we have followed the DfE guidance. Please ensure that you read the information below and attached carefully before making a decision to send your child back to school and familiarise yourself with all the new guidance.

NB. Obviously in order for us to open, the UK government will need the 5 tests for easing measures to be met. This is something that will be announced on the 28th May after they've reviewed the latest science. If the evidence does not support this decision at that time, the partial reopening of schools will be delayed.

Our plan and risk assessment state that we will do everything that we can to ensure social distancing at 2m but **safe distancing cannot be guaranteed as naturally children will want to talk/sit/play together in their small bubble (group) at playtimes. Children will naturally gravitate towards each other, especially the younger children who will not have seen each other for over 2 months and as they get tired they will forget the rules. Foundation children while being taught will be positioned approximately 2m apart but as they access continuous provision around the setting we will restrict access to 2 children in each area but they will not be 2m apart.** Whilst keeping children safe is paramount, we also want children to feel relaxed and happy being back at school and do not want to add to any anxieties they may already have and appreciate that all children have had different experiences. We will use the term 'scarecrows' with the children and encourage them to learn if they hold their arms out to the sides this is how far they should be apart.

A staggered start is necessary to introduce children to the new look school environment and rules.

On Monday 1 June, key worker and vulnerable children will attend as they have been doing on the days and times that they agree with the school every Friday. Key worker and vulnerable children have been split into two groups- Yr 2/3 and Yr 4/5. Children are still to enter through the front entrance between 8.45 and 9.00 but Yr 2/3 will complete their home learning in the library and Yr 4/5 in the Year 4 classroom. Please pick up your child from the front entrance at 3.00pm.

We will also welcome back Yr 6, who will be grouped into two bubbles – one in the Year 6 classroom and one in the Year 5 classroom. Both bubbles will be taught the same activities. The children will either enter through the Year 5 fire door or the Year 6 fire door accessed through the staff car park.

On Tuesday 2 June, we will welcome back Yr 1 children, who will be grouped into two bubbles – one in the Year 2 classroom and one in the Year 3 classroom. Again both bubbles will be taught the same activities. The children will either enter through the Year 3 fire door or the Year 2 fire door accessed down the side of the school by the cycle racks.

On Wednesday 3 June, we will welcome back Foundation children, who will be grouped into two bubbles – one in the Foundation classroom and outside area and one in the Year 1 classroom and outside area. Again



both bubbles will complete the same activities. The children will either enter through the Millennium Green Exit gate and then enter through either the Foundation door or the Year 1 fire door.

NB: If you have a child in any of the above year groups, it does not mean that siblings in other year groups can attend school unless you are key workers and the other parent is unable to work from home.

School will look and feel different for all children in order to keep everyone safe. Please would you explain to your child that the classrooms will have desks that are separated 2m apart and they will sit at their own desk, Foundation will also have carpet spots 2m apart. They will be unable to move around the classroom as much and there are new social distancing rules that they must follow, inside and outside. Unfortunately, they will not have access to all the resources and toys that they were used to having in their classroom; we will provide a number of toys and resources that are washable. However, all staff will ensure that whilst the school set up is different, the staff will have the same positive, enthusiastic approach to teaching children and are very much looking forward to seeing the children again.

The curriculum will not be the full national curriculum and teachers plan to include lots of personal, social and emotional education lessons, outdoor activities, maths, writing, reading and other aspects. Foundation, Year 1 and Year 6 teachers will still be required to plan home learning for the children who are at home but they will not have the time to respond to emails, look at work or do zoom calls as they will be busy teaching in school. Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 children will still be set home learning and teachers will respond to the blog, emails and run zoom calls, however, the teachers will be in school more so they will not be able to respond as quickly. Going forward home learning will be sent out and put on the website by Friday evening for the following week, allowing the teachers to get their weekends back to themselves.

Breakfast Club and After School Club will only operate for the children of Key Workers. Please book it as you currently do and drop off and pick up from the main entrance. The clubs will be situated in the hall and the children will use the field.

I hope that you have a much better understanding of what life will be like in June and this will inform your decision. If you have any questions, then please email: headteacher.3240@stanford.oxon.sch.uk

Please email: headteacher.3240@stanford.oxon.sch.uk by Monday 25 May at 10am with your decision. You only need to email me if you said that you were undecided or have changed your mind. If your decision remains the same then there is no need to email. If we do not receive a definite answer by Monday at 10am, we will not be able to accommodate your child as the groupings will be finalised. You will then receive an email from the school confirming your child's place on Tuesday 26th May, the start and finish time plus where you drop off and pick up.

NB. The DfE recommendations are that children remain in their bubble with no new additions.

I'd like to say an enormous thank you for everything that parents and children have been doing at home. Our teachers' planning and creative ideas have certainly been embraced by you all, and it's a real credit to our whole community that everyone has pushed ahead with a positive mind-set during these unprecedented and uncertain times. I very much look forward to when we can all return to school again together.

Best wishes

Mrs Amanda Willis
Headteacher

Mrs Janet Warren
Chair of Governors

