



Rotherfield

Primary School

June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter find you safe and well. I am writing to you to update you on our plans for the return of our Reception children. Please read the following information carefully. If you decide to send your child to school, we expect all parents and carers to adhere to these guidelines for the safety of the school community:

- School will open for all Reception pupils on **Monday 22nd June – 9.15-3pm**
- If your child is in the clinically vulnerable category, please click on this link to read the Government guidelines:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>
- Children **do not** need to wear school uniform – this will support you if you are going to wash your child's clothes when they return home each day (although the public health authorities have not said that this is necessary).
- Ensure your child gets into a good routine as soon as possible which might include going to bed earlier.
- When on site, children will be expected to wash their hands regularly; please incorporate this into your daily routine if you are not doing so already.
- When you bring your child to school, please make sure that you do not congregate with others outside the school building.
- Parents and carers will not be permitted on site – please contact the school by telephone only.
- We have put into place staggered drop off and pick up times for the year groups that are already here; please do not wait outside the school gate. When you arrive to collect your child, please bear in mind the speed at which you do this.
- Punctuality – your child must arrive at school by the stated time, else they might not be allowed on site; our risk assessment is based on the number of children attending **consistently**.
- If you decide that your child is going to attend school, they must attend fully, unless they are unable to do so because of illness.
- Children will be placed in pods of up to 15. Where possible, and depending on numbers, they will be with their class teacher but we cannot guarantee this.
- We will only admit new children to a pod on a Monday so please ensure that if you want your child to return to school, they do not come in midweek or they will be sent home.
- Children will not be taking home anything from school, e.g. book bags.
- Children are not allowed to bring in any items from home. They will be given their own set of equipment in class when needed.

- Classrooms will look different to 'normal'. Most furniture will be removed, and a small selection of easily washable resources will be available for children to play and explore with. These resources will be allocated to each pod and washed at the end of each day. There will be no shared sand or water play available for the time being.
- Children will spend majority of the day outside in a designated zone, just for their pod.
- Children will get lunch in a bag in their classroom – this will be a mixture of hot and cold food, depending on the day. We would prefer it if children did not bring in their own packed lunch from home, but we will make allowances for this if needed.
- Breaktimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and children will remain in their pod at all times during the day.

Thank you for your support over the last few months – we know it has been a difficult and complex time for all. We are looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 22nd June.

Best wishes,

Jo Jones
Head of School