



Phased Re-opening School Provision: Information for Parents

Social Distancing and Risk Assessments

Social distancing is impossible in a Primary School Setting. Therefore, to maximise the safety and wellbeing for all children and staff we are imposing strict measures that will result in school being very different from 'normal'. Our priority is the emotional wellbeing of all. Although school will be different, we will do all we can to provide the warmth, love and caring environment to your child, whilst protecting staff and all other children.

Comprehensive risk assessments are in place to ensure we maintain the highest possible standards of safety to protect children and staff. This document is not a risk assessment but provides parents with clear guidance and important information on how we will endeavour to fulfil the government's ambition of reopening school to some year groups from 1st June.

Start Dates

To enable parents, staff and children to become accustomed to our new procedures and to uphold the highest standards of safety we will stagger the start dates for each year group.

Group Start Date:

- Key Worker/Vulnerable Monday 1st June
- Nursery – Monday 1st June
- Year 6 Monday 1st June
- Reception Monday 8th June

Provision for Key Workers/Vulnerable children

- Provision for this group will be available 5 days a week – Monday to Friday.
- If your child is in Nursery, Reception or Year 6 then your child will be allocated a place with their relevant year group.
- If your child is in Year 1 or 2 they will be in the key worker groups at Wyvern.
- If your child is in Years 3, 4 or 5 they will be in the key worker groups at Bushfield
- All children in these groups must arrive and be collected at the allotted time. Due to all staff being in school and having an increased number of children in the building, we must limit the movement of children and safeguard everyone.
- Children in these groups will access as much of the curriculum as possible. Due to restrictions based on the size of the rooms they may still be in mixed year group groups but will be kept in the same arrangements, under the same risk assessment as the other children who return to school.

Provision for Nursery, Reception and Year 6

Provision for these year groups will be available 5 days a week – Monday to Friday.

The children will be taught in groups of between 7-13 children depending on the size of the rooms to allow us to try and keep the 2m distance between the children.

We know that children won't stay 2m apart but we need to be able to encourage this as much as we can.

In their groups they will follow as much of the curriculum as they can whilst also having reduced access to shared resources.

If you choose to keep your child at home, you can still support their education using the Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom> and BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> websites.

Online Provision for Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

We will continue to set daily tasks for these groups. We will be looking to make these tasks a bit more themed and topic based which will include core skills but hopefully will make it easier to manage at home. We will still be available online between 11am and midday to support children and parents with the home learning tasks. If you would like more, please access the websites above.

Other Settings

If your child is attending school, they should not be attending other settings as this increases the risk of transmission. This includes wrap around care, childminders etc.

Groups

Your child will be in a small group (maximum of 13 children). This group will not mix with the other groups and in effect will be in a social bubble.

We will organise the groupings.

Your child will not be able to change groups.

Your child will not necessarily be with their class teacher and therefore will not see them during the school day.

Further information to follow

- *Groupings for the children*
- *Teachers and Teaching Assistants and other key staff allocated to each small group*
- *Drop off and collection points and times*

Start and End of the School Day

Parents must drop off children during the allocated time – one parent only please. The playground gate will be locked and to maintain strictest safety standards children are not allowed to enter the building via the main entrance.

Group Drop off time between 8:30am – 9:00am

Collection time between 2:50pm and 3:10pm

Parent Protocol Drop Off:

- If your child is in Year 6, they should not arrive early, we have marked yellow spots along the fence line of the alley to help them stay distanced if they are waiting.
- You will line up outside the allocated door and maintain social distancing measures (which are marked on the floor).
- Your child must stay by your side whilst queueing to come into school.
- If you bring a sibling to school, they must also stay by your side.
- Children will not be allowed in the building until asked to enter by the member of staff in charge for that group. Your child will step forward and enter the building.
- Parents must remain two metres away from the door at all times.
- Parents must leave quickly to allow the next child in the line to enter the building safely.
- To limit the staff member's interaction with others, and to swiftly get the children inside the classroom, staff are not able to take questions during drop off. Everything must be communicated by email or phone:

office@wyvernschool.org or office@bushfieldschool.net

Parent Protocol Collection:

- At the end of your child's school day, parents will line up outside their designated door respecting social distancing measures. Parents must remain at least two metres away from the door at all times.
- A member of staff will send out one child at a time to the waiting parent at the front of the line.
- If you have more than child, you will collect one child at a time from each room.
- You must leave quickly to enable the next set of parents/carers to arrive.
- Once again, to limit the staff member's interaction with others, and to swiftly allow children to leave the building staff are not able to take questions during pick up.
- Parents must not stand around on any part of the school grounds to engage in conversations once children are dropped off in the morning or collected at the end of the day. It may seem anti-social but we need to keep time spent on the school grounds to a minimum.
- If your child is in Year 6 they will be escorted to the boundary and released from there to make their way home as normal.

School Day

Your child will spend the day in their allotted classroom or allotted outside space.

Social distancing measures will be adhered to as best we can but, as I am sure you are aware, this will be impossible to fully implement.

- At lunchtime, your child will sit in a set seat in their allotted classroom. They will sit on their own. In Nursery, they will have an allocated space to sit on the floor in a picnic style (which will not be at a table as there are not enough tables to sit the children 2m apart).
- Essence will be providing lunch school lunches (sandwiches) – please order (and pay if required) in the usual way. Meals provided by Essence will be brought to the children in the classroom.
- If you provide a packed lunch, please ensure it only has items that your child can open on their own. Staff cannot help as they will not be touching your child's belongings.
- There will be an increased amount of time spent outside where possible.
- PE lessons involving team games will not happen.
- PE equipment will only be used if it can be wiped down after use.
- Classroom windows will be open as much as possible to enable a flow of air.
- Classroom doors will be left open so children do not touch door handles.
- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered so that groups do not mix.
- Playground climbing frames are out of bounds and will not be used.
- We do not expect children to wear uniform (although they can if they want to).
- Children will need to wear trainers as we will not be changing for PE sessions – please don't send in their PE kits.
- Children must be in clean clothes each day to reduce transmission of the virus on clothes.

The Classroom

The class your child will be allocated to will look different to what your child is used to – please prepare them for this. As previously mentioned, we will do all we can to provide the warmth and caring mentality to every child in the safest possible way but you can help by explaining to your child that classrooms and routines and will be different.

- There will be no soft furnishings – e.g. rugs, cushions, dressing up, cuddly toys.
- Some classroom displays may have been taken down.
- Items in the classroom will be limited as they need to be cleaned on a regular basis.
- Spare tables and unnecessary items will be removed from classrooms – rooms will look quite bare.
- Reception, Year 6 and Key Worker groups - your child will have a set seat – they cannot move seats. There will be 2m spaces between tables to help provide some sort of social distancing between children.

- It is impossible to fully implement social distancing with Nursery and at times Reception children, therefore the choice of activities and resources available in the environment for child initiated learning will be very limited.
- Lessons will look very different to what your child is used to. For example, children will be sat apart from each other at their desks and group/paired activities will rarely take place.
- The Nursery environment has been divided into 9 separate classrooms.
- Children in reception and nursery will not have free access to the outside spaces

Illness

- Normal 48 hour rule applies to sickness and diarrhoea.
- If we believe your child is exhibiting coronavirus symptoms, they will be removed from their classroom immediately and placed in a holding room to await collection.
- The staff member with them will wear PPE.
- You must come and collect your child immediately.
- They (and their siblings if in school) will only be allowed to return to school once you have received confirmation via a test (for over 5s) that they are safe to return to school or after the allotted time has passed.
- We will follow the latest government advice regarding common coronavirus symptoms (persistent cough, temperature and loss of taste/smell).

Risk of Changes to the Provision

Government guidelines state that members of staff who fall into the critical vulnerable group cannot attend school and must continue to work from home. Some of our staff fall into this group. In addition, our staff will be juggling their time between looking after the children who are attending school and communicating/supporting those children who are working remotely. With group sizes no larger than 13 children, we have a limited capacity on what we can offer.

However, there is also the risk of staff having to self-isolate due to symptoms in their household, or symptoms of their own. If the member of staff with your child's group is ill (for example with sickness bug), we cannot guarantee we will be able to replace them. In this instance that particular group may not be able to come to school. The challenge is that we are unable to move adults between groups they are assigned to as this goes against our social distancing risk assessments.

Safety

We will do everything we can to ensure the school is as safe as it can be. This will include increased cleaning and ensuring your child washes their hands thoroughly on a regular basis.

Children will not move freely around the school and will be based inside the same room during the day with the same adults. Where possible children will have access to the outside space but only use equipment for their group.

We will not allow children to wear face masks in school. The advice is that the incorrect use of face masks actually increases the risks of catching the virus. It will be almost impossible for any child to correctly wear a face mask throughout the whole school day and we will not allow staff to touch the face masks of another person. Government advice is that staff in school will not require PPE when working in the classroom.

Staff will wear PPE (gloves, aprons, face masks, visors) when dealing with more severe first aid requirements, incidents of suspected coronavirus and for nappy changing.

General grazes will be dealt with by staff without the full PPE, although gloves/face masks may be worn by the member of staff if this is their preference. Please discuss this with your child so they are not overly alarmed in the event they require first aid supervision.

Children should avoid bringing anything into school, what they do bring should be kept to a minimum. We ask that there are no books, no bags, no toys, no home learning brought into school. They will need a coat if it is cold and their lunch if it is not being ordered through Essence. Any lunchboxes and water bottles brought into school we need to be cleaned thoroughly daily.

Preparation

Your child has had to adapt to a number of changes since the outbreak began. If you choose to send them to school, they will need to adjust to a number of new changes. We have attached a document for you to talk through with your child. Please spend as much time as you can explaining these changes to them so that they are as mentally and emotionally prepared as they can be. For example:

- They may not be with their class teacher when in school and therefore will not be able to see them.
- They will be spending time during the day sat at a table with some form of distance from other children
- They will not be able to play with their peers in the same way that they are used to.
- Staff will be more 'socially distant' from the children during the day not as close as normal when sat next to a child.
- Staff are advised not to have physical contact with child and this is something the younger children may be used to. However, staff's professional judgement and caring nature will kick in if children require physical comfort if they are upset in school, potentially wearing gloves and aprons.

Finally

We want to make it really clear that we cannot guarantee your child won't contract Covid-19 in school. We will do our best to keep everyone safe and will follow all the DFE guidance.

You have our full support on deciding whether or not to send your child back into school. Your children are precious and you must make a decision that you are comfortable with. There are pro and cons, either way you look at it. It is entirely your choice. No one will judge you for whatever you decide to do.

Currently we cannot guarantee a 1st June start date. This will be announced by the government on May 28th.

Last week we sent out a survey asking for your initial commitment either way to help us begin our planning process. Thank you for your support as this really helped with our planning.

We will be sending out another ParentMail asking you to book a place for your child in Nursery, Reception and Year 6. This will need to be completed by Tuesday 26th May. We will then group the children and send out their specific drop of and collection time as well as who their teacher will be. Once allocated a place, if your child doesn't attend, please let us know in the usual way you'd report an absence.

If you do not meet the deadline we will need at least one week's notice of your child requiring a place. This should be booked through the school offices.

At the moment, we are able to deliver provision for Nursery, Reception and Year 6, but if we have staff absences then this may change. We will keep you updated.

Additionally, we continue to receive updates to government guidance and some of the measures we have in place may have to change. We will keep you up to date with any changes.