

Re-opening to reception



Hi everyone,

We're very excited about seeing our reception children on Monday 15th June. Here's some information specifically about how we will be opening up to our reception year group.

How will the children be kept safe?

We know our young children can't learn to 'social distance' - to be honest, we would be worried if they can learn that! So our way of minimising risks is through 'bubbles', lots of hand washing and careful cleaning and management of the spaces. We will continue to play with our children. If they fall over and hurt themselves, we'll be there with loving care. Please see Ms Sorohan's email for the whole school safety measures that will be in place.

We will use the three classrooms in our Early Years for three groups which we call 'bubbles'. The bubbles will consist of up to 15 children. Children and adults won't mix between these bubbles. Once we know which children are coming in we'll ensure they are in a bubble with children from their class and with members of staff they know well. They may be in a different classroom but all the reception children will be doing reception learning.

Bubble 1: Miss Bailey, Miss Simms, Mrs Muro

Bubble 2: Ms Glenister-Marshall (Weds-Fri) /Ms Crinson (Mon, Tues), Mrs Kapacee, Miss Anderson

Bubble 3: Mr Kennedy, Miss Crookell, Ms McVann

We've staggered our drop-off and pick up times to help social distancing at and around our school entrance. Please see table below.

What will learning look like for reception children?

We're very aware of the children's social and emotional needs. Returning to reception is going to be great for some- at last, a chance to see their friends and teachers. But for others, it might be distressing and difficult. Our priority will be the children's well-being. The classrooms will look a bit different to the children....less furniture, bigger spaces, less resources, but we're still planning to learn through play and have our usual level of fun and laughter. We'll try and keep to the structure of the day they were used to with daily circle times, phonics and maths and the small groups will mean we can do lots of one-to-one work with children helping them to catch up with any gaps in their learning. And of course we'll be doing as much of this learning as we can do outside as this is the safest place for us all. We've divided up our outside space so each bubble has their own area.

What bubble will my child be in?

We'll tell you which bubble your child is in when we confirm their place. A survey will be sent to you very soon to ask you if your child will be returning this half term.

	Bubble 1	Bubble 2	Bubble 3
Where to drop off and pick up	Main school gate. Enter St Paul's Road via Parsonage Road. <i>Staff will guide you. There will be 2 metre markers along the pavement, one parent lines up with child. The teacher in each bubble will meet your child at the gate entrance and take your child around to their bubble classroom</i>		
Times	9.15am – 2.20pm	9.15am – 2.30pm	9.15am – 2.40pm
	<i>Please be punctual. If you arrive late, your child will be taken back to the classroom and you may need to wait until children in other bubbles have been collected. Please be patient at the gate whilst we ensure children are safely sent to each parent. Initially this could be a slow process.</i>		

Please send your child **only** in with:

- Water bottle with name on. This can be kept in school and we'll wash out and refill.
- Fresh school uniform each day
- Waterproof coat on possible rainy days
- Sun-cream on face and exposed skin
- Sunhat with name on
- School will provide a packed lunch and a daily snack (fruit, bread sticks, biscuit)

How can I talk to my child's teacher?

Face to face communication is going to be difficult as the entrance area will be very busy at drop off and collection times and social distancing will need to be adhered to. Therefore please ring or email the office if there's something you want to know or chat with us about and we'll either reply in an email or arrange to contact you at an agreed time.

We realise the thought of returning to school may be both daunting and exciting and hope the information above helps answer your worries and concerns. Please don't hesitate to ring me if you'd like me to answer any questions specific to reception. I will be available Monday-Thursday next week.

Thank you so much for your understanding, kind words and support during this time.

Kind Regards,

Ms Crinson, EYFS Team Leader