

## Paulton Infant School

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*"Learning Together, Learning for Life"*

29/05/20

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the latest government guidance, confirmation from the Local Authority that our school Risk assessment is in place and discussion with colleagues, I can confirm we will continue our plans to open to EYFS children on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020. Thank you to those parents who have confirmed their space in order for us to complete our planning.

Paulton Infant School has gained considerable experience over the last couple of months of providing a safe environment for groups of key workers' children. We are aiming to build on this experience by opening the school to a limited number of additional children. Currently we have made provision for groups of 10 EYFS children and groups of 10 key worker/vulnerable children.

Considerable work has gone into preparing the school for reopening and making the environment as familiar as possible for children whilst being mindful of the importance of the practical steps we need to take to reduce the risk of infection transmission as the UK takes careful steps towards increased social interaction.

We understand that returning to school is a big step for children as well as parents, and feeling a little anxious about this is natural. Please know that staff will be on hand, providing support and reassurance as required. Teachers and Teaching Assistants will be there to greet children on arrival and will provide reassuring smiles and take your child's hand if gentle encouragement is needed.'

We have endeavoured to make the school as 'normal' and friendly as possible for the children, however we have needed to make the changes set out below in order to ensure children and staff are as safe as possible:

- We have reorganised classes into bubbles of ten with two adults per bubble where possible.
- We have structured the school day to ensure there is minimal opportunity for cross contamination of bubbles including playtimes and lunchtimes.
- We have staggered the start and finish of each school day to support families dropping off their child whilst avoiding close proximity with other families. (We have marked out 2m spacing in case families have to wait to drop off their child).
- We are asking that only one adult drops their child at school.
- We have written a number of social stories and created visual prompts to support children understanding and following the changes in school routines.
- We have removed all unnecessary furniture and soft furnishings and toys as well as toys with intricate parts.



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- The classrooms have been redesigned to enable each child to have their own station, should they need a quiet space to sit. They will each have a drawer for their own resources (pencils, colours etc.).
- The children will be encouraged to maintain social distancing, however, we know that they will be unable to sustain this throughout the day. We will still be providing an Early Years curriculum to encourage learning through play and will be focusing on developing children’s personal, social and emotional development. Soapy water play will be accessible for all children which will also encourage hand hygiene. We will also be providing small world play and tuff spot activities. Whilst the classrooms will look different our focus will be on children feeling safe, and happy to learn.
- We have created outdoor cloak rooms to minimise the need for children to enter the cloakroom areas.
- We have set up rotations of toys and resources that the children can play and learn with each day. All resources selected can be easily washed or wiped down.
- We have planned learning opportunities to be outdoors as far as possible and have planned to ensure all rooms are well ventilated.
- We have planned to spend time supporting your child making sense of the changes both at school and at home and have considered when will be the right time to assess any gaps in learning and start addressing these.

### Our return Plan

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>Closed to pupils except key worker’s children and those pupils deemed vulnerable. We will begin our EYFS bubbles for EYFS keyworker children. Staff will still provide home learning activities for Y1 and Y2 children at home and staff will make best endeavours to maintain some form of contact via phone calls/ emails. Families entitled to benefit related free school meals will continue to receive food vouchers.</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	<b>EYFS children return. Your child will no longer be part of the Key worker group and will be class based. Returning EYFS pupils are expected to attend every day unless they are unwell. We will no longer be providing home learning activities for EYFS children. Please refer to Oak Academy materials and access Evidence Me as needed to share your child’s learning at home.</b>
No time scale as yet	<b>Year 1 and Year 2 children. Currently school has capacity for 9 bubbles. As our bubbles have a maximum of 10 children we will need to think very carefully about opening more widely for Y1 and Year 2 children. In order to do so, we will be guided by government information, Local Authority and Trust information as well as the experiences we have gathered over the last few months.</b>

**NB – The adult picking up/dropping off the child should be from the same household or the adult providing childcare. Please refer to government guidance to ensure contact between households is minimised.**



## A reminder of our staggered arrangements

Bubble	Pickup drop off area	Arrival	Home
Diamond	Gate by Diamond	8.30	M- Th:2.30 F: 12.30
Ruby	Gate by Diamond	8.30	M- Th:2.30 F: 12.30
Topaz - Key worker/ vulnerable	Y2 gate	8.30	M- Th:3.00 F: 12.30
Emerald	Gate by Diamond	9.00	M- Th:3.00 F: 12.45
Moonstone	Gate by Diamond	9.00	M-Th: 3.00 F: 12.45
Amethyst - Key worker/ vulnerable	Y2 gate	8.30	M-Th: 3.00 F: 12.45
Jade	Gate by Diamond	9.30	M-Th:3.30 F:1.00
Opal	Gate by Diamond	9.30	M-Th:3.30 F:1.00
Sapphire - Key worker/ vulnerable	Y2 gate	8.30	M-Th:3.00 F:1.00

**If you are running late you will need to wait until all other children have been dropped off before we will be able to accept your child as we are not able to mix the groups.**

We have contacted all families requesting spaces and have planned to manage the school using this information. Whilst we have used best endeavours to ensure your child will be with their familiar adults I cannot guarantee this due to some staff being unable to return to school and the need to keep numbers in each bubble to a maximum of ten. Families choosing to return children after this date need to contact the school office to ensure we have capacity and that the integrity of our bubbles is maintained. This is for the safety of everyone.

What to bring to school -

- **Do not send rucksacks or book bags.**
- Children need to be in comfortable and appropriate clothing (uniform is not necessary) as we will be outdoors for much of the day. **Please can you ensure children change their clothing daily.** Advice from Dr Matt Butler at Addenbrookes hospital is that clothes do not need to be washed daily but can be hung away safely for 2-3 days and reworn before washing.
- Children need to bring to school their coat/sunhat as appropriate, inhalers as needed plus a named water bottle. Coats will be hung outside on our coat racks. Please ensure your child has sunscreen applied **before the start of** the school day and support them with independence in applying it themselves if they need to bring sunscreen from home. We recommend applying sunscreen that will last the whole school day.
- Please could children bring back all school reading books at home in a disposable bag. We will quarantine and clean all reading books returned, prior to them being recirculated in school. We will not be sending home any reading books until further notice.
- Anything else brought in to school will be removed, quarantined and returned after three days.

We look forward to welcoming many of you back in the first week of June.

Julie Hogan  
Head teacher



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Being in School Social Story  
I am safe in school

Corona Virus is a type of cold and a cold can make people feel poorly



Some children and teachers are staying at home



I am going to school because it is a safe place for me and that is okay



When I am in school, I will be safe and there will be rules to keep me safe. I need to follow the rules



I will be in a bubble with other children and some teachers and I will need to stay with my bubble all the time.



I may have a funny feeling in my tummy because it might feel a bit different. I can talk to my adults if I have a funny feeling in my tummy.



I will see some children I know working in my group with me too



I might have the same teachers or I might have different ones who I haven't worked with before. That is okay.



I will get to do some really fun things with my new friends and teachers.



When I am in school I need to remember to give other people space to keep them and me safe.



I will have my own space for my things and to work at.

At the end of the day, my adult will collect me, just like any other school day. I will be able to tell them all about the fun things I did.



My adult will let me know when all my friends can come back to school



Just like other types of colds, Corona Virus will go away soon.



I don't need to feel worried, but if I do I can talk to any of my adults and I will keep safe.



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