



Stanley Crook Primary School

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OUR MISSION: TO TRY OUR BEST, TO TELL THE TRUTH, TO LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

"Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is OUTSTANDING" (Ofsted, 2019)

22.05.2020

Update on plans and progress made for the possible wider reopening of school

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you are all keeping well.

Following a period of meticulous planning, which has been carried out by senior leaders with the support of school staff and governors, we are now able to share our plans for moving forward should the school move to a wider reopening of provision to include Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. It is important to recognise that school has been open throughout the current crisis, providing care and provision to children of key workers and those most vulnerable.

Due to the significant challenge placed upon school in effectively planning for the safe return to school of pupils in those three year groups - and the broad range of logistical and practical considerations required of us in doing so - **school will remain open only for the children of key workers and those most vulnerable from June 1st**. Meeting requirements across government, local authority and union advice and guidance is not an easy task. Many parents/ carers of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 have also expressed a range of very legitimate safety concerns and wellbeing issues regarding a return to school, with very low numbers of parents feeling confident that enough safety measures can be carried out within school, despite our best efforts. Therefore, the week beginning 1st June will be utilised by school leaders and governors to carry out additional planning and safety checks. School will NOT reopen to additional children and year groups until all safety issues and assessments associated with the various aspects of advice and guidance are carried out and satisfied. For the safety of our pupils and staff, it is essential that we are in a position by which any plans for wider reopening of school can provide strong assurances to leaders, staff and parents that it is safe to do so. Further updates on progress and decisions regarding the wider reopening of school will be provided to parents on Wednesday June 3rd. These plans are fully supported and have been ratified by the school governing body and wider staff.

Parents should be aware that these plans may be subject to change at short notice as further guidance becomes available from the Government and Local Authority. Similarly, the availability of staffing may be affected by illness, self-isolation or family bereavement. This too may cause a disruption to the delivery of these plans. **The safety of pupils, staff and families remains paramount.**

Despite the decision being taken **not to extend provision of school to pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on 1st June**, it is important for information to be shared which details what provision and organisation is expected to look like if and when more children return to school. Details of this expected organisation is outlined below.

There is acknowledgement from the Government that the **social distancing measures followed in wider society will be very difficult to maintain within a primary school**. School will look and feel very different for those children who return, as we implement the Government's recommended measures in order to reduce the risk of the virus spreading in our school setting as best we can. **Please note that the school will close each Wednesday for all but the children of key workers**, to allow for a deep clean of the school site to take place and for staff to plan and monitor ongoing home learning.

Groupings

Non key worker children from Reception, Y1 and Y6 will be grouped together of **up to a maximum of ten** children with two adults. Key Worker children and those most vulnerable will remain within their current grouping (up to 15 children). In most cases this will not be your child's usual teacher. The non-key worker group will be based in Team Morpurgo, in which they will undertake all activities and will not mix with any other children within the school. Children will have access to outside in a clearly defined/ allocated area for their group. Playtimes will also be taken in this designated area. This is in order to minimise contacts across groups.

Lunches

The school kitchen will continue to provide school dinners. These will be in a packed lunch format, they will be delivered to the classroom, where the children will eat them at their allocated desk/ space. Lunchtimes will be staggered across the school and the children will go outside to play within their group or in their allocated outdoor areas. Minimal play equipment that can be cleaned daily will be allowed.

Drop off/pick up

Only staff and children will be allowed into the school building. Only one adult should arrive with their child. Year 6 children should walk themselves to school, if this is usual practice or possible. Please adhere strictly to the timings. Breakfast club and wraparound care will be available for key worker children only.

To avoid groups crossing, drop off and pick up will be staggered:

- **Y6 to be dropped off between 9.10am – 9.20am**
- **Y1 and Reception children to be dropped off between 9.30am – 9.40am**

When dropping off, please follow social distancing as indicated by the signage and markings and leave the school site as soon as you have left your child in the care of a member of staff.

- **Reception and Y1 to be picked up between 2.30pm and 2.40pm**
- **Y6 to be picked up between 2.45pm and 2.55pm**

If a parent has siblings in multiple year groups, please drop off and pick up in line with the youngest sibling's times.

Please ensure that protocols are followed regarding social distancing when dropping off and collecting your child from the school gate.

Any communication with the school must be by either telephone or email. Teachers will be unable to take messages at the gate.

Infection Protection and Control

Any child with symptoms of covid-19, or living with someone who is displaying symptoms of the virus, **must not attend school.**

Extra soap and hand sanitiser have been ordered in preparation for the re-opening of the school. Children will wash their hands, in accordance with Government guidance, on entry into school. This routine will be repeated when the children return from morning and afternoon break, before they eat their lunch and on return to the classroom after their lunch break.

The Government protocol of 'catch it, bin it, kill it' will be followed rigorously and hands washed after any coughs and sneezes.

Frequently touched surfaces around the school, e.g. door handles, taps, desks will be cleaned frequently throughout the day.

In order to minimise physical contact:

- Classrooms will be remodelled
- Markings will be placed around the school to assist with social distancing at pinch points.
- One way systems will be in place for movement around the school.
- The day will be arranged to ensure minimal movement during the day.
- Internal and external doors will be kept open where possible to ensure maximum ventilation

PPE equipment will be available for staff use in certain circumstances e.g. administering first aid or caring for a child who develops virus symptoms.

If a child does present with symptoms of Covid-19, they will be isolated and parents will be contacted to come and collect them immediately. Testing will be available to children displaying symptoms and further information will be available if schools reopen.

Curriculum

The National Curriculum remains suspended. Staff will use their professional judgement to balance learning and wellbeing. This is likely to include use of the extensive resources available for home learning. Reception children will continue to work towards the seven stages of development outlined in the EYFS curriculum, however this will be within the stringent confines of unavoidable health and safety measures. Many resources will be unavailable, as they are unable to be cleaned regularly.

Uniform

In order to minimise movement around the building, children will not be expected to change for PE. Uniform rules will therefore be relaxed. Children can wear either uniform or their own clothes; however, these should be clean clothes each day.

What your child will need to bring

- named water bottle (to go home each night for cleaning)
- hat and sunscreen in warm weather
- coat

Please **don't** send your child in to school with anything else.

Administration of Medicines

If your child requires any form of medication (other than those on medical plans with inhalers/epi-pens already in school) please contact the school office to arrange hand over of medicines and to complete the documentation.

Preparing your children

Parents will, no doubt, wish to discuss the possible return with their children. We suggest you make use of the wellbeing resources which will be made available via Class Dojo.

Communication

We will continue to keep you updated via Class Dojo, text message, email and the school website. Please contact us at stanleycrook@durhamlearning.net or via Class Dojo.

Government guidance says that they believe that all children in these year groups should attend school if they are able to. **However, this is not compulsory and no action will be taken and no fines will be issued to parents who decide they do not want their children to attend.**

I am aware of the efforts made by many parents to support your children's learning at home and we are grateful for all of the supportive comments we have received over the past few weeks. We feel very lucky to work in such loyal and understanding community. I am extremely grateful to our outstanding team of staff, who have worked tirelessly to provide meaningful and manageable tasks to do at home and who have supported so many of you in the local community during this most challenging of periods. I recognise that this is a time of great uncertainty and please be assured that we have measures in place for children continuing with home learning.

As and when school does extend to a wider opening, it will not be the environment that your children are used to – and may not be for some time - but be assured that we will do all we can, in spite of the restraints, to make it a pleasant learning environment.

I thank you for your continued support during these difficult and unprecedented times.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D. Christie
Headteacher



Mrs R. Wilkinson
Deputy Head
EYFS / Y1 teacher



Mrs D. Martin
SENDCo
Y1/ 2 Teacher



Miss V. Williams
Year 6 teacher



Mrs C. Lawes
Chair of
Governors

Stanley Crook Primary School is committed to improving outcomes for all pupils



SCHOOL
MEMBER

