

King's Meadow Academy
Wakefield Road
Fitzwilliam
Pontefract
WF9 5BP



King's Meadow
Academy



1st June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

**Phased Re-opening of School for
Key Worker children, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils**

In line with national guidance, King's Meadow Academy will be re-opening its doors to pupils in selected year groups this week.

I understand that many of you will have questions and concerns around allowing your child to return to school. I will try to address as many of the questions and concerns you may have below. If I do not cover a question you have, please do make contact with school to discuss the matter further.

Safety Measures

Following Government guidance we have introduced a number of measures to reduce risk of transmission:

- Any pupil displaying coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, should not attend school and subsequently isolate for the required period of time.
- We ask that parents to notify us immediately if they or their child are tested positive for the virus.
- We will ensure good hygiene by asking children to use tissues to 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.
- Children will clean their hands more often than usual - hands to be washed thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap then dried thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered (each classroom base will have access to a sink, soap and anti-bacterial gel).
- Staff will be cleaning frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- Reducing pupil contact by mixing by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times)

Class or Group Sizes

We know that early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back into school, we are taking this into account. Hence we will be:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- implementing frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices
- regularly cleaning the classroom surfaces
- minimising contact and mixing of groups

Because it is still important to reduce contact between people as much as possible, children and staff will mix in a small, consistent group and that group will stay away from other people

and groups. In our school we have decided to limit the class groups to 15 children in each class space being taught with a teacher and teaching assistant present. This means that your child may not be in the same class as their friends but will be with children of their own age. Once in place, the groupings cannot be altered and any requests to do this will be declined due to safety reasons.

If there are any shortages of teachers, then teaching assistants can be allocated to lead a group, working under the direction of a teacher. It must also be stated that if there is a positive COVID-19 case in your child's class then the whole group will be sent home and asked to isolate.

How can you help reduce the risk?

- Anyone showing symptoms of Covid19 should not enter school premises
- When dropping off or picking up your child only **one parent** should attend and siblings not attending school should be left at home wherever this is practical
- Parents and children must not gather in groups within school grounds or at the entrance to the front playground and must adhere to social distancing guidance
- Parents cannot enter the school building – if you need to speak to a member of staff regarding an issue please telephone the office in order to make an appointment.
- Please engage in education resources with your child such as [e-bug](#) and [PHE schools resources](#) before they attend school. This may help to ease any anxiety they may feel.

Opening Times

Start and finish times have been staggered to allow families to follow social distancing guidelines:

Key Worker Group 8.30am to 3.15pm. Children should enter school via the Y6 entrance on the front of school.

Nursery and Reception 8.45am start. Nursery should be collected at 11:45 and Reception will finish at 2:45pm. Children will enter school via the usual Nursery and Reception entrance.

Year 1 8:45 to 2:45pm. Children should enter school via the Y6 entrance on the front of school.

Year 6 9am to 3pm. Children should enter school via the Y6 entrance on the front of school.

Children must arrive promptly and be collected on time, it will affect other classes if you do not adhere to these times. An adult must drop off and pick up all pupils, including Y6 pupils who may previously have travelled to / from school independently.

We will be operating a one way system at the front of school which will be clearly indicated from the pavement. If for any reason your child is distressed at drop off time and cannot be calmed we will ask you to take them home.

In our front playground there some markings and signs requesting that families queue 2 metres apart, please line your child up on these when the class teacher opens the door. At this point leave your child.

If your child has a toilet accident, shows any symptoms of infection, does not follow behaviour expectations or becomes distressed in school you will be contacted to collect them.

If you have a message to pass to the class teacher please call the school office beforehand (after 8.00am) and they will pass it on. Please ensure that the office has your most up to date contact details so that we are able to make contact with you in case of an emergency.

School Uniform

We ask that you send children to school in clean uniform each day to reduce infection risk. We are aware that children may have outgrown uniform since the last time they attended school; if this is the case, please send children in the closest suitable alternative.

Equipment

Children will be asked not to bring any items from home into school, this includes toys, book bags, reading records, pencil cases, birthday cakes etc as this may increase the chance of transmission into the school environment. Please be aware that during this period school will not be sending reading books etc home. A lightweight coat / jacket and sunhat is advisable. Children may bring a named water bottle each day – this will be sent home to be washed and re-filled each day. Sun cream should be applied at home before attending school as we will not be able to apply it in school.

Dinners

Your child can either order a school meal in the form of sandwiches (ham, cheese and tuna), and a pudding or bring their own packed lunch in an easily cleanable container – where possible, please send disposable wrappings. Children in Reception and Year 1 have the option of a free meal under the universal infant free school meal policy. A free meal will also be provided for pupils that qualify for benefits-related free school meals.

I hope you will agree that we have attempted to take every step to ensure we follow the most recent Government guidelines regarding the return to school for your child. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation with these measures.

R. Cochrane
(Head teacher)