

Thursday June 4th 2020

Dear Parents,

Wider Phased Reopening of the School

The risk assessments have now been passed by South Tyneside's Health and Safety team and the Governing Body of our school. Therefore the wider phased reopening of the school can go ahead as planned. If you would like a copy of the risk assessments please email the school account info@st-bedes.s-tyneside.sch.uk

Week Beginning June 8th

1. Key Workers' children to arrive at 8.30 a.m. promptly. Parents should line up in a socially distanced queue (two metres apart) in front of the main entrance with your child standing by your side at all times until they are called into school by the member of staff. Your child will need to be collected promptly at 3.15 p.m. when you should again form a socially distanced queue in front of the main entrance. It is very important that you arrive and leave promptly if we are to ensure social distancing in the yard. Key workers whose children come to school on multiple days must ensure their children have freshly washed clothes on each day. Please do not come into the main entrance except in an emergency. Instead, please email or telephone the school office.
2. Reception pupils:
 - Bubble A on Monday June 8th
 - Bubble B on Tuesday June 9th
 - Bubble C on Wednesday June 10th
 - Bubble D on Thursday June 11th

One parent only should bring their child to school at 8.45 a.m. promptly. There will be cones placed on the grassed area outside of Reception class door. Please stand at one of these cones with your child at your side. Miss Dixon or Mrs. Hill will call each child into school in turn. Once your child has been called, please leave the school grounds promptly. At 2.30 p.m. please follow the same system and stand by a cone until your child is dismissed to you. Once you have your child with you, please leave the school grounds promptly. It is very important that you arrive and leave promptly if we are to ensure social distancing in the yard. Please do not wait for other parents at the gate. The children can wear their polo shirt and either leggings/ tracksuit bottoms or shorts depending on the weather and trainers/plimsolls so that no changing for PE is necessary. No bags or equipment are needed for school. A labelled drinks bottle is encouraged. Please do not come to the main entrance except in an emergency. Instead, please email or phone the school office.

3. Year 1:
 - Bubbles A and B on Wednesday June 10th
 - Bubbles C and D on Thursday June 11th

One parent only should bring their child to school at 9 a.m. promptly. There will be cones placed on the infant yard outside of the KS1 entrance. Please enter by the top gate and stand at one of these cones with your child at your side. Mrs. Mackley or Mrs. Dunn will call each child into school in turn (due to staffing considerations, Mrs. Mackley will be teaching two of the Year 1 bubbles instead of Mrs. Clements and Mrs. Kennedy as first planned. Mrs. Mackley was previously our Year 1 teacher before Mrs. McVittie took up her post and is therefore very experienced in this year group. She is looking forward to being with the children in bubbles A and C). Once your child has been called,

please leave the school grounds promptly by the bottom gate. At 2.45 p.m. please follow the same system and stand by a cone until your child is dismissed to you. Once you have your child with you, please leave the school grounds promptly. It is very important that you arrive and leave promptly if we are to ensure social distancing in the yard. Please do not wait for other parents at the gate. The children can wear their polo shirt and either leggings/ tracksuit bottoms or shorts depending on the weather and trainers/plimsolls so that no changing for PE is necessary. No bags or equipment are needed for school. A labelled drinks bottle is encouraged. Please do not come to the main entrance except in an emergency. Instead, please email or phone the school office.

Week Beginning June 15th

The above system will continue for Key Workers' children, Reception and Year 1 pupils. The school will also open to Year 6 and Nursery bubbles. I will write to you next week to explain what Y6 and Nursery parents need to do when arriving at school and leaving school. This will give us a little time to see how well the system works with the first wave of children coming in and whether we need to make any adjustments to arrangements.

Health and Safety Measures and Logistical Arrangements for all Pupils – this applies to all groups.

- Staff will not be wearing PPE to greet the pupils into school however they will be wearing PPE inside the classrooms where the space is enclosed, and for any first aid administered by our first aiders. The staff are very adept at ensuring this is done in a non-threatening way for the pupils.
- Pupils and staff will have their temperature taken using a digital thermometer to ensure it is safe for them to be in school. The staff will know how to do this in a fun, child-friendly manner. If your child's temperature is too high then we will contact you. During this time you must ensure that you are easily contactable and able to collect your child should they become ill.
- The classrooms have been prepared so that social distancing can be maintained as far as possible between the pupils. The class teachers will be putting up photographs onto their class pages so you can show the children that the classrooms look very familiar. The staff will be making the children feel as comfortable as possible and are very skilled at reassuring the children about any health and safety measures we have had to put in place. Photographs will also be displayed of the 'cone' collection and drop-off system.
- All children will be provided with a school lunch. They will have a choice of lunches hot and cold which the cook will provide for them to select from each day. The lunches will be either a packed lunch or a hot meal in a bag which will be delivered to their classroom for them to eat e.g. sausage in a bun and chips or a sandwich, with a dessert and a drink. I am sure the children will enjoy this. I will write next week to Y6 parents about lunchtime arrangements. There will be no menus sent home with pupils. Please ensure that you inform us by email of any new allergies that your child may have.

Attendance

This is the current government guidance but it must be parental choice:

- Children and young people who are considered [extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding](#) should continue to shield and should not be expected to attend.
- Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19). A minority of children will

fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.

- Children and young people who live in a household with someone who is [extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding](#) should only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and the child or young person is able to understand and follow those instructions, with young children this is unlikely to be possible.
- Children and young people who live with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not extremely clinically vulnerable) as defined in the [social distancing guidance](#) and including those who are pregnant, can attend.

We will welcome all children in the eligible year groups to school and ask parents to consider the above guidance. If you need any help with this guidance please email the school at info@st-bedes.s-tyneside.sch.uk

We will be doing all we can to keep your child safe and happy in school and very much look forward to welcoming them back. If you do not wish to send your child back to school could you please email us at info@st-bedes.s-tyneside.sch.uk. If you decide not to send your child back to school you will not be penalised or fined. If you change your mind then your child's place will be kept open for them.

INSET Day

The school had planned an INSET Day on Monday 22nd June but as that is one of the days that we are welcoming Year 6 back into school we have decided to move the date of the INSET Day to Friday 19th June. I apologise to the key worker parents for the short notice but we feel it is unfair to deprive the Y6 pupils of one of their limited days in school.

Google Classroom

The teachers are in the process of setting up Google Classrooms which will enable the children to access learning resources at home more easily. Each year group will have their own online classroom and the class teachers will allocate assignments for the children to complete on a weekly basis. The children will be able to submit the work they have completed for the teacher to review and provide support and feedback as appropriate. You will receive the information and guidance you need to get started with this in the next few days.

Finally...

It's very difficult to keep the letters to you warm and welcoming when there is so much information to pass on to you. Please be assured that the staff and I are looking forward to seeing more of the children back at school in the coming weeks and that we have worked very hard to make the school as safe as possible for everyone.

With best wishes,

N. Park

Headteacher

