

22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020

Ref: 0927



## PROPOSED PLANS FOR WIDER SCHOOL OPENING (Nursery, Reception, Year 1)

Dear Parent / Carer,

As you are aware from my previous letters, the government have said that infant schools **may** re-open to Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children from the beginning of June. **This is still not definitive**: we will confirm with you nearer the time via Class Dojo when we know the government's final decision. This letter sets out the arrangements if we do re-open. These arrangements have been put into place following a robust risk assessment process, under the direction and support of our academy trust, DDAT. A copy of our risk assessments can be found on our website.

### ***Keyworker and vulnerable children***

**School will continue to be open after half-term from Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, for children of keyworkers and for those classed as vulnerable.** At present, we are not in a position to allow any child to 'turn up on the day' – attendance must be arranged in advance. If you believe that your child is eligible for a school place under this current government criteria, you must contact the school on 01332 345997 or email [admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk)

### ***Children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1***

If the government gives the 'green light' for us to open to wider groups of children and eligible year groups at the beginning of June, we are proposing the following **staggered return dates**:

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Nursery
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1

Over the past week, Miss Richardson has been in touch with parents in the above year groups so that we know how many children we can expect and plan accordingly. For those of you who have said that you would like your child to start back, we will be in touch in due course.

At present, following our risk assessments, we are only able to accommodate a maximum number of children in school. If you have told us that your child will not be attending school but you change your mind at a later date, please let us know. We will require a week's notice in order to review our safety measures and groupings. It is important that we know how many children we are expecting on site so that we can ensure that the correct safety measures are in place.

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Headteacher: Ms. K Leach

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Derby Diocesan Academy Trust



## **School staff**

Although we will work hard to encourage the children to follow social distancing, we are not able to guarantee this. In order to keep our children and staff as safe as possible, we will use a 'bubble' model: children will be placed into smaller groups with designated staff members that will remain the same across the week. This may mean that your child is not with their usual teacher or in their usual classroom.

***Maintaining a safe school environment*** (we will be recording and posting on Class Dojo a video over the coming days to help explain the following procedures)

## **Arrangements for the start and end of the school day**

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults congregating together in one place and maintaining safe distances within normal arrangements can be a challenge. We will be staggering the start and the end of the day to limit the number of parents on site at one time:

<b>Nursery</b>	Arrive at school: 10am	Pick up from school: 1pm
<b>Reception</b>	Arrive at school: 9:45am	Pick up from school: 2:30pm
<b>Year 1</b>	Arrive at school: 9:30am	Pick up from school: 2:15pm

It is very important that you arrive on time for drop off and collection. Breakfast Club and after-school clubs will not be available at the time.

When you drop off your child, you will be asked to follow a one-way system along Gordon Road. You will need to form a queue with your child, standing on the markers on the pavement to maintain social distancing. Staff will be outside to help you. At the front of the queue, in front of the gate, you will say goodbye to your child. Your child will be greeted, supervised and directed into the building by staff members stood along the entrance and office foyer.

You will not be able to enter the main gate or be on school premises. If you need to speak to a member of staff you will need to phone the school office from home or send a message via Class Dojo and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

## **The school day:**

### **Items from home**

Children will not be able to bring anything from home apart from their coat (in the event of rain) and hat (in the event of hot weather). Please keep book bags, PE kits and water bottles at home. Children will not need a PE kit. We will be providing an individual stationery pack to all children.

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## **Lunches**

All children (including Nursery) will be provided with a snack, packed lunch and water bottle. Lunches will be eaten in classrooms. **We will not be authorising any home dinners or packed lunches from home.**

## **Clothing**

We are requesting that children do not wear their school uniform. **Children need to wear clean and fresh clothes each day.** Please ensure that items of clothing are suitable and can be easily washed. All children must still wear their appropriate shoes: high heels, flip-flops and open toe sandals are not permitted. Staff will also be wearing 'relaxed' (but appropriate) clothing to help with washing.

## **Infection control**

We will be following all government guidance carefully and encouraging good hygiene across school. Some of the measures that we have put in place are:

- ✓ Continuing to clean hands more often than normal
- ✓ Providing children with their own individual desks and classroom resources.
- ✓ Staggered playtimes, lunchtimes and toilet breaks for 'bubble' groups
- ✓ Displaying social distancing signs and markers throughout the building, classrooms and outside
- ✓ Installing alcohol-based hand sanitiser dispensers that contain at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school
- ✓ Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual
- ✓ Promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach

Please ensure that you do not bring your child to school if they, or anyone in your household, are showing any of the following symptoms:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child is showing any of the above symptoms please phone the school to inform us as soon as possible. Before leaving your home for school, please ensure that your child and adult accompanying them to school washes their hands thoroughly.

## **PPE**

We will be adhering to current government guidance: **children will not be permitted to wear a face mask in school.** If you would like your child to wear a face mask to travel to/from school then this is fine, however, it will need to be removed by the accompanying adult before your child

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enters our school premises. Please bring a carrier bag so that the mask can be safely put inside and taken home.

Staff will wear appropriate PPE if 2 metre distance cannot be maintained, for first aid and for cleaning activities.

Any child or adult with symptoms of COVID-10 will be sent home immediately. A designated medical room has been identified where children and adults can safely wait until collection.

### ***Preparing for a possible return to school***

In the event that we do re-open our school to more children, we are keen to re-establish a good school routine. We ask that over the next couple of weeks you start to talk to your child about some of these changes in school. The routine, classrooms and learning environment will look and feel different but we are fully committed to supporting every child in our care as they transition and adjust to this 'new normal'. We will be recording videos and taking photographs of the school to help to prepare both you and your child before re-opening (please continue to visit the main Class Dojo page).

If your child has not left the house during lockdown and is not shielding, we advise that you begin taking them on short local walks as part of your daily exercise: walking to and from school and discussing some of the markings that you will see outside will help them greatly. Household members have been living in close proximity with one another for a long time and it is likely that children will feel anxious coming back to school. It is important that your child begins to feel prepared and excited for coming back to school.

Please discuss, encourage and practise good hygiene with your child: *20 seconds with warm water and soap*. We recommend this wonderful video and song produced by the NHS!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEq>

I appreciate that this is a lot of information to read but it is important that all parents have a clear overview of our plans going forward. As a parent myself, I appreciate that this is a difficult decision to make. I want to reassure you that we will not be putting pressure on anyone to send their child(ren) to school. This is your decision and we will respect it either way, however, I hope that the details above support you in making your decision a little easier. If you decide that your child will not attend school we will continue to support them in their home learning via Class Dojo.

Once again, please, please let us know if you are planning to send your child to school (Nursery, Reception, Year 1) if school re-opens. As soon as I have more information from the government (which we are expecting on 28<sup>th</sup> May), I will be in touch.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

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Yours faithfully,

*K. Leach*

Ms. K Leach  
Headteacher



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