



# CHRIST THE SAVIOUR C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday, 21st May 2020

Dear Parents,

We are very grateful for all the words of encouragement we have received from parents during this period of uncertainty. We always try to make decisions with our pupils' best interests in mind and this will continue to be the case as we adhere to the new Government expectations and as we adjust to new routines at school. All staff are desperately missing the close interactions we have within our school community - especially with our pupils - and we are very keen to re-open to more pupils as safely as we can.

The Prime Minister announced on 10th May that schools should prepare for Reception, Year One and Year Six pupils to return to school after half term if all five of the measures set out by the Government are met. We understand that this will be announced next week and we are continuing to make plans for a **phased return** for Reception, Year One and Year Six pupils after half term starting in the week beginning Monday 1st June.

At the moment there has been no clear guidance about other year groups returning to school. We have prioritised year groups who are of statutory school age so pupils in Nursery and Years 2,3,4 and 5 will remain at home and continue the routines that have been put in place for home learning.

Some parents have asked for more information about what a return to school may look like for their children if the Government decides it is safe enough for pupils to return to school. At the moment, we are following the Government's planning guidance and these are our tentative plans based on the current guidelines for schools.

## **Staggered starts in the week beginning Monday 1st June and Monday 8th June**

### **Reception Pupils**

We know that children in the EYFS will find physical distancing more difficult to follow and may be more anxious about the changes to their routines. Each class will be split into two groups - A and B and they will attend school on a rotation - one week at school and one week at home completing home learning activities.

Week beginning Monday 1st June group A at school (group B at home)

Week beginning Monday 8th June group B at school (group A at home)

Each class group will remain in their usual classroom with their usual learning resources and with a familiar adult. Ms Raj and Ms Valentin will also be on hand to reassure children and settle them into their new routines. Soft furnishings such as soft toys and those that are hard to clean have been removed but other familiar play and learning equipment will remain in the classrooms as we are mindful of the wellbeing of pupils and the need for them to continue with some of their known routines.

Children will be grouped into "bubbles" of 15. Whilst there will be minimal interaction between each group of 15 pupils we know that children within the groups of 15 will play and interact with each other. Staff will be

mindful of this and changes to the environment have been made; for example when 6 children may usually sit at a table these will be reduced to 2 or 3 and when children are playing in a pair or small groups staff will encourage regular movement breaks. As far as possible teaching will take place outdoors. An email will be sent nearer the time to let you know which day and time your child will be starting school, we are sorry we are unable to provide more clarity at this point.

**School will finish at midday on Friday** to ensure our cleaners can carry out a deep clean for the next Reception group attending school the following week.

### **Pupils in Year One**

Pupils in Year One will have a phased return to school in the weeks commencing **Monday, 1st June and Monday, 8th June**. They will build up to attending for 4.5 days each week (the school will be closed on Friday afternoon for a deep clean each week.)

Year One classes have been split into two groups, A and B, and staff have considered friendship groups to ease the transition to new routines. Groups will be located in either their familiar Year One classroom or a Year Two classroom and we will use this as a helpful way to support transition for their move to Year 2 in September. Year One pupils will have their own desks in each classroom to support physical distancing measures, however there will be times when children may work in small groups or pairs within their bubbles of 15. There will be familiar Year One and Year Two staff on hand to support children as they adjust to their new routines and to maintain as many of their usual learning activities as possible.

An email will be sent nearer the time to let you know which day and time your child will be starting school. We are following a staggered return so we are able to support all groups of pupils to get used to the new routines and expectations and ensure staff receive appropriate training. We are sorry we are unable to provide more clarity around starting dates at this point.

### **Year Six**

Pupils in Year Six will have a phased return to school in the week commencing **Monday, 1st June** and will build up to attending for 4.5 days each week (the school will be closed on Friday afternoon for a deep clean each week.)

The Year 6 team have grouped pupils into 'bubbles' of 15 and have tried to accommodate friendship groups to enable pupils to enjoy their final half term at school. Year Six pupils will have their own desks in each classroom to support physical distancing measures, however there will be times when children may work in small groups or pairs within their bubbles of 15. We are particularly mindful that these pupils may be disappointed that the usual end of year routines and celebrations will not take place but staff will do all they can to ensure that they have an enjoyable end of term despite the current restrictions in place for all schools and childcare settings.

An email will be sent nearer the time to let you know which day and time your child will be starting school.

### **Smaller Class Sizes**

Thank you for completing the google form which has helped us to plan for the return of more pupils. We have made groupings to accommodate for **all** pupils in Rec, Year One and Year 6 to return to school. We know some parents do not wish for their child to return after half term and that is absolutely fine (parents will not be fined

for non-attendance at school.) If parents should choose to send their child to school later in the term there will be a space available for them.

All children will be grouped into classes (or “bubbles”) of 15 pupils. Children will need to stay within their new groups wherever possible and groups will not mix during the school day. As we have a number of staff unable to return to school after half term because they are in the vulnerable or extremely vulnerable group your child may not be in a bubble with their usual class teacher or a teacher from their year group but we hope they will enjoy getting to know other friendly CtS staff.

### **Extended school day**

We are **unable** to offer breakfast club or after school club facilities on either site. This is because the same regulations apply for all settings and children should not interact with pupils in other bubbles.

### **Red cards**

We will not be able to operate the red card system for students in Year 6 and we politely request that parents drop and collect children from school.

### **Drop off and collection**

Due to our regulations around physical distancing we will ask parents to drop pupils at the gate and not enter the school site, we ask that one parent only drops and collects their child from school to reduce the number of adults waiting at the gates. Parents should not collect children from other family groups.

### **Main office**

The offices on both sites will be closed. Meetings will be by appointment only and should be arranged via email to the admin office or directly with the senior member of staff. Visits by contractors, educational visitors and other professionals will be limited and they must adhere to our new risk assessments.

### **Lunches**

Children will not be meeting in the lunch hall for the usual CtS dining experience but will eat lunches in their classrooms or, if the weather permits, they will eat outdoors. All children will have a packed lunch. To help us cater for numbers and avoid food wastage we will send a google form to parents nearer the time and we ask parents to indicate whether they will be providing a packed lunch or if they would like a school made packed lunch. This will be free for Reception, Year One (and Year 2 key worker pupils) and £2 for Broadway pupils.

### **School closure**

School will be open from **Monday at 8.30am to midday on Friday**. We are closing at lunchtime on Friday to support our cleaning and hygiene risk assessments and we shall carry out a deep clean of both sites on a Friday afternoon in addition to our daily cleaning schedule.

### **Behaviour Policy**

We are currently updating our behaviour policy and behaviour guidelines will be sent to parents before pupils return. We are particularly mindful that a return to new routines may be disappointing to many of our Year 6 pupils who have gained a lot of independence towards the end of primary school. We also know that they may feel frustrated by the limited opportunities the Government regulations offer schools and we know that the usual

end of term celebrations will not be permitted. We will continue to do all we can to support all our pupils and for our Year 6 pupils it is likely that our proper end of school celebrations may be significantly delayed until it is safe to do so.

### **Uniform**

Pupils should wear their usual school uniform but blazers are not expected to be worn and it would be helpful if children wore school trainers (not football boots please) to support regular movement breaks and playtimes for each year group.

### **Year 6 Chromebooks**

Year six pupils will be required to complete some work each day on their school chromebooks and these should be returned to school, together with the chargers, on their first day back after half term.

### **First Aid on site**

It is accepted that 2m physical distancing cannot be maintained during the delivery of first aid, but physical contact will be kept to a minimum e.g. pupils may be asked to apply their own cold pack, wipe or plaster **when able to do so**. First aid will be administered in each classroom to minimise movement around the school. If children or staff display any symptoms related to Covid-19 (anyone experiencing a new, continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste) parents will be notified immediately and the child would go home as soon as possible.

To help the Government to continue monitoring transmission, staff and pupils will be eligible for testing if they become symptomatic, as will members of their households. A negative test will enable children to get back to school. If a child or member of staff tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), the relevant group of people within the school with whom the child has mixed closely (their “bubble”) will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

If other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England’s local health protection teams will conduct an investigation and will advise us on the most appropriate action to take. We will need to inform PHE who has been in contact with staff or children who have tested positive **and it is for this reason that pupils should not mix in and out of groups inside or outside school**.

### **Parallel Curriculum**

We know that many children will not return to school, either because they fall into a vulnerable group or their parents have chosen for them not to return quite yet. Teachers will need to plan home learning for these children so we will therefore continue to deliver our weekly home learning plans in the same way. Pupils who do come into school will be completing the same lessons which are sent home for home learning, with some additional PE, art and music lessons if we can facilitate this.

### **Travelling to school**

Staff, parents and students are encouraged to walk or cycle to school where possible, or use private vehicles. The Government has advised the public to avoid public transport as much as they can.

## **Face Masks**

Face masks will not be worn at school in line with the most recent Government guidance. If a child chooses to wear a face mask on their journey to school (as is advised if travelling on public transport) they will be asked to remove the face mask when they arrive at the school gate and put this in a plastic bag.

## **Provision for children of key workers and vulnerable pupils**

Children in Nursery and Years 2,3,4 and 5 can only attend school if their parents are key workers or if your child has an EHCP. Unfortunately, we cannot cater for increased numbers of children to support other parents returning to work.

### **Key worker pupils in Years 2,3,4 and 5**

These pupils should come to the **Broadway Site** where they will continue with their usual routines.

Key worker pupils in Nursery and Reception will remain in a 'bubble' and will continue their activities in the Nursery at the Grove Site

Key worker pupils in **Year One and Year 6** will join peers within their usual year groups.

Full time provision (including Friday afternoon) will be on offer for those key workers who need it although we anticipate these numbers to be very low and similar rules will apply so children cannot mix between 'bubbles.'

Thank you for your continued support for which we are extremely grateful.

With best wishes and prayers for each of your families on this Ascension Day.

Mrs Tramoni