

20th May 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that this finds you all well. Thank you for continuing to share all that you are doing with your children at home, you are doing an amazing job. Thank you very much for responding to my letter dated Tuesday the 12th May, it has been really helpful to receive your feedback, suggestions and queries.

We are trying our very best to ensure what we do is safe, fair and the best for everyone. We fully understand how worried and concerned you are going to be following the governments advice that Early Years and Y1 children may be able to return from the 1st June.

As a school preparing for the possibility of opening to more of our pupils and staff, we have addressed the current guidance and we would be putting in place a number of measures to assist in keeping both the pupils and staff, as safe as is possible (from COVID-19).

These measures include:

- A thorough Risk Assessment is currently being built by our Health and Safety team, we will be able to share this when it has received Governor and Insurance approval.
- Social distancing would need to be observed by parents and children at pick up and drop off – please follow the guidance indicated on the footpaths. N1, N2 & N3 will use the side gate at pick up and drop off and N4, R & Y1 will use the front entrance.
- Arrivals and departures are to be staggered in year groups (Nursery opening 8.15 – 5.00pm, Pre-Prep 8.30 – 4.00pm) Parents will agree to socially distance whilst waiting with/or for their child.
- Children and staff to arrive in freshly laundered clothes with washed hands, these are then sanitised again on entry to the school using Sanitiser provided.
- Parents and visitors will not be allowed on to school premises. Children will access the TPPS playground area independently.
- The children will be encouraged to work in a distanced way within the classroom – desks to be spaced out in classrooms.
- Children will be allowed to continue to work from home – a number of parents have indicated that this is their preference for the next five weeks. Remote learning will therefore continue for these children.
- All children need to be self-sufficient for the whole day - bringing their lunch, snacks, drink and pencil case.
- All desks to be cleaned with Disinfectant twice daily by teaching staff with the children. Door handles and playgrounds also need additional cleaning protocols in place, this provision will be provided by our on-site services.
- Any joint equipment will be disinfected before and after use – water trays in each area will be used to sanitise the equipment at the end of the day.
- Staff will be restricted to working with one or two groups and the appropriate accommodation for these classes.
- Support staff may be used to support teaching staff covering two classrooms.
- Classes take turns to play outside and children only interact and play in their class groups.
- Use of the outdoors will be maximised with the children taking turns in both Playgrounds and both Forest School areas.

- Children who have travelled to other countries are asked not to return to school for two weeks after their arrival in to the UK.
- Children who develop COVID 19 symptoms will be sent home immediately.
- Staff will remain socially distanced in the staff common room area.
- Numbers will be capped to N1 & N2 – 15, N3 – 15, N4 – 15 on any given day. This may limit your child’s attendance to three days per week.
- Soft toys and furnishings to be removed from each of the classroom areas.
- We will review our decisions regularly, when we have seen what measures remain effective and what protocols need adapting.
- You must ensure that your emergency contacts are up to date.
- From the w/c 1st June we will continue to provide care for the children of ‘Critical Workers’, please continue to book your days as you have done so previously.
- Other staff will be on-site for staff training on the 1st June.
- From the 2nd June there may be a staged return of the identified year groups. Further guidance from the Government is expected towards the end of May. Details of TPPS phased return plans will be published following this communication.

In addition to the above measures could we ask you to assist with communicating to your children the following:

- Children to wash their hands thoroughly when directed by staff.
- Children to cover their mouth and nose with their bent elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Children to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth.
- Children to be encouraged to keep a two metre distance away from anyone coughing or sneezing.

You must understand that with the best will in the world and whatever methods and practices we put in place it is impossible for children to socially distance from each other or the staff, we cannot stay two metres apart at all times. We will have to use our common sense and prioritise safety and cleanliness at all times.

As parents, please weigh up your child’s safety with the five weeks’ attendance at school. We do anticipate that there will be a split in those continuing to remote learn and those who need to send their children onto the school site. We hope that these lower numbers will aid our distancing in school.

Thank you for all that you continue to do to support your children and the Taunton School Community. Further guidance about opening will be coming out to you as soon as it has Government and Governor Approval.

With best wishes,

Louise Leah

Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery

Child’s Name:

Based on the above information I would plan to send my child back to school from any proposed re-opening date

Yes/No

If attendance is restricted to three days a week. Do you have a preference for the days your child will attend?

Yes/No

If Yes, please list your days in order of priority:

Thank you for sharing this information with us, unfortunately we will be unable to respond to you individually at this time.