



Plumcroft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Richard Slade

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Annette Graney

Plans for a limited reopening from June 2020

19th May 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

Many thanks for your patience and continued support during these challenging times. Following a detailed virtual meeting of the Full Governing Body last night, we have agreed a plan to begin the process of reopening the school. I wish I could summarise things in fewer words but the detail matters. I am therefore sharing what has been agreed, so that we all know what to expect:

- **Monday 22nd June 2020 – 17th July 2020 – we will welcome back Year 5** in 8 Learning Pods of no more than 15 children and two adults in each Pod.
- **Monday 6th July 2020 – 17th July 2020 – we will welcome back Year 6** in 6 Learning Pods of no more than 15 children and two adults in each Pod.
- **Ongoing for as long as needed for Keyworker & Vulnerable children** – 3 Learning Pods of no more than 15 children and two adults in each Pod (additional adults may be needed in these Pods due to EHCP and/or additional needs). We are expecting any Year 5 or Year 6 keyworker or vulnerable children to relocate to their Year Group Learning Pods from either Monday 22nd June (Year 5) or 6th July (Year 6).
- **We will contact the parents/carers of every child in Year 5 and Year 6 during the week beginning 15th June 2020**, to ask if they plan to send their child to school from the relevant start dates. We will encourage full attendance, as we believe it will be of value to each child in Year 5 & Year 6 but we will not demand it.
- As a school, we will actively encourage all pupils in the identified year groups to attend school each day but it is important to remember that it is ultimately a parental choice whether their child comes to school during the Covid-19 pandemic. We will be keeping attendance registers but I will not be undertaking any home visits for non-attendance and no member of staff will be making attendance phone calls, apart from appropriate welfare checks as needed.
- **We do not plan to go beyond the above offer** – for a primary school of our size with 851 children, 17 Learning Pods represents over 250 children and a large number of staff being in our school at the same time – this is a challenge to sustain and make it as safe as possible during the Covid-19 pandemic. We simply do not have the staffing



numbers to facilitate Learning pods in groups of 15 children for Nursery (51 children = 4 Learning Pods), Reception (148 children = 10 Learning Pods) and Year 1 (139 children = 10 Learning Pods).

- We do not have the staffing capacity to re-open our Vincent Road Campus for Reception or Year 1 in a safe way. There are simply too many children in each year group.
- **As a result, the unanimous decision of the Senior Leadership Team with the full support of the Governing Body is that we will not be asking any Nursery, Reception or Year 1 children to come in to school during the remainder of the summer term 2020. In addition, for the same reasons, it is not possible to invite Year 2, Year 3 or Year 4 into school during the remainder of the summer term 2020.**
- We will keep the emerging situation under regular review and plan for a full return or an increased phased return for the Autumn Term 2020. The ongoing safety and welfare (physical & emotional) of all children and staff that attend Plumcroft primary school are at the heart of all our planning and decisions.
- **We will be operating a 2:1:2 week from 22nd June 2020 until the end of term on 17th July 2020 – this means that all the children in the identified Year Groups will come to school every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.**
- **The school will be closed to all pupils every Wednesday each week so that additional deep cleaning can be undertaken. Staff will also use the time to support the engagement & learning of the 600+ pupils who are using our [Distance Learning Portal](#).**
- **The only exception are the 3 Learning Pods for Keyworker & Vulnerable children – they will be in full-time operation until further notice, including the May half-term (25th to 29th May 2020 – inclusive of the May Day Bank Holiday on 25th May 2020)**
- All Learning Pods will be spread around the school in such a way as to minimise any interaction between Learning Pods and to try and ensure a minimum of 2 metre social distancing is maintained at all times between all Learning Pods – this will apply to the whole school site, including all playgrounds, entrances and exits.
- Social distancing within the Learning Pods will be encouraged but it's important to be clear that it cannot be fully enforced or expected due to the nature of a learning environment and the need for pupils and adults to interact as part of the learning process. As children in Year 5 & Year 6 are the oldest within the school, it will hopefully be easier to establish and maintain elements of social distancing within the Learning Pods.
- **With effect from Monday 22nd June, we will not be serving school lunches in the lower Genesta Hall or trying to expand service in any additional halls – from that date, all children (including existing Keyworker & Vulnerable pupils) will be expected**

to bring in their own packed lunch and eat it within their own Learning Pod. Where a packed lunch needs to be provided in accordance with Free School Meal criteria then the school will provide it and deliver the packed lunch to the relevant Learning Pods each day.

- Appropriate increase in all social distancing signage, hand washing facilities and footfall flow control measures will be in place ready for Monday 22nd June 2020.
- **The start and end of the school day will be staggered with identified Learning Pods required to come in and leave at certain times to ensure we minimise the number of children and adults entering and leaving the school premises at the same time each day.**

The reason for a focus on Year 5 coming in for a longer period of time:

We want to get all Year 5 children in so we can assess their learning needs and build programmes of study to meet need and prepare them for their final year at primary school. They will be sitting the National SATS tests in less than 12 months and then transitioning to secondary schools. All other year groups have at least two or more years for catch-up from the Autumn Term 2020 onwards.

The reason why Year 6 will be in for the final two weeks of term:

Our aim is to focus upon Year 6 transition to secondary school and to allow quality time for a proper closure of their time spent at Plumcroft Primary School – There will be lots of creative activities as well as a revision of more traditional academic subjects such as English, Maths & Science.

We will keep some activities under review. This will include things like the traditional Leavers' Assembly, End of Year Production, final video event, BBQ party and Year book. We would like all these traditions to happen in some form before the end of term. However, some events may work better if we wait until the Autumn Term 2020, when it hopefully becomes safe to gather in large groups without any form of restrictive social distancing. We will need to coordinate this with all the receiving secondary schools.



I hope the above plan meets with your approval and ensures we can all work together as a school community in a spirit of goodwill, empathy and humanity. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns - rslade@plumcroft.greenwich.sch.uk

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Slade', located below the 'Regards' text.

Richard Slade
Headteacher