

Skelton Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Carney



Friday 22nd May 2020

Information for parents of children who are returning to school in June

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. Although we are living in unprecedented times, the staff have appreciated the kind words and messages from so many members of our school community.

As you will be aware, by 1st June at the earliest, we may be able to welcome back children to our school who are currently in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 alongside priority groups. This wider opening of schools will only occur if the five key tests set by the government justify the changes, including that the rate of infection is decreasing. At Skelton, we are planning as though these tests will be met however this decision will not be announced until 28th May and we will await further guidance from The Hope Trust, the City of York Council and The Government.

It is vital to reduce contact between people as much as possible however we know that, unlike older children and adults, social distancing for early years and primary age children will be a challenge. As a result, we plan to reduce the risk of transmission by ensuring children, young people and staff where possible, only mix in a small and consistent group.

In order to achieve this, these groups of children will be attending on a part-time basis across the week, have staggered starts and ends to the day and may not be taught by their usual teachers. I have been in touch with many families already to discuss their intentions for attendance. If you have a child in one of these priority groups and have not yet stated your preference, please can you email the school by Wednesday 27th May. If you decide to keep your child at home, we completely support your decision and will continue to provide home learning and welfare checks. **Please be aware that no children will be able to enter the school if we are not expecting them and you must give at least one weeks' notice if you wish your child to return.**

If conditions allow, we intend on reintroducing children in a phased way. From June 1st, Skelton will reopen the Skelton site and move the provision for key workers and vulnerable children back from Burton Green. Parents will need to continue to complete an intention to attend form on a weekly basis if they meet the criteria and they need childcare provision. This will not be schooling. From June 3rd, Skelton will welcome back nursery pupils. At this point, again in order to ensure everyone's safety, we are limiting numbers to only the children who are due to start school in September so that we can support their transition. From June 8th, we will welcome back reception and year 6 and from June 10th, year 1.

Please see the summary table below:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Key workers	Open 8.45-3.30	Open 8.45-3.30	Open 8.45-3.30	Open 8.45-3.30	Open 8.45-3.30
Nursery	Closed	Closed	Open 9.30-2.30	Open 9.30-2.30	Closed
Reception	Open 9-3.15	Open 9-3.15	Closed	Closed	Closed
Year 1	Closed	Closed	Open 9-3.15	Open 9-3.15	Closed
Year 6	Open 9.15-3	Open 9.15-3	Open 9.15-3	Closed	Closed

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NB: We will also be closed each Friday in order to deep clean and sanitise the school.

Key information:

- We have increased our cleaning capacity to ensure that surfaces, handles and other priority spaces are regularly sanitised throughout the day.
- Children will be placed into peer group 'bubbles' of a maximum of 15 children and allocated constant adults that will work solely within this group.
- The children in each 'bubble' will learn together, eat together and play together.
- Children should bring the bare minimum onto the premises each day e.g. packed lunch, named water bottle and coat if needed.
- Children are expected to wear clean uniform each day.
- Children will need to bring a P.E Kit which can remain in school.
- Children will not be able to bring reading books or other resources to and from school.

Drop off and pick up arrangements

In order to minimise the number of people on the school site, drop off and pick up will be limited to strict staggered time frames. We are encouraging families to limit drop off and pick up to **one** adult in order to avoid large groups of people from congregating. Please, where possible, avoid bringing siblings who are not attending school into the school grounds and adults must strictly follow social distancing rules.

At the end of the day, children will thoroughly wash their hands and then will be brought to one of the outside locations (see below) where parents will collect from a 2m social distance. Parents and children will be asked to vacate the school premises as soon as possible.

Year Group:	
Nursery	The school day will run from 9.30am to 2.30pm. Parents will not be able to access the EYFS classroom or outdoor area but must wait, 2 metres apart, outside of the gate. An adult will come out to collect the children one by one and support them with washing their hands and getting settled.
Reception	The school day will run from 9am to 3.15pm. Parents will not be able to access the EYFS classroom or outdoor area but must wait, 2 metres apart, outside of the gate. Children will be invited in by a member of staff.
Year One	The school day will run from 9am-3.15pm. Entrance to school will be through the Year one classroom. Please wait in the designated area outside the classroom until an adult comes out to collect your child.
Year Six	The school day will run from 9.15am-3pm. Entrance to school will be through the entrance next to the Year Six classroom. Year 6 children are encouraged to enter and exit the school site independently.
Key worker and vulnerable children	The school day will be from 8.45am-3.30pm, however please inform the member of staff in the morning if you are picking up early. Entrance to school will be through the OOSC outside door.

Break time and Lunchtime

Children will take staggered breaks within their 'bubble' and will be allocated an outdoor space to play within. Hot dinners will **not** be available. Children in nursery and year 6 must bring a packed lunch to school. If they are entitled to free school meals, they will be provided with a pack up. All children in reception and year 1 will be provided with a universal free school meal - again this will be a pack up.

PPE

Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools is not recommended. Rather, there should be effective social distancing measures in place. Children wearing face masks may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission as they need to be handled in very specific ways that they are unlikely to manage effectively.

School Office

Please only enter the school office in an emergency situation. Staff will always be available via telephone and we will ensure all queries are answered as soon as possible. Children must not be collected outside of the agreed times unless for emergency appointments.

Breakfast and After School Club

There will be no breakfast or after school club provision in line with government guidance.

Coronavirus cases

The key points from the government guidance are:

- A child displaying symptoms compatible with coronavirus will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days.
- All staff and children who are attending school will have access to a test via the NHS if they display symptoms of coronavirus.
- Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.
- Where the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their bubble will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

The other household members of that wider bubble do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms. It is, of course, of the utmost importance that you only allow your child(ren) into school if they are fit to attend and should you notice them develop any of the symptoms as detailed by Public Health England, they should remain home for the suggested isolation period. If you would like to read the full guidance on what should and shouldn't be implemented regarding protective safety measures in schools, including around PPE and what happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a school setting, this can be accessed here: [Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#).

Rest assured that we are taking all measures within our control to ensure that school can remain open for as many children as possible, as safely as possible. We look forward to seeing some of you very soon.

As ever, if you have any further queries then please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Carney