



# Escomb Primary School



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## Dear Parents

As you know, since school closures on March 20<sup>th</sup>, we have continued to be open to children of key workers and provided Home Learning on-line for the rest of our children.

Following the Government announcement on 10<sup>th</sup> May our next challenge is to make suitable and reasonable adjustments to welcome back Reception, Year 1 and year 6 children with the possible return of all year groups before the end of term.

We are working on plans as to how we can do this; taking account of Government, Local Authority and Union advice.

Rest assured, we will only re-open when we have all 'measures' in place and then it will be a slow and gradual approach to ensure the utmost precautions are being taken for the safety of every member of our school community.

**All measures that we are putting in place are compliant with Public Health England, Local Authority and Government advice to ensure safety.**

- *Children will come to school and leave at staggered times. Only one parent should bring their child to school and social distancing must be observed whilst waiting to enter school. Children will be collected at the gate by their teacher.*
- *Children will be expected to wear school uniform. I appreciate that some children may have grown out of theirs by now but, as close as possible to what is the expectation would be greatly appreciated for H & S reasons. It is also recommended that children wear a clean set of clothes daily to avoid contamination. If children wear sensible footwear i.e. trainers all the time then it means that we can do physical activities whenever possible without the need for them to be bringing and getting changed into PE kit.*
- *There will be no 'hot' school meals available. If your child is in receipt of free school meals or normally has a school lunch then a school packed lunch will be provided at the normal cost. Children can bring a packed lunch from home- this must be in a plastic container which can be wiped down on arrival as well as their water bottle.*
- *Children will only need to bring a packed lunch and a water bottle - there is no need for anything else!*
- *Children will be asked to wash their hands on arrival at school and this will be done at regular intervals throughout the day. Handwashing and toilet times will be supervised.*

- *Social distancing will be in place for all aspects of the school day even during playtimes and lunchtimes which will be staggered. There will be no assemblies or collective gatherings for any activities.*
- *Children will be in small groups which we will call 'pods' -approximately 10 per group (depending on size of classroom)*
- *Children will not mix groups/'pods' for any activity and will be with the same teacher. This will not necessarily be their class teacher and children will not necessarily be in their 'normal' classroom. We may not be able to put your child with all of their friends.*
- *Children will have their own seat and desk. There will be limited access to resources. All desks, seating, resources etc will be regularly wiped down and cleaned.*
- *Teachers will also be maintaining social distancing which is unfortunately very different to the way we normally conduct teaching and learning in school. Children will engage in the tasks that have been set for home learning with the teacher 'teaching' the content. There will also be activities on emotional and mental well-being and transition.*

Despite the indication from the results of the questionnaire from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 parents that numbers would be low, we still have to plan for 30 children in each class coming back.

We will have the capacity to offer places for ALL Reception and Year 1 children on a full time basis. However we will only have the capacity to operate a rota system for Year 6.

With the constant change in the medical/scientific evidence and data, we are not asking parents to make a decision at this point in time. Telephone calls will be made to parents to ascertain their wishes the week prior to the phased return for their child's class. Children will need to attend for the full week - there will be no picking and choosing of days due to contamination risks.

If over time parents change their mind and wish for their child to attend, then they can do so by letting us know the week prior to return. Please note that we will only accept new returns from a Monday.

The government has stated that parents will not be penalised for their child's non-attendance.

**The plan for our phased re-opening is as follows:**

### **Week beginning 1st June**

1st June PD day classroom environments to be prepared for re-opening.

2nd June onwards: continued opening for key worker children

Telephone contact made with Reception class parents re: sending their child back to school.

### **Week beginning 8th June**

Phased return of Reception children

Telephone contact made with Year 1 parents re: sending their child back to school.

**Week beginning 15th June**

Phased return of Year 1 children

Telephone contact made with Year 6 parents re: sending their child back to school.

**Week beginning 22nd June**

Phased return of Year 6 children.

Obviously there is a lot of planning and preparation that is going into all of this and some of the stages are beyond our control (i.e. waiting for the delivery of cleaning/hygiene products). Therefore all dates are provisional. We just wanted to let you know our intentions on the reopening of our school. The finer details of our plans will be communicated to you after half term.

Teachers will continue to plan home learning tasks for all year groups, even those returning. We will have MyMaths in operation after half term for years 1-6. This will work in the same way as Purple mash. Please be aware that teachers will be teaching in school as well as taking responsibility for their own class' on-line learning so response times may not be as quick.

We thank you for your continued support in these extraordinary times. We look forward to seeing you as we gradually return to a 'new normality' over the coming weeks.

Wendy Gill

Jenny Tremewan

Head teacher

Chair of Governing Body