



19th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been asked by the Government to look to reopen the school for children in Year 6, Year 1, Reception and Nursery (who are starting Reception in September) from Monday 1st June 2020. School will also continue to be open to the families of keyworkers and vulnerable children.

I am well aware that this is a very worrying time for parents/carers, children and staff, so in order to plan for the reopening of schools a lot of new measures are having to be put in place for schools to do this.

It has been recognised by the government that children will find social distancing very difficult. At Grasmere we believe that our year 6 children will have the understanding and discipline to be able to stay at a distance from each other, but younger children will not, as their understanding and social skills are not as well advanced. We therefore have to use other protective measures. A few of these are outlined below:

- 1) Creating small protective groups of children – 1 adult with a small group of children (no more than 15), that doesn't interact with any other adult or children in the school – your child may not be taught by your normal class teacher.
- 2) Staggered start and end times to the day, to ensure minimum number of adults are on site – only 1 adult please per child.
- 3) Parents/Carers to adhere to social distancing rules, staying 2 metres away from each other on the yard
- 4) Staggered lunchtimes and playtimes
- 5) Enhanced cleaning routines that will happen throughout the school day
- 6) School will close every Friday at 12.15pm for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in order for staff to have planning time and school to be deep cleaned. (Keyworker children will be able to stay in school)**
- 7) Resources like stationery will not be shared with all children.

There are many more precautions that we are having to put into place, please see our policy on the school website.

I am aware, that this is not the 'normal' school that you will be used to. If you decide to keep your child at home you will not be fined and the absence will not be recorded as unauthorised. Children who remain at home will still continue to be supported by the home learning system, but teacher feedback may not be as regular, as some teachers will be returning to work fulltime.

What we need you to do now:

Please call the school office on 0191 222 0259 or send a message to the school mobile 07398 887 924 by Thursday 21st May to let us know if you will be sending your child to school or not. This information is vital to us, as we need to create the small groups quickly and plan for opening on 1st June.

Our Non Negotiable:

In all the decisions that we need to make in order to reopen school, as the government guidelines stand at this moment in time, the one thing we cannot compromise on is that we need to keep the class of children the same to limit the risk of infection spreading. This means after 1st June we cannot admit extra children into the already created bubbles, other arrangements would need to be made. Please keep this in mind whilst making your decision. This has been agreed by the governors of the Academy.

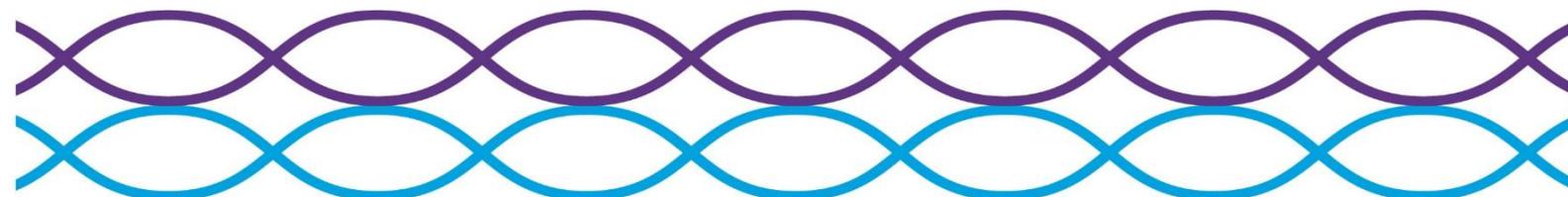
Daily School Information:

Timings of the school day from 1st June and drop off and collection points

To keep our families and children safe there will be a change to the timings of the school day. We are asking you to ensure that your child adheres to the social distancing on the way to school. Therefore we ask that only one adult brings the child (including Year 6) to school and that you arrive only at your time and exit the premises swiftly, once your child has entered.

Children will be asked to wait on the lines spaced 2m apart on the yard. The timings are shown below.

Year Group	Drop off time and place	Collection time and place
Nursery and Reception	9:15am Nursery 9:30am Reception Early Years gate and yard	11:30am Nursery 2:45pm Reception Early Years gate and yard
Year 1	9:15am Year 1 door main yard	3:00pm Year 1 door main yard
Year 6	9:00am KS2 door main yard	2:45pm KS2 door main yard
Keyworker class that is currently in school	Main Entrance Children of keyworkers only from 8:15am (Breakfast Club) All other children 9:00am onwards	Collection from Main Entrance during the day up until 3:15pm



Breakfast club

Breakfast club will run for the **children of keyworkers only** from **8:15am**. Children will be divided into their class groups on arrival to minimise the risk of infection. Please let us know a week in advance which days you require in order for us to arrange staffing.

Lunchtime arrangements

All children in school will receive a packed lunch if they are entitled to free school meals, or they can bring their own. Children will remain in their class groups over lunchtime to minimize the risk of infection. The free school meal vouchers will stop for children who attend school.

What your child will need

Your child does not need to be dressed in school uniform but Government guidelines say that children need to wear clean clothes every day, not clothes that have been worn the previous day. Your child will be provided with their own stationery set that will be kept in school and will not be used by any other child. Year 6 children will need to bring in their iPads each day. Please do not allow your child to bring any other stationery/toys into school.

Children will need to bring their own named water bottle each day and on very warm days please ensure your child has a named hat and suncream.

What happens if there is a confirmed case or a child becomes ill with symptoms?

If your child or a member of your household falls ill with symptoms you must contact school immediately and start self isolating.

All staff and children as well as their households will be eligible for a test if they become ill with symptoms. This is very important, as this will enable staff and children to return back to school quickly if the test comes back as negative, and rapid action to be taken to protect staff and children if the result is positive.

We understand there is a lot of important information in this letter and that it is a very worrying time. We will support all parents with their decisions at this time. Please let the school know your decision by **Thursday 21st May**. If you have any questions or require any support please contact school office or mobile.

Thank you for your continued support,
We hope you are all safe and well

Kerry Lilico
Headteacher

