Tuesday, June 02, 2020

Dear parents and carers of Year 6 children,

We are now in a position to welcome Year 6 back to school from Monday 15th June. I know that the children may be excited to hear this news. They may also feel anxious. I want to reassure you that over the past weeks, my staff and I have been working hard to put plans in place that reduce the risk of the spread of the infection and we now feel that, as long as everyone follows the strict rules that are in place, this risk is low.

A survey has been sent out asking you to indicate if you intend to send your child back to school on 15th June. This information will help us plan for your child’s return to school. Thank you for completing it.

We have tried to ensure that the children are in a small group of up to 11 children, where possible, with some friends, and they must stay with this group all of the time. This small group allows for 2m spacing between tables so social distancing is maintained when in class.

We strongly recommend that you bring your children to school by walking, scootering or cycling. If you have to use public transport, please speak with the school about this so that we can provide you with a face mask and gloves.

We request that only one parent or carer drops their child off at school at the designated time and entrance. The same applies to pick up.

Please note that school will be open Monday – Thursday all day. Each Friday Mayfield will only be open until 12 pm to allow for additional cleaning.

Listed below is information that will help your child’s smooth transition back to school.

When do I drop off my child at school and which entrance do I use?

Children will need to arrive and leave school at a specific time. Please do not be late as this risks contact with a wider group of people. You will be notified of the entrance to use and the time your child needs to arrive at school and be collected by text.
On Friday, your child will need to be collected earlier, as the school is only open until 12pm. You will receive a text with this information.

Who will teach my child?
Your child will be taught by two teachers in a group of 11 children. Your child may not be taught by their usual class teacher. You will be informed of the teachers who will teach your child in a text.

Will my child need to wear school uniform?
Children must wear school uniform each Monday. This must be washed after each time it has been worn. Children may wear their own practical clothes for the remainder of the week. However, your child’s clothes must be changed and washed daily to avoid spread of the disease. Children should wear trainers or plimsolls to school.

What are the arrangements at Lunch time?
Children can bring in a packed lunch or you can pay for a school meal. If you normally pay for school lunches, you must make sure your child’s account is in credit. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, a lunch will be provided. All school lunches will be provided in disposable containers. Lunchtimes and playtimes will be staggered to avoid groups of children coming into contact with each other. Some class groups may need to eat in their classroom to avoid contact with wider groups. We have set up the outdoor and indoor spaces, so that children will be able to sit 2 metres apart during lunch.

Each year 6 child will be given an individual named water bottle that they can fill up during the day. This bottle will need to be left in school.

What will my child learn when at school?
Lessons will have a focus on personal, social, and emotional health and wellbeing, English, Maths and PE. We will not be able to provide a full broad curriculum that the children usually receive. Children will spend time regularly washing their hands. Under the guidance of the adult working with the class, children will predominantly self-mark their work. Children will not be given homework to complete or books to take home during this time.

The behaviour policy has been updated and will be shared with pupil groups on their return to school. Updates include the need to social distance.

What happens if my child falls ill?
The welfare staff will continue to care for your child if they fall ill. If your child develops a temperature or cough, then you will be contacted to collect them. The child will be kept in a separate room, supervised by staff, until you arrive. Staff who attend to children who fall ill, or who need medical treatment, will need to wear PPE.

What if my child requires 1:1 support due to complex special educational needs?
The staff who usually work with your child may not be available to support them. The school will look to assign an additional adult, where possible, to support your child in school. Staff who attend to children who have complex needs and need 1:1 care and physical contact, will need to wear Personal Protection Equipment.

**Can parents and carers come on to the school site?**

We need to minimise the number of people on the school site. Parents and carers will be invited on to the school site by prior arrangement only. Everyone entering school will be required to wash their hands thoroughly and will be required to follow the social distancing rules.

**The front office remains open**, but we request that you maintain social distancing rules when speaking with the admin team. You are still able to email us or telephone us.

**How will the school be cleaned?**

The staff and cleaning team will wipe down the classrooms daily. To allow for regular, thorough cleaning of classrooms, toilets, materials and apparatus, and to provide planning and preparation time for staff, **Mayfield will BE OPEN UNTIL 12 PM ON A FRIDAY**.

If everyone follows the procedures we have put in place, then the risk of spread of the disease is dramatically reduced. Whilst I cannot 100% guarantee the safety of your child, I can reassure you that the staff, governors and I have taken all steps possible using the resources we have, to minimise that risk to children and staff.

I hope the measures we have put in place reassure you, additionally I have uploaded the SAGE (Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies) Report on to the school website for your information.

The staff and I look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 15th June.

Kind regards

Belinda Ewart
Head teacher