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22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents /Carers

Thank you for your patience over the last week as we have worked to develop potential plans for the reopening of Foxborough. We are very grateful to you for completing the survey sent on Monday. We fully appreciate that, until you know the final plans, you may be undecided as to whether your child will return but it was very helpful to have an indication of your current thinking.

In last week's letter, we suggested that the 1<sup>st</sup> June may be too soon to put in place the protective measures outlined by the Department for Education in their guidance for schools. Having consulted with staff, surveyed parents and met with the Board of Trustees and Local Governing Bodies, we are **undertaking the necessary preparations to open schools at the earliest on the 8<sup>th</sup> June though this may be revised** in response to Government announcements. This is also dependent on whether all necessary risk assessments and health and safety measures are in place.

We are thorough in keeping up-to-date with the changing guidance from Government and the Department for Education. Guidance continues to be released or updated on a daily basis that we are working to respond to in a co-ordinated and strategic approach. We are sure that the press coverage may be communicating mixed messages about the reopening of schools and the science underpinning the Government's decisions. We will endeavour to keep you as informed as possible at the appropriate times.

**The health, safety and wellbeing of our pupils and our staff has been our key priority throughout this situation and this will continue to be the case moving forward.**

The full Government guidance for parents and carers can be found [here](#).

Since we last wrote to you, the following actions have been taken:

- A thorough assessment of staffing has been completed to ascertain which members of staff are able to return to the educational setting from the 8<sup>th</sup> June
- A thorough risk assessment is in the process of being completed
- An external company have been commissioned to complete a site survey to advise as to how the site should be managed so as to ensure social distancing can be maintained as far as possible

As explained earlier, in their principles for the reopening of schools, the Government has indicated that children and young people in eligible year groups are strongly encouraged to attend (where there are no shielding concerns for the child and their household). *We would like to reassure you, however, that it is our core aim to continue to provide equal access to a high-quality education for your child whether or not they return to school in June. As their parent / carer, you are best placed to make decisions for your family and, as such, we will continue to set high-quality remote learning for all year groups so that you can decide when it is right for you and your child to return to school.*



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We will communicate with you again on the 3rd June at which point we will inform you whether the school will reopen on the 8<sup>th</sup> June or at a later date.

### Critical worker provision

We have continued throughout the school closures to provide an onsite provision for the children of critical workers. The Government has made clear in its [guidance](#) that this continues to be the priority and, should a decision need to be made (because of staffing numbers) that priority will be given to the children of critical workers.

We recognise that many parents / carers themselves, may work in schools and, therefore, need to return to their own educational setting. **If this is the case and your child (in any year group) needs a place in our onsite provision, then please email [post@foxboroughprimary.co.uk](mailto:post@foxboroughprimary.co.uk) by midday on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at the latest.** The Government guidance on critical workers can be found [here](#). This is essential to our planning process.

### Attendance

On reopening, we are asking that those children who themselves are extremely clinically vulnerable or living in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable do not return to the educational setting. The health and safety of you and your family are paramount.

No one with symptoms should attend the setting for any reason. The Government guidance for households with possible coronavirus can be found [here](#). Please read this guidance carefully.

*Please be reassured that parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time.*

### Brief outline of the likely provision

Plans for the reopening of Foxborough for the identified year groups are underway and we would like to take this opportunity to share a brief outline of our **current** thinking. This **may change** in response to any further guidance from the Government or any specific changes for our school.

- Children will be placed into 'bubbles' of no more than 10 children
- Children may or may not be taught by their normal teachers due to staffing availability. However, we will endeavour to place children with a familiar member of staff.
- Staggered start and finish times for the school day to ensure that a limited number of parents are on site at any one time. In addition, Wednesday will continue to be a shorter day and Friday will be a half day with children going home before lunch.
- Drop off and pick up will operate on a one-way system around the school in order to maintain social distancing protocols.
- Children will have staggered break and lunch times and be restricted to play with children in their bubble.
- Children will be actively taught safety measures such as social distancing, hygiene and handwashing routines.
- Resources will be limited within bubbles. Children will have their own pen, pencil etc.
- Staff members will observe social distancing whilst supervising children, where possible.
- We will not be asking pupils to wear school uniform to support parents in sending pupils in a clean set of clothes every day.
- We will be introducing an afternoon break time to support pupils return to the educational setting.
- We will be encouraging groups to use the outside spaces for learning and activities where possible.

- As stated in the Government guidance: *'We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff.'* As a school, we will therefore follow the advised measures as set out in the guidance:
  - avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
  - frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices
  - regular cleaning of settings
  - minimising contact and mixing
 Pupils will be restricted to movement and sharing of resources within their bubble, and will be kept away from all other people and groups.

### Curriculum

We recognise that our pupils have had to overcome many struggles in the current situation and that an adjustment period will be needed before returning to a full timetable. Therefore, the emphasis of our curriculum will be on

- Routine
- Structure
- Friendships
- Opportunity

We will be working with pupils to help them **accept** the current circumstances, **celebrate** their successes in this overcoming this situation and **look to the future** to support the children in developing lifelong skills from what they have learnt.

**Pupils will be entitled to the same curriculum offer at home as well as at school.**

In Reception, Nursery and Year 1 this will include:

- Indoor and outdoor facilitated play sessions
- Reading
- Phonics
- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) with a focus on Healthy living, emotional wellbeing and friendship
- PE
- Superprojects (wider curriculum)

In Year 6 this will include:

- Reading
- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) with a focus on Healthy living, emotional wellbeing, friendship and e-safety
- PE
- Superprojects (wider curriculum)
- ICT
- Maths
- English

As already explained, **we will write again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June to confirm plans for reopening.**

We would like to thank you for your ongoing patience, support and compassion. This has been a very anxious time for all who work in the school. We are incredibly keen to welcome your child(ren) back to school and are working hard to ensure that this can be done as safely as possible. We also

recognise the very difficult decisions that you are having to make and will endeavour to always work positively, proactively and constructively with you today and every day.

Yours faithfully

Jessica Theisinger  
Acting Head of School  
Foxborough Primary School