

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

## Plan to conditionally re-open Corsham Regis from 1<sup>st</sup> June

Dear Parents & Carers,

Half term is rapidly approaching and we wanted to write to update you following the Government's announcement that there would be wider opening of schools to pupils from 1st June 2020.

As you will be aware, pending the meeting of the the five key tests set by government, from 1 June 2020 primary schools are being asked to welcome back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as continuing to be open for the children of key workers and vulnerable children.

Following the guidance received from both the Department for Education and Wiltshire Council, we have been working on our plan to implement the approaches set out in preparation for reopening on 1 June 2020. Our plan is based on the unique context, circumstance and cohorts of pupils and may therefore differ from that of other schools. Please be assured that we are following guidelines and completing risk assessments as part of our preparations.

*If or when we reopen, we will make every effort to mitigate any risks to children, staff, and families.* Here are some of the conditions and circumstances that we will be putting into our schools in preparation for reopening:

1. We will continue to be open for children of key workers and for vulnerable children who have applied and already secured a place regardless of year group for 5 days a week.
2. Due to reduced staff numbers and guidance taken from the Department for Education (DFE), we will only be open for children in Reception and Year 1. The DFE are clear that where there are staffing shortages priority should be given to the groups of children we are providing for, which means that unfortunately we are unable to provide places for Year 6 at this time. I have explored the possibility of using resources from other schools for these pupils but to no avail.
3. A full timetable of start and finish times can be found below. This will be reviewed once the logistics and practice of having these year groups in school has been tested to ensure we meet stringent health and safety requirements for both children and staff. If additional capacity can be secured, then we will look to offer places to Year 6 pupils.
4. For all children, the online learning provision will continue. However, the level of feedback they receive from learning submitted via Seesaw will be reduced and may on occasion come from our Teaching Assistants in order to protect the workload of our teachers.

### Opening arrangements for Reception and Year 1:

1. We have already surveyed through Seesaw and telephone to confirm if you will be sending your child to school when we reopen.
2. If you have chosen not to, this is entirely your choice and no punitive action will be taken. The availability of online materials for these year groups will continue to be provided by your child's class teacher.
3. Reception pupils will be taught as one group while Year 1 will be split into two cohorts labelled Group 1A and Group 1B, each no larger than 15 pupils.

4. Below is a timetable to show timings for the day. Please understand that because of health and safety considerations as well as staffing availability, these timings are fixed and non-negotiable.

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Classroom and teacher</b>	<b>Drop off and pick up</b>	<b>Breaktimes &amp; lunchtime</b>
Reception	Mrs Stone and Mrs Hodges in Jade	9:15am drop off and 3:00pm collection from the KS1 gate. Entry and exit via the cloakroom door.  On Fridays the school day will finish at 12:15pm.	11:00 – 11:15am & 12:00 – 12:40pm (KS1 playground)
Group 1A	Miss Denning and Mrs Smith in Opal	9:00am drop off and 2:45pm collection from the KS1 gate. Entry and exit via the main KS1 doors.  On Fridays the school day will finish at 12:00pm.	10:30 – 10:45am (KS1 playground) & 12:00 – 12:40pm (Lower KS2 playground)
Year 1B	Mrs Bagnall (Mon-Weds) and Mrs Duffield (Thurs to Fri) & Mrs Wilmshurst in Onyx.	9:00am drop off and 2:45pm collection from the KS1 gate. Entry and exit via fire door in Onyx.  On Fridays the school day will finish at 12:00pm.	10:45 – 11:00am (KS1 playground) & 12:00 – 12:40pm (Upper KS2 playground)

#### **Opening arrangements for children of key workers and vulnerable children:**

1. Places will be available for those parents and carers who have already contacted us to secure a place.
2. If you no longer require a place, please contact us as places are limited and we may have to create a waiting list.
3. These pupils will be split into two cohorts labelled Regis A and Regis B, each no larger than 15 pupils.
4. Below is a timetable to show timings for the day. Please understand that because of health and safety considerations as well as staffing availability, these timings are also fixed and non-negotiable.

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Classroom and teacher</b>	<b>Drop off and pick up</b>	<b>Break times &amp; lunchtime</b>
Regis A	Miss Londors (Mon-Tues), Mrs Doe (Weds - Thurs) & Mrs Randall (Fri) in Crystal	8:50am drop off and 3:00pm collection from the KS2 gate. Entry and exit via fire door in Amethyst.	10:30 – 10:45am (Lower KS2 playground) & 12:40 – 1:20pm (Lower KS2 playground)
Regis B	Mrs Harris (Mon-Wed) & Mrs Symons (Thurs-Fri) in Amethyst	8:50am drop off and 3:00pm collection from the KS2 gate. Entry and exit via fire door in Crystal.	10:30 – 10:45am (Lower KS2 playground) & 12:40 – 1:20pm (Upper KS2 playground)

## Uniform

Your child may have outgrown some or all of their school uniform or shoes, and you may not have had the opportunity to get more. In order to put less pressure on you and your child, we are saying uniform need not be worn until further notice. We also know that clothes can get mixed up during changing for PE or when it's hot, and we want to avoid this. Hopefully by wearing clothes easily recognisable as their own this will help. However, it is recommended that clothes which are machine washable only should be worn and these should be washed daily.

As the weather continues to improve (hopefully), please can you make sure your child has sun cream applied, a hat and that sensible footwear is worn, ie shoes or trainers – not flip flops.

## Lunches

A separate communication will shortly be going out about lunch arrangements.

## What will be taught at school?

Teachers will focus on re-establishing routines and expectations, and creating a safe environment so that the children feel secure.

They will celebrate the learning and achievements of pupils whilst in lockdown, whether this is work set by the teacher or another life skill learned, such as baking, learning to ride a bike, sewing or gardening.

Academically, there will be a focus on reading and consolidating basic skills alongside the work set for all pupils online by class teachers.

## Drop off and collection arrangements:

We respectfully ask that only one parent or carer takes and collects the child, and that when possible they walk or cycle to school.

In agreement with South Hills Nursery, the school gates will be closed between 8:40 and 9:20am in order to ensure minimum risk to pedestrians waiting to enter school.

If you are dropping or collecting pupils at Regis, please enter using the main gate by the wooden bike shelter. Only parents dropping children at South Hills Nursery are allowed to enter the site by the gate nearest their premises.

When you enter the site by the bike shelter you will see white lines spaced 2m apart painted on the pathway. If you are dropping children into Reception or Year 1, queue here and follow the one way system, marked by arrows, to the Key Stage 1 gate. Here you will hand your child over to the member of staff on duty and they will make their way into class after cleaning their hands and having their temperature taken on alternate days.



Then follow the arrows away from the gate.

If you need to visit the office, we will only be admitting one person at a time and there will be 2m lines on the steps to ensure social distancing.



If you are dropping children into Regis A or Regis B (in Crystal and Amethyst classes), you may walk the other side of the metal fencing as long as the vehicle entrance gate is shut, and walk directly to the Key Stage 2 gate. The queue will begin here using the 2m markers and must go back towards the office. Please follow the one way system, marked by arrows. Here you will hand your child over to the member of staff on duty and they will make their way into class after cleaning their hands and having their temperature taken on alternate days.

***You must adhere to the lines to stay 2 metres apart and the one way system must be adhered to.***



Whilst this maybe frustrating and challenging, we ask that you are respectful and considerate of others at all times.

### **What we ask of you as parents and carers:**

Social distancing for our youngest pupils is going to be very difficult for them to follow. Please take the time to explain to your child that this will be expected of them in lessons as much as possible. I must also stress that staff will be unable to comfort a child if they become upset.

Please explain the drop off and collection arrangements to your child

Explain that they might not have the same teacher as they normally have and that learning will be different.

Try to share and reinforce with your child these rules:

- Follow the routines for arrival or departure – no queuing in close proximity or gathering at the gate
- Wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered on arrival at school, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
- Socialise only with those children in your group
- Use a tissue if sneezing or coughing, then put this in the bin ('catch it, bin it, kill it'), or do so into your elbow (dab), avoiding touching your mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- Tell an adult if you are feeling unwell
- Do not share any equipment or other items including drinking bottles
- Stay in your set playground area only
- Only one person may use the toilet at a time – Use the KS1 toilets if in Reception, the KS2 middle corridor toilets if in Year 1A or Year 1B, and the Atrium toilets if you are in Regis A or Regis B
- Coughing or spitting at or towards any other person is strictly forbidden

### **Other information and measures we are taking to make our school safer:**

- Movement around school will be limited.
- Adults will be restricted from entering the school.
- Our reception area will be out-of-bounds to parents unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Abundant sanitising and cleansing equipment is available for use.

- We have PPE in school should we need to use it when dealing with a child who develops symptoms comparable with coronavirus.
- We respectfully ask that pupils do not wear facemasks into or around school. Staff will not be wearing them unless there is a medical emergency as per DFE guidance and we want our returning pupils to feel safe and secure.
- Posters will be displayed in classrooms and toilets to remind pupils good hygiene and to social distance
- Pupils will only be allowed to go to the toilet one at a time
- Reading books will not be going home
- Desks will be spaced as far apart as possible with children sitting in the same seat every day
- Soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean (such as those with intricate parts) in all classes will be removed
- No outdoor area learning equipment will be used or play equipment which cannot be cleaned easily each day
- Floor markings to show 2m areas (including an area for the teacher/TA) will be put in place by teachers using masking tape
- Children are expected to remain at their desks when in the room.

*And finally*, if your child develops symptoms comparable with coronavirus, they should be kept home and are advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. The rest of the child's group is also sent home to self isolate. However, if the child in question is tested and it is negative, the group can return.

The latest government information for parents can be found online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

Obviously, these are different and challenging times, so we all must be compassionate and understanding of each other. As such, I would ask for your whole-hearted support for what we are doing. In return, I promise to continue making the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of your child our highest priority.

**Please be aware that we cannot always reply to individual phone or email queries at this time but be assured we will continue to keep everyone updated via our school communications as soon as have any new information to share.**

We thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Gareth Spicer  
Headteacher