

'Be safe, be kind. Listen and think a lot.

Be your best!'



The Perryfields Post



Perryfields Infant School Volume 6 Issue 19

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Dear Parents / Carers,

The team at Perryfields Infant School hope you are all well and keeping safe. I can't believe that we are now in week 11 of the school's partial closure.

As you know the school has been open for the last 11 weeks supporting Key Worker children in school and supporting parents and children with their home learning, calling parents, planning and most recently preparing the school for a partial reopening. Hopefully all the information and guidance that we have been sending out about what this will look like has been helpful.

On Thursday we welcomed back some of our Early Years children. It was lovely to see some of the children back, although in a very different environment with new rules and expectations.

Next week, as long as it is still safe to do so, we plan to welcome some of our Year 1 pupils back.

Throughout this journey, during unprecedented times, we have followed and continue to follow the government guidelines and have planned to open for the priority year groups identified by the government. The government guidance clearly states that schools should prioritise spaces for the key worker children first, then the EYFS children and then the Year 1 children.

As headteacher of the school, with a duty of care to all the children and staff, I have created an in depth risk assessment and timetable which details how many children and staff we can have on the school site at any one time allowing for 2 metre social distancing of desks. This means we have to limit the number of children in each 'Bubble' group and within the school.

The responses from the recent survey has allowed me to allocate children into bubbles and these parents/ children would have already received an email with all the necessary information. Please read everything carefully before returning to school. If you did not respond to the survey or you answered no to your child returning to school then you will not have received an email. Please remember that it is perfectly alright for you to keep your child at home and parents will not be fined for doing so.

Parents are reminded that, in order for this provision to work safely, children need to be brought and collected from school through our new one way system at the exact time stated for your child's bubble. Staff will be manning the gates and parents/children who are late/outside their bubble time will be asked to go home and come on time the next day. This is to reduce the risk of cross contamination between children, parents and staff. We are unable to walk children through the reception/office area and through the school, as this would increase their contact with other groups of children which is an additional risk.

Moving forward, from now until the end of the summer term, if there is an increased demand for places, I will have to rethink the current plan. Due to staffing levels and space, I am unable to exceed a certain number of children, so increased demand would mean a change to the current school offer, potentially only having the key worker children and EYFS children back in school if there are not enough staff or classrooms to provide safe support. Where possible I will give parents as much notice as possible of these changes as and when it is needed.

I appreciate that parents who are trying to return to work may find some of these decisions really unhelpful but it should be noted that all decisions are informed by government guidelines and the need to keep children and staff as safe as we can.

The government continues to announce new changes on a regular basis and as yet no-one knows what effect the relaxation of lockdown in society will have on the R number and the infection rate.

Children and staff safety is the key priority and as previously mentioned, more changes may have to be made as time moves forward. We will continue to run the home learning on the website and provide links for the work and the keeping in touch calls. I will continue to keep you up to date and fully informed of the situation.

It is clear that we all want the same thing for the children and families in our community and I thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

Stay safe and take care.

Amanda Reid

Headteacher

Please only bring in necessary items e.g. packed lunch if you are not having the school packed lunch, sun hat, water bottle and a healthy fruit or vegetable snack but no grapes please. **No PE kits, school rack sacks/bags, toys etc.**





NEW CLASSROOM LAYOUT WITH DESKS 2 METRES APART



Please don't forget to contact Cool Milk to re-start your child's milk delivery to school. They can be contacted at <u>www.coolmilk.com</u>.