



Virus Bulletin 11: Update for families

22.7.2020

Summary:

- CVPS plans for September
- Staggered start and finish times by class
- Arrangements throughout school by class
- Parent's next steps

Dear families,

Having carefully read the DfE 37 page guidance document, we have consulted with our wonderful team and would like to share with you our robust plan to welcome all children back to compulsory learning in September. All the plans and risk assessments will be available on the school website if you wish to explore them further. (www.villageprimary.org)

Whole school arrangements

In line with government advice and assuming no local lockdown, we intend that from Tuesday the 8th September we will continue to implement:

- The effective one-way system, in and out of the school — coming in by the north-facing gate next to the school car park, and leaving by the east facing-gate, next to Little Angels/early years' usual gate.
- Y4 having access to a different entrance gate opposite the MUGA for the beginning and end of each day
- Staggered start and finish times for children
- Class bubbles now with up to 30 children per class
- Continued rigour with hygiene and cleanliness throughout school
- Continuation of only essential medical items being brought daily between home and school
- The new walk way in front of the school on the edge of the black perimeter fencing has been agreed to be installed by the Highways Team for the start of the September term

	Monday to Friday start times (Monday to Thursday Finish times)	Friday finish time
YN	8.15am to 11.15am (15 hour children) line up at the front of school	11.15am
YR	8.45am - 2.45pm lining up at the front of school (includes 30 hour nursery children)	1.45pm
Y1	8.15am to 3pm lining up at the front of school	1.50pm
Y2	8.15am to 3pm lining up at the front of school	1.50pm
Y3	8.45am - 3.45pm lining up at the front of school	2.05pm
Y4	8.15am - 3.15pm entering from new gate directly into the school field	1.55pm
Y5	8.30am - 3.30pm lining up at the front of school	2pm
Y6	8.30am - 3.30pm coming directly into the classroom through the Y6 door on arrival	2.05pm

- We really appreciate the support from families who have parked away from the roundabout in front of the school. This has made this a much safer place for those children who walk independently to school
- Children will be asked either to wash hands, or sanitise hands on arrival.
- Hygiene procedures throughout the day are as they were, with children expected to wash their hands before and after moving to play outside or going home, and before and after lunchtime. This will be a total of 6 times per day minimum. We have supplies of barrier cream, as recommended by pharmacists, for those with sensitive skin. Our hand sanitisers are hospital grade with integrated emollients. Your child is welcome to bring their own hand sanitiser into school if you prefer, but only if they can manage dispensing it themselves.

Classroom arrangements across school

Once in school, the new guidance does not expect children in primary school bubbles to socially distance from one another. However we will still allocate all pupils with a set seat, their own labelled pencils, and stationery that will stay in their own drawers which will be under their desks. Individual children will be asked to keep to specific wash-hand basins and toilet cubicles, and their names will be placed on these to help them (and staff!) remember which ones are allocated to them. There is an expectation that staff in classrooms will remain 2 metres away from children. (clearly this won't be possible in early years or Y1/Y2 where additional hygiene practices are implemented.)

Desks in classrooms will all be forward facing - so pupils do not face one another in line with government guidelines.

Social distancing for our youngest children Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2

Resources will continue to be wiped down carefully two to three times daily by our dedicated cleaning teams. Any soft resources which cannot be cleaned will be removed. To create a balance of hygiene as well as to allow social interaction we plan to keep the children in their zones and gradually move around some of the resources between each of the early years zones. Again regular handwashing will be continued as a focus.

Lunchtimes

Trolleys will be used to transport covered food around the building. Lynn, Nicola and Carla will be given a designated class each to cover consistently, releasing one staff member per year group for their lunch break. This not only gives much needed continuity to the children but will also minimise risks of cross infection.

The children will have slightly longer to play outside in designated areas to help compensate for the many hours they have had to be in their homes during lockdown. Teaching staff always supervise them during these times and this practice will continue.

Curriculum, Homework and online learning

For this academic year we will only be providing online learning, and we will survey families to clarify that this is feasible from a practical perspective. We intend to minimise the resources such as books and learning materials that are passed between home and school.

We aim to follow a broad and balanced curriculum, as described on the school website.

Early years - Nursery and Reception

We have staggered start dates during the first week back. All children will return by Monday the 14th September.

We are looking forward to having all the children return for their reception year, and welcoming some new children both in reception and nursery. We appreciate the patience of the nursery children who were unable to start school at the previously planned timings, due to Covid!

Children in early years (both reception and nursery) will have access to all the classrooms over the course of each half term. We intend to have all the children classed as one bubble, but within that bubble we intend to create smaller groups of no more than 12 children per group which will be separated as much as possible. There will be no cooking activities when we return in the first instance but other than that all usual activities will be offered with additional hygiene measures in place. There will be regular reminders about not putting their hands into their mouths, as well as continuing to regularly wash their hands. Our especially commissioned school nurse will provide lessons early in the term to teach children how to wash hands properly following guidance from Public Health England. This has been really effective this year.

Year 1 and Year 2

Children in these classes will be separated into their individual class year groups, accommodated in the usual classrooms for Y1 and Y2. They will be taught by their usual allocated teachers other than for the first 30 minute phonics lesson of the day. This will be streamed across the 2 year groups to allow us to have focussed input for

phonics taught by the team of staff across the two classes. Children will be managed to socially distance during the thirty minutes of phonics which is more than possible given the smaller numbers in both classes.

Year 3

Children in Y3 will be accommodated across the current Y3 and Y4 classroom spaces. This will allow them plenty of space in their learning time and has been considered by the class size and age as being an appropriate opportunity that is used to ensure that the class can all be seated simultaneously.

Year 4

Y4 will be accommodated in the hall. We are unable to use the hall for assemblies, PE, or all the things we would usually, so we feel that it would be a positive alternative to being in the usual classroom as it offers a lot more space. The children in Y1 have used this space to date and found it really comfortable. They enter and leave school via the staffroom exit and will have a lot more space to eat. It's likely that we will be able to offer tables individually to each child in Y4 next year.

Year 5 and Year 6

These two year groups will be in the usual Y5/6 classrooms. And for the majority of time they will be grouped separately for lessons. However during forest school sessions they will become one bubble - as we will be grouping them separately in three groups. Again we are expecting them to be more aware and capable of socially distancing themselves during the forest school sessions, as well as during the rest of the school day when possible.

Attendance

The government position is that attendance is compulsory from September, and with reference to previous attendance we will expect to monitor attendance closely and those affected will be contacted early on and before half term if we have any concerns.

Children thrive on routine and consistency and so we want to support them with this in the autumn term. We have now been running school for the past 7 weeks with the new procedures with no issues re safety. The systems and procedures are working well and the children are happy to be with us (or seem to be!) and they are learning again.

Parent feedback

Please let us know if you have any questions by calling the school office if you would like a call back from your child's new teacher to discuss the September plans. The government guidance has been uploaded onto the school's website if you wish to review it (please note this is not the live DfE document which can change).

We appreciate that families have been very supportive of our current arrangements and we do want to reassure everyone that these plans will be regularly reviewed to prioritise safety of children and staff at all times. We are mindful that everyone has their own very different 'thermometers' relating to how they have approached the risks of Covid and so we intend to continue to be transparent so you can ask questions. We are happy to discuss any individual concerns relating to your child or family's extenuating circumstances and as a matter of course we will be updating our individual pupil and staff personal circumstances forms to keep information accurate. Please keep the communications open between your child's teaching staff and home so we can continue to adapt provision as necessary.

In summary

We have robust plans for all classes to return in September. School will be compulsory for all children from the start of term in September.

We are keen to hear of any concerns so we can respond to those in a timely manner before we break up next week.

Thanks once again for your ongoing support during these challenging times.

Debbie Wylie
Principal

