



Keyworth Primary School

Part of the Bessemer and Keyworth Federation

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Saturday 16th May 2020

Reopening of Keyworth update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your family continue to remain safe and well. As you will be aware, the government announced that schools will begin to reopen to more children as of 1st June. The year groups that were chosen to come back to school first were Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The staggered return of other year groups at a later date is yet to be announced. While this decision may change in the coming weeks, we have a duty to forward-plan and prepare for any such reopening. You may have some idea of the guidelines that the government have set out in order for schools to reopen; Keyworth will certainly be a different place to the one that your children left when we were told to close.

In order to try to manage any risk and to try to reassure our families and staff, we have completed a risk assessment as a leadership team in consultation with the Local Authority and our staff. The risk assessment details the possible risks associated with expanding the number of children and adults in our school and will be adapted and amended as appropriate. While we have tried our best to provide as much detail and to identify as many examples as possible, we are in no position to say to you that those returning to Keyworth will be completely risk-free from infection. We have and will continue to follow the guidance provided to us by the government.

I am sure that many of you are eager for your children to return to school to continue their learning but are balancing the risk element of a return. Children who return to school will be provided with education by teachers; however our main concern as a school will be the safety and wellbeing of the children. The government guidelines currently state that, while they encourage children to return to school, **it is parental choice**. I would like to make it clear that there is no pressure from Keyworth on our families to return to school immediately but I do hope that all children will be able to return soon.

On Monday, we will be adding the full risk assessment to the school website to help you when making your decision regarding your child/children returning to Keyworth. I have summarised some of the measures that we will be putting in place below for information:

General information

- We will be using Monday 1st June as an INSET Day to ensure that all staff have had training detailing the new measures and reviewing their understanding of the risk assessment.
- On Tuesday 2nd June, children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 can return to school.
- There will be changes to the times school starts and ends for different year groups. This is to reduce the number of people in and around the school at the same time.

- Each year group will have a designated gate to enter and leave the school by.
- No parents/carers will be allowed on school premises. Children will need to be dropped off at their designated gate. Keyworth staff will be on hand to support this. We ask that a maximum of one adult brings a child to school and you queue 2 metres apart.
- No visitors will be allowed on school premises, unless for exceptional circumstances.
- Parents/carers will only be able to access the school office via telephone or email. The school office cannot be accessed in person.
- There will be no Breakfast Club. Afterschool Club will only be provided for children of key workers and vulnerable children.
- All children will be instructed to wash their hands as soon as they arrive to school. Further handwashing times will be scheduled throughout the school day.
- There will be no assemblies in the hall or mass gatherings.
- The children will be provided with a packed lunch each day which will be delivered to their classrooms.

Around the school

- Pathways have been created around the school with arrows 2 metres apart to help children to social distance. Stairwells and doorways have been designated for year groups to use when entering and leaving the school building.
- Children will be taught about handwashing, hygiene and germs: https://e-bug.eu/junior_pack.aspx?cc=eng&ss=2&t=Hand%20Hygiene
- Posters are displayed to remind children of the need for general hygiene and handwashing.
- Staff will follow social distancing guidelines and encourage children to do so too. Children will not be told off for not following social distancing rules but will be reminded gently.
- Where staff are unable to follow social distancing rules (changing nappies/administering first aid) they may wear masks and/or gloves.
- Children will be taught about and will practise the new measures introduced by the school in order to familiarise themselves with them.
- Toilet areas, door handles, bannisters etc. will be regularly cleaned throughout the day along with resources/tables used in classrooms. There will be an additional whole school clean at the end of each day.

In class

- In Years 1 and 6, children will be divided into 'pods' of no more than 15 but likely to be less if our projected number of returnees remain the same. The children will remain in these 'pods' for learning, break times and lunch. They will be taught by the same teachers and teaching assistants, and supervised by the same meal supervisors each day to reduce the risk of possible infection.
- In Years 1 and 6, tables will be organised so that children are able to sit 2 metres apart. Classrooms will be decluttered of unnecessary resources and children will be provided with their own tray of books/resources so that they do not need to travel around the classroom or share anything.

- In Early Years, children will be divided into 'pods' of no more than 15 but less where possible. The children will remain in these 'pods' for learning, break times and lunch. They will be taught by the same teachers and teaching assistants, and supervised by the same meal supervisors each day to reduce the risk of possible infection.
- In Early Years, there will be no whole class carpet time. Weather permitting, the children will be able to use the playground for much of their learning with numbers using all spaces being monitored by staff.
- All inside and outside areas will have reduced resources so that regular cleaning can take place.
- All soft furnishings will be removed from classrooms as these are difficult to keep clean.
- As much time as possible will be spent outside. During the afternoon, children will be doing PE, playing and having the opportunity to learn outside. If inside, windows will remain open where possible.
- Children will not be allowed to bring in anything from home except a water bottle which must be clearly labelled and which will be kept on their table, and a mobile phone if needed for Year 6 only. Phones will not be handed in but must be turned off and kept in the tray on the child's table. Children should not bring book bags to school as reading books will not be sent backwards and forwards.

The arrangements detailed above will be continually reviewed and adapted as appropriate. This may include reducing the number of children that we have in school.

As you can see from the above, Keyworth will be a very different place for a period of time. However, I do want to reassure you that, if your child/children do return at the start of June, we will do our best to ensure that Keyworth is as nice a place as it can be for your children. We are planning on delivering Maths and English lessons in the morning, with the afternoon being more relaxed through PE, play and creativity.

Regarding *Google classroom*, we will still continue to provide the same structure of lessons that we have provided for the past few weeks for children who are in Years 2-5. For children who are in year groups that are able to return, we will still continue to provide work on *Google classroom* but this will be somewhat streamlined with teachers uploading PowerPoints/worksheets that are being used in class without the videos/voiceovers. This is to ensure that teachers do not have to double their planning and work commitments. You can of course refer to our school website for further resources and/or use the resources that I have shared previously, as shown below:

- BBC Bitesize daily lessons - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>
- Government recommended online learning and resource hub - <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>
- Government recommended daily phonics - <https://www.wandleenglishhub.org.uk/lettersandsounds>
- The London Curriculum resources shared by governor Karen - https://www.london.gov.uk/coronavirus/london-learning-at-home?term_node_tid_depth_2=12258&term_node_tid_depth_3=12247&term_node_tid_depth_4=12267&term_node_tid_depth=All&term_node_tid_depth_1=All

We have worked extremely hard this week to analyse all of the government documentation and create a risk assessment and action plan for reopening; with the safety of all being at the heart of our decision-making. I hope that you find the information detailed in this letter useful and refer to the action plan when

it is uploaded onto the website on Monday afternoon. Having spoken to many families on the phone this week, I appreciate that for many of you the decision to send your child/children back to Keyworth is one that you are taking much thought over. I would like to remind you that it is entirely your decision and the usual penalties for children not attending school do not apply. It is important that whatever decision you make you are comfortable with; Keyworth will not be putting pressure on you to return immediately.

We have tried to contact all families that have children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to ask whether they had made a decision regarding their child/children returning but were unable to get hold of everyone. So that we can continue our plans and roughly know our numbers, I would really appreciate it if any families who have not yet been in contact with the school do so by Wednesday 20th May.

If you have said no to a return to Keyworth but change your mind at any stage, please contact the school with a few days' notice so that we are able to make appropriate plans and adjustments.

We will be in touch again with any further updates/information that we have. In the meantime, if you do have any further questions/queries, then please contact the school office:

office@keyworth.southwark.sch.uk.

Wishing you and your family the best of health,

Ray Capper

Head of School