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**Aspire. Expect. Achieve. Together.**

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you and your families are well. Over the last two weeks we have opened wider to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. We have loved seeing our pupils return with massive smiles and catching up with them after not seeing them for a long period. Some parents have been asking regarding places in other year groups, Year2-5, we are waiting for further guidance on this and will update you as soon as we know.

The extra safety precautions we have put in place to ensure social distancing are working well; the safety of pupils, parents and staff is always our priority. Using our three entrances for the pupils to enter and exit school has also worked well ensuring that parents and families are not queuing or gathering outside the school gates and therefore maintaining social distancing. Thank you for your support with this.

### School Day times:

**Nursery: 9.00-12.00 every day**

**Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and Key worker children in Y2-5: Monday- Thursday 9.00-3.00pm**

**:Friday 9.00-12.00 midday**

**Please note for the rest of this term at least, we will close every Friday at 12.00 for deep cleaning. We have an 'Anti-static' clean throughout the school- which needs over 60 hours to take effect, hence closing at 12.00 Midday every Friday until further notice.**

**Please ensure that your child is here by 9.00am at the latest as the gates close. There is no entry through the school office entrance.**

### Safety Measures:

We have done a great deal of detailed work to put in place all of the measures needed to make Ark Kings Primary phase as safe as it can be for our pupils and staff. Here are some photos of systems we have put in place including new information banners, mobile hand sanitising stations and new signs:



**Guidance to note for pupils returning and to school in Summer Term 2020:**

- Children coming into school will **attend in their school uniform or PE Kit**
- As part of our infection control, children will need to come to school in **clean uniform or PE Kit every day**
- Please send your child with a **clean water bottle and sun hat**- these will be returned each day for you to clean.
- Please **apply sun cream before they come to school.**
- All personal hygiene and individual stationery will be provided for your child.
- Please ensure all medication requirements for your child is in school and the appropriate forms have been filled in at the school office.
- All Children will be provided with **free breakfast, break time snack and lunch**

**Pupil Groups:**

The strict arrangements to ensure everyone stays safe are based on the numbers of children we know are going to attend. Children work in small groups and these groups do not mix with other groups. Each group has its own break and lunchtimes, own playground equipment, hand sanitising equipment and own resources. All transitions are external, so the groups don't even come into contact in the corridors. Lunches and other snacks are taken in the classrooms or as a picnic in better weather. Assemblies are held in the classroom with live streaming between each group.

For year groups Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6- if you do now want to send your child to school, please contact the school office and a member of the Senior Leadership Team will speak to you and if/when a place becomes available, we will let you know.

**Stay Alert, control the infection rate:**

We all have a role to play to stop the spread of infection and we must all continue to follow the NHS guidance. If any student has symptoms of Coronavirus, however mild, they must not come to school. If a child shows any symptoms at school, we will contact their parents or carers so we can send them home. Anyone with symptoms must self-isolate and stay at home for at least 7 days from when the symptoms started. Everyone in the household of someone with symptoms must stay at home for 14 days - they should not go to work, school or use public transport or use taxis. Nobody should go out even to buy food or other essentials, and any exercise must be taken at home.

**COVID-19 Symptoms:**

Anyone with symptoms should immediately arrange to have a Coronavirus test. If a pupil's test is negative, they can come back to school. If the test is positive, they cannot come back to school until they have recovered, the minimum time they must stay at home is 7 days. If your child has a Coronavirus test, you must let us know the result as soon as possible. If the test is positive, we will need to advise everyone in their class group to stay home for 14 days.

All the information about what to do if you have symptoms is available the Government website here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

**Infection control at school:**

At school, we will make sure that children wash their hands often. Please make sure that your child understands that it is important that they wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds using soap and water and that they cough and sneeze safely into a tissue or their elbow.

We have also increased our hand washing and sanitising stations throughout the school. Shared areas such as the halls and dining room will not be in operation to ensure any possible infection is not spread.

Every Friday afternoon, we have a deep clean, hence the closing at 12.00 midday every Friday to ensure that the anti-static cleans has over 60 hours to take effect.

### **Mental Health and Well-Being:**

This has been a very unsettling time for everyone, and we want to make sure that all of our children enjoy their time at school when they return. We know that some of our pupils may be anxious about coming back to school, some may have had relatives who have been ill with the virus, others may have been bereaved. We will do our very best to make sure that all children are supported and enjoy returning to learning at school. Please do let us know if your child might need some extra help when they come back. As always, we are here to support you. All children who have returned to school so far are really pleased to do so and see their friends and teachers.

### **Distance Learning:**

For those children remaining at home, every Monday, new **Home Learning work** is put onto our website [www.arkkingsacademy.org](http://www.arkkingsacademy.org) If you need paper copies, please contact us and we will arrange a time for you to collect these from school or alternatively, we can post these to you. Please bear in mind that the postal service is reduced, and these may take several days longer than normal to get to you.

Thank you for your messages and pictures sent in to our **Distance learning** email: [distancelearning@arkkingsacademy.org](mailto:distancelearning@arkkingsacademy.org) it has been wonderful to see pictures of your children's work as well as pictures of some of the children completing their home learning. Please do send us more as we Tweet these at [@ArkKingsPrimary](https://twitter.com/ArkKingsPrimary)

### **Free School Meals:**

We are continuing with the **Government Free School Voucher scheme**. Vouchers will be sent via email to all families entitled to Free School Meals only. This will continue for all pupils entitled to FSM for at least the next week, even if they are in school. We are awaiting further guidance from the government on what happens then. We will keep you informed as soon as we know.

### **Contact for pupils learning off-site:**

We are continuing to conduct phone calls home as a method of keeping in touch with you all. It's been lovely to speak to many of you during the lockdown period. This will continue to operate in school term time.

Best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Brasenell  
Primary Headteacher