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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/ Carer,

The Government has now confirmed that schools can begin to reopen from this week. We are really looking forward to seeing our Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children back at school.

We are going to reopen the Primary phase gradually as follows;

- **June 1st and 2nd** – teacher training – **no pupils at school**
- **June 3rd** – key worker children and children from **Nursery** will return to school
- **June 8th** – key worker children and children from years Nursery and **Reception**
- **June 10th** – key worker children and children from years Nursery, Reception and **Year 1**
- **June 15th** – key worker children and children from years Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and **Year 6**

We have contacted all parents in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to ascertain who is returning on these dates. Each family have been given staggered entry and exit times and know which entrance they are entering and exiting from. Please ensure you do not 'gather' outside the school gates. Please ensure you keep a 2m distance from everyone other than members of your household and follow the signs and guidance put up around the school site.

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 as from Friday 5th June 2020, we are closing every Friday at 12.00 for deep cleaning. We will be having an 'Anti-static' clean throughout the school- this needs over 60 hours to take effect, hence closing at 12.00 Midday every Friday until further notice.

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. Classes will have no more than 15 children and each class will not mix with any other groups; each class will have an assigned teacher/s. The time children arrive and leave school will be staggered and lunch and each group have their own designated toilets to prevent children mixing with others from outside their group.

Guidance to note for pupils returning and to follow from June 3rd 2020:

- Children coming into school **will return in their school uniform.**
- As part of our infection control, children will need to come to school in **clean uniform every day**
- Please send your child with a **clean water bottle and sun hat**- these will be returned each day for you to clean.

- If you are sending your child in with a packed lunch- please send this in a disposable bag- **no lunchboxes.**
- Please **apply sun cream before they come to school.**
- If you send your child with a coat to school- this will need to stay in school.
- Please do not send your child's PE kit into school.
- Please do not bring your child's book bag into school, or any other type of bag. 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 and a break time snack.** Children entitled to FSM will continue to have these. **If your child is not entitled to FSM you will need to pay for your child's meal at the school office or provide them with a packed lunch.**

Pupil Groups:

The strict arrangements to ensure everyone stays safe are based on the numbers of children we know are going to attend. If you have not already advised us that you will be sending your child to school, unfortunately we will not be able to accommodate them at the moment. 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 will be having 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.

Distance Learning:

For those children remaining at home, every Monday, new **Home Learning work** is put onto our website 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 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 over the next two weeks, 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.

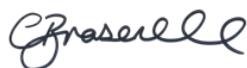
Contact for pupils learning off-site:

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.

All of our teachers and school staff have worked incredibly hard to put all of the measures needed in place to make our school safe, we really appreciate your patience and understanding whilst we made our plans. If you need any further information, please let me know, I look forward to seeing some of you at a social distance very soon.

Best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Brasenell
Primary Headteacher.