



Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, the government has announced that it expects schools to partially reopen on 1st June. The city council and HCAT have discussed this proposal at great length and concluded that this would be too soon to do it safely. The government plan to make a further announcement on Thursday 28th June.

However, in line with most Hull schools and all HCAT schools we are planning to open on **Monday 8th June – to Reception children only.**

If it is safe to do so we will then consider opening to Year 1 children the following week.

As Headteacher, I would love to see our children and families again – but not until it is safe for the children, the parents and the staff.

Since last writing to you we have been working tirelessly on behalf of all of us to carefully calculate what can be offered, in regard to school places. In order to safely open we needed to calculate what staff were available for the wider opening. Staffing is a huge consideration for us, some are still unable to attend work, those that can currently, may not in the future and therefore we are going to have to be flexible in our approach.

One of our first actions was to calculate how many children would want a place in the reception and Year 1 classes. Potentially Nursery children and Year 6 children will be accommodated too, at a later stage, if it is safe to do so. (The government's ambition for all year groups to return to school before the summer holidays will be carefully evaluated, as it has been for EYFS and Year One, and a plan put in place to do this if it can be done safely) Key worker and vulnerable children have been attending school since the lockdown. We would like to share with you some information, that as a school, we have agreed will be our minimum expectations on how we plan, at this stage to organise our schools from 8th June 2020 onwards.

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AS PARENTS YOU HAVE THE CHOICE TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT MADE ATTENDANCE COMPULSORY.

YOU WILL NOT BE FINED FOR NON -ATTENDANCE OF YOUR CHILD.

Groups

- It is important you know that it is highly likely your child WILL NOT have their class teacher. This may be owing to the fact that they cannot yet return to work or that they are already working with another group of children in the school.
- Groups or 'Bubbles' will have no more than 8 children and may not be from their own class.
- Once established these 'Bubbles' WILL NOT change. They will work with the same children and group of adults until we are given an updated directive. 'Bubbles' WILL NOT be allowed to mix with others in the school.
- As the children are unable to mix, start times, playtime, lunchtimes and pick-up times will have to be staggered.
- Should staffing levels become too low at any point some 'Bubbles' may be asked not to be in school and this could be at short notice.

Effective infection protection and control

There are many changes that need to be made to reduce the risk of contracting Covid 19. I must stress that even with these changes we cannot guarantee children attending school will not contract the virus. Primary schools cannot guarantee that they will be able to socially distance and will not routinely have or use PPE in classrooms (in line with government guidance).

- The guidance states that where possible children should stay 2m apart but "do not need to be 2m apart"
- Social distancing EVEN with 8 children will be extremely difficult, we will not be able to keep children in a 'Bubble' of 8, 2m apart at all times. We think it important that you have this information and that we are honest and transparent.
- We will ensure cleaning of hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- We will minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or have someone in their household who does, do not attend. Should anyone develop symptoms in your child's 'Bubble' whilst in school, we will be asking all within that 'Bubble' to remain at home until a test has been taken and a negative result is received. At this point the 'Bubble' will be allowed back into school. If anyone within the 'Bubble' tests positive, the whole "Bubble" will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.
- We will ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

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- We will clean frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, have been approved by the HSE.
- Children WILL NOT be able to share anything between 'Bubbles'.
- Children within a 'Bubble' will be given their own resources that only they will use. It will be cleaned at the end of the day as part of our daily cleaning regime.
- We WILL NOT send anything home from school; please DO NOT send you child with anything into school other than their packed lunch
- Access to the school grounds and buildings will be severely restricted to anyone other than staff or children. Where possible, we intend to operate a no-contact system.

Education

- The learning environment will have changed entirely. Children will have been used to working with partners on the carpet or in groups, moving around to help each other; this WILL NOT be possible.
- Children will sit one to a table with the next person two metres away at a location in the room. This setup will require us to utilise classrooms that the children would not normally work in.
- Although the teaching style will have to change, learning will still be taking place at some level. It is likely the children in school will be doing the same work to that which will be sent home for those continuing with Home Learning.
- Children will be learning how to be more independent and get on with the learning themselves. This is so that we can implement social distancing to the best of our abilities
- We will aim to spend more time outside with the children (weather permitting!)
- We will not expect children to wear their school uniform. Parents can choose to dress their child in what they think they will be comfortable in, and easy to wash each day. The government guidelines suggest clothes are washed each day to help reduce the risk of carrying the virus into school or back home.

Travel

- We would strongly recommend that children are accompanied to and from school to ensure they adhere to regulations. Only one adult will be allowed to accompany a child or sibling onto the school site. No parent's/carers will be allowed into the school building.
- If you need to use public transport, please refer to government guidance on using this.

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Lunches

It is the intention for all schools to provide a meal for any child attending, either as a paid meal or a free school meal. However, the following things need to be highlighted:

- The only meals provided will be packed lunches that the children will eat at their own desk in the class they are allocated to.
- Children that bring their own packed lunches should do so in a disposable container that can be thrown away afterwards.

As always, we will keep you informed with any further developments in line with government guidance and, once we know the numbers that we will be required to work with, give you more specific details about our arrangements. We will continue to provide activities for learning at home, as we are currently, keep in contact with you our families and support you all as best we can in these uncertain times.

Finally, please exercise extreme caution about what you say to your children, do not make any promises about the return to school and how this will look until we are clear as schools and have a finalised plan in place. You may still contact the schools in the usual way if you have any queries.

F2 parents that have told us that their child would like to return to school, will be contacted shortly to give details of their child's 'Bubble' and starting and finishing times.

In the meantime, I would again please ask that you are patient with us on this matter until we have all the guidance and plans in place to share with you. Everything we know at the moment is in this letter, if you are looking for further information, please bear with us.

Parents of Year 1, Nursery and Year 6 children will be contacted shortly to give further details of their potential return to school.

As you know the staff at Stockwell love teaching your children. We love being with your children and working with you to create the best memories we can of their childhood. We desperately want to get back to this wonderful world of Stockwell. We will when the science is right and we are convinced that it is safe to do so.

Keep smiling and keep safe.

Mr C J Coulter

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