



Life in all its fullness

head@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk
admin@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk
www.stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk

Salisbury
Wilts
SP1 3LL

☎ 01722 327 227
☎ 01722 327 227

Wednesday 13th May 2020

Dear All

Following the PM's announcement on Sunday, it is clear that changes are on the way. As a school, we will try to 'do our bit' to help move the country forward and out of the current situation, where schools are only open to a very limited number of children. As at the very beginning of this crisis, the Governors, Mrs Watkins and I, require your help and co-operation to inform our planning for the next few months.

Going forward, we will need your help and continued co-operation to implement our plan. All members of the school community will need to work together for the well-being of everyone involved.

Having spent a day or so reading the government guidance, thinking about the challenges ahead and discussing different options with Mrs Watkins; it is obvious that this is going to be a bittersweet experience.

Ideally, we would love to welcome everyone back and get on with business as usual. However, the need for increased hygiene measures and social distancing make this impossible.

Depending on the levels of 'take-up', we may need to reduce the usual amount of school-time offered to pupils (except those of priority groups). The following constraints and considerations could and probably will, lead to some or many (we just don't know at the moment) pupils attending on a reduced/ part-time basis:

- full-time places will continue to be required for priority groups in all cohorts
- pupils will need to be taught in groups of 50% or 33% of the usual class size (we do have classes of 33, in some cases)
- our lack of spare classroom space (we only have 5 classrooms)
- the need to spread out the desks, in the space we have available
- the need for staggered start and end times of school for the safety of parents and grandparents
- the number of teachers and teaching assistants we have
- the number of sinks and toilets at our disposal!

On the plus side, we do have lots of lovely outdoor space, plenty of hand-gel and the staff have become dab-hands with the anti-bac over the last few weeks!

Having said this; I feel duty bound to say, *'I am unable to give anyone a guarantee that our pupils will and do maintain social distancing for 100% of their time in school. We try our best!'*

Please be aware that only you can make the decision, as to whether your child returns to school before the summer holiday or not. You need to weigh up your family's individual circumstances. You will not be penalised for your child's non-attendance at school. If you require more information please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=department-for-education>



Extracts from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

As a result of the huge efforts everyone has made to adhere to strict social distancing measures, the transmission rate of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased. We therefore anticipate, with further progress, that we may be able, from the week commencing 1 June, to welcome back more children to early years, school and further education settings. We will only do this provided that the 5 key tests set by government justify the changes at the time, including that the rate of infection is decreasing and the enabling programmes set out in the roadmap are operating effectively. As a result we are asking schools, colleges and childcare providers to plan on this basis, ahead of confirmation that these tests are met.

From the week commencing 1 June at the earliest, we will be asking primary schools to welcome back children in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6, alongside priority groups.

Our ambition is to bring all primary year groups back to school before the summer holidays, for a month if feasible, though this will be kept under review. We will only welcome back additional year groups if the most up-to-date assessment of the risk posed by the virus indicates it is appropriate to have larger numbers of children within schools. The safety of children and staff is our utmost priority.

In all education, childcare and social care settings, preventing the spread of coronavirus involves dealing with direct transmission (for instance, when in close contact with those sneezing and coughing) and indirect transmission (via touching contaminated surfaces). A range of approaches and actions should be employed to do this. These can be seen as a hierarchy of controls that, when implemented, creates an inherently safer system, where the risk of transmission of infection is substantially reduced. These include:

- minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend childcare settings, schools or colleges
- cleaning 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
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach
- minimising contact and mixing by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times)

Going forward...

We have been asked to make arrangements for EYFS, Y1 and Y6 pupils to come back to school on **Monday 1st June or as soon as is practically possible**. There is also an ambition from central government that all children will/may be given the chance to return to school, at some point, before the summer holiday. With this in mind I require some information from you and also would value any thoughts or opinions you wish to put forward at this juncture.

Please complete the form for all children- whatever year group they are in.

(This will help with planning)

So...

Please complete the attached form and return it to

jwatkins@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk before Friday 15th May 2020 at 13:00 hrs.

If you are a Key Worker please ensure that your letter to prove you are a Key Worker has been received by the school. If not email it to admin@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk or get it to the school office, via the 'drop-box' (which hangs off the school fence near the pedestrian gate).



Once again, may I thank you all for supporting the school, so well during this time, for all your kind messages and for maintaining contact with us! I can't tell you how lovely it is to hear your news.

It has been a challenging and gruelling three months for many of the staff, so the school will be **closing for the half-term holiday (Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May)**. We managed to stay open during the Easter break and for the Bank Holidays, but it now seems sensible to take a break and recharge for the coming seven and a half weeks. If you are a key Worker and have 'child care issues', during this time please contact me and I will help find a solution to this problem.

Please complete the attached form. Mrs Watkins and I will be back in touch, as soon as possible, with the plans for June and beyond!

Love, joy and peace to all.

Mrs Kay Bridson.

Please complete the form below if your child is in EYFS, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 or Y6.

We require everyone to fill in this form, whether you wish your child to return to school before the summer holiday, or not.

Thank you for your help and co-operation in this matter.

Stratford-sub-Castle Church of England V.C. Primary School.

Reply slip for school places: June and July 2020

RESPONSES REQUIRED FROM EVERYONE PLEASE.

Return to jwatkins@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk

before Friday 15th May 2020 (13:00 hrs).

(If you have a child in EYFS, Y1 or Y6 we need to know if you want her/him to return to school in June. If you have a child in Y2, Y3, Y4 or Y5 please let us know if you want him/ her to return to school before the summer holiday if/ when the government re-open schools to these year groups).

DO YOU REQUIRE A PLACE FOR EYFS, Y1, Y6? *(01.06.20)* **YES/ NO** (please delete as appropriate)

WILL YOU REQUIRE A PLACE FOR Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5? *(subject to govt. plans)* **YES/ NO** (please delete as appropriate)

DO YOU REQUIRE A 'KEY WORKER' PLACE? **YES/NO** (please delete as appropriate)

PLEASE INDICATE REQUIRED HOURS:

PLEASE COMPLETE THE DETAILS FOR YOUR CHILD OR CHILDREN BELOW

PUPIL NAME:

YEAR GROUP:

PLACE REQUIRED: YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

PUPIL NAME:

YEAR GROUP:

PLACE REQUIRED: YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

PUPIL NAME:

YEAR GROUP:

PLACE REQUIRED: YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

Thoughts, questions, opinions and anything else, you feel we need to know...

