



BAYSIDE
ACADEMY

Thursday 21st June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone is in good health and in good spirits in what continues to be an incredibly challenging time for us all.

As I'm sure that you're aware, from Monday 1st June we plan to re-open the school to pupils in Reception, Year One and Year Six, in addition to pupils from other years whose parents are critical workers or who are supported by a social worker. This has still not yet been confirmed – the Trust are working together and if there is a change to governmental advice regards when primary schools can re-open, we will inform you through text message.

We are really excited to welcome back more children to the school, for a wide range of reasons, but are completely committed to ensuring that we do this in as safe a way as possible. Over the last two weeks we have put into place a wide range of measures to ensure that all members of our community will be protected in as much as is practicably possible. Hopefully what follows will explain to you what this will look like in practice, but if you do have questions or concerns, please do get in contact with us using the office e-mail.

What I can say is that things at Bayside will be different for the immediate future. For example, the children will be in smaller 'bubble' groups, they will be coming to school at staggered times and will have to follow social distancing measures, in line with governmental advice. I hope that you understand the necessity of these actions to us opening, but also that a degree of flexibility will be required from everyone.

Due to the staffing required to teach smaller groups of children and the need to limit the number of adults that each 'bubble' is exposed to, we will need to close earlier on a Friday to all pupils. Again, details of this are provided in the information that follows.

As next week is half term, no home learning will be sent this week. The same processes as are in place now will be reinstated from 1st June. We will also continue to support families in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who opt not to send their children into school with home learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to seeing many of you on the 1st June.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Vernon
Principal

Bayside Academy

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Part of Ambitions Academies Trust

What bubble will my child be in?

Your child will be allocated a colour if they are in Reception, Year 1, Year 6 or accessing a place through being a key worker or having access to a social worker: yellow, blue, orange or purple. These colours show which bubble they will be in. Pupils will stay in their bubbles all day and will not cross over to other bubbles. This is to ensure distancing and safety. Should there be a case of Covid-19 within a bubble, all members of this bubble (including adults) will need to self-isolate and participate in testing where appropriate.

We will text you the colour that your child is in in the next two days. If you do not receive a text, please contact us using the office e-mail address. Please note that even if we know that you have decided not to send your child back to school currently, you will be allocated a colour group so that should you wish to take up a place, you can.

Will my child be with their friends?

We have taken a long time to select groupings based on a wide range of factors, including friendships. We can't promise that your child will be with all of their friends but have endeavoured to place children with at least one person that they are close to. Due to the complexities of running a socially-distancing school, we cannot currently alter the groupings.

If I'm feeling unwell can my child still come in?

If any member of the household is unwell, no one from this household should come to school and must follow government advice on self-isolating.

What time should they come to school?

To minimise contact outside school as well as inside school, we will have 4 separate start and end times for the school day, based on the colour group that your child is in:

	Arrive	Depart Monday – Thursday	Depart Friday
Yellow	8:30	2:45	12:15
Blue	8:45	3:00	12:30
Orange	9:00	3:15	12:45
Purple	9:15	3:30	1:00

Can my child walk to school on their own?

Yes, pupils can walk to school on their own, but must observe social distancing. If not, we will ask you to accompany them or have to deny entry as we need to ensure the maximum safety procedures.

How do I drop off?

There will be a one way system for dropping off pupils. The gates will open and then shut for each drop off time and parents / carers are asked to line up at 2 metre intervals prior to entering the school site – lines will be marked on the path. Please remember that there should only be one adult per child.

Please wait by the entry point for your group, using the lines to ensure distancing is observed. All adults should leave the site through the gate onto Turlin Road. No parents / carers are currently allowed in the school buildings.

Drop off points:

	Reception	Year 1	Years 2/3	Years 4/5	Year 6
Yellow	Walk through playground to Reception Classrooms. Queue and children enter through gate.		Walk through playground to Year 2 gate. Queue and enter.	Say goodbye at playground entrance. Pupils enter down Year 5 path to Woodlands.	Say goodbye at playground entrance. Pupils enter through front doors.
Blue		Walk through playground to Year 2 gate. Queue and enter.			
Orange		Walk through playground to Year 1 Classrooms. Queue and children enter through gate.			
Purple					

What if I've got children in different bubbles?

Where possible, we have added pupils to the same colour groups to ease congestion when picking up / dropping off. If you have children in different colour groups, they should be in groups that are consecutive. Therefore, please follow the one way system to drop your first child and then walk back around to queue for the second colour group entry in the same way.

What if I'm late?

Anyone who is late to school will need to queue to enter with the next group, observing social distancing at all times.

Who will teach my child?

Class teachers will all be teaching within their year groups, but as groups are small and adults need to stay with their bubbles to maintain distancing, your child may not be with their class teacher. All children will be taught by a member of school staff that is familiar to them and who is adequately prepared.

What will the classroom look like?

In following government advise, particularly about distancing, classrooms will look different to the children. Although this means they are slightly less inviting, it does not mean that they will be any less warm and welcoming.



What should we bring?

Pupils should wear their usual school uniform, although ties are not required. A full, named water bottle should also be brought.

What will the children be doing?

We understand the need to reintegrate children back into school sensitively and have made alterations to the curriculum accordingly.

What about break time?

To maintain distancing, all pupils will have break times in their bubbles in different outside areas. Games and activities will be provided that will allow social distancing to be followed.

How will the school keep them safe?

Social distancing plays a huge part in our safety plans. This will be enforced throughout the school, including when children walk around the building. Lunches will mostly be eaten in classrooms, with the exception of Reception pupils, and break and lunch times staggered to avoid too many pupils moving around the school at once.

We also will ensure children and staff wash their hands regularly and in the correct manner. Additionally, pupils showing symptoms of Covid-19 will immediately be isolated and parents / carers phoned to pick up children from the whole of this bubble as a precaution.

What about lunch?

Children in Reception or Year One will be provided with a hot meal – please order in the usual manner if you have not done so already. Children in other year groups will need to bring a packed lunch. Families with children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 who are entitled to Free School Meals will continue to receive supermarket vouchers. Children in Reception and Year One will no longer receive vouchers.

What if I don't want to bring them in yet but I may in a week?

We support every parent / carer's decision about when is the right time for their child to return to school. We have kept places open for every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 for when you decide it is the right time for you.

What if I decide not to send my child in?

Again, we respect your decision as a family. Should you not wish your child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 to attend, we will continue to support with home learning packs. Please be aware that learning packs may look slightly different and be available at slightly different times due to the demands on teachers on site.

What if I have any questions?

Please get in touch with us. The school email will be open throughout half term for any questions or queries. Additionally, from the 1st June the school telephone will be live during school hours for any queries that you have. We ask that adults dropping off do not ask questions in person and use these communication routes.