



**COALWAY COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL**

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21<sup>st</sup> June 2020

## **Re: Wider School Re-opening Phase 2**

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governing Board, we are writing to inform you of our decisions regarding Phase 2 of wider re-opening of the school.

Decisions for this next phase have been established through evaluation of the success of all the measures currently in place. Risk assessments have been monitored daily to ensure that the most effective procedures are in place to minimise risks to the children, staff and families. The Governing Board continue to take account of all available Government, Department for Education (DfE), Local Authority (GCC) and Public Health information, whilst discharging their authority to make decisions which they feel are in the best interests of all parties. Maintaining the safety of all of our children, staff and families continues to be our prime focus.

### **The arrangements for Phase 2 wider re-opening are as follows:**

- From 29<sup>th</sup> June, pupils will be allocated into new 'Bubbles'. Pupils and staff will remain consistent within these groups for the next 3 week period until the end of term, 17<sup>th</sup> July. Bubbles will remain together all day every day.
- An additional Bubble will be added to increase our capacity; a total of 7 Bubbles will be established.
- There will be a maximum of 8 pupils and 2 adults within each Bubble, with additional adults allocated to support lunch and break times.
- The Governing Board have decided to maintain all measures to ensure social distancing of 2m. This essential safety distance will remain until the end of term even if the Government advice changes in the meantime.
- Full time attendance will be required for the 3 week period, 29<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July.
- School hours will be 9.00a.m.-3.00p.m. every day except for Friday afternoon when school will close at 12.00 noon to facilitate weekly deep cleaning and teachers' preparation time.

### **Eligibility for a school place**

In accordance with Government guidance for an Infant School, provision will continue to be offered in the following priority order:

1. Children of Critical Workers, Vulnerable children and Children with EHCPs.
2. Reception pupils
3. Year 1 pupils

However, in our school, the demand for places for children of Critical Workers has risen significantly over the last 2 weeks, with further Critical Worker parents requesting places from 29<sup>th</sup> June onwards.

**As a result, the demand from this priority group now meets our capacity. Therefore, we are only able to offer places to Children of Critical Workers, Vulnerable children and Children with EHCPs within Phase 2 opening.**

The definition of Critical Workers and Vulnerable children is available on the GOV.UK website.

Critical Workers have been required to provide evidence from their employer of their Key Worker role. This was verified by the Headteacher by the deadline of Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June for parents wishing to take up a school place from 29<sup>th</sup> June.

### Children not included in Phase 2 Opening

We appreciate that the content of this letter means that there are many children who will not return to school this academic year.

It is our intention to contact parents before the end of term to provide further information regarding the following:

- Ongoing home learning support
- Opportunity for Year 2 leavers to say goodbye
- New class arrangements for September
- COVID-19 arrangements for September, if known
- Discussion of Annual School Report

### In Conclusion

Detailed arrangements for children with an allocated place will be confirmed directly with parents this week, i.e. Bubble allocation, drop off/collection times, etc.

Parents will find additional information in the Appendix to this letter and the 24<sup>th</sup> May letter.

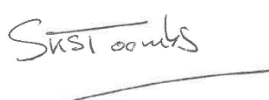
Thank you for your continuing support and please don't hesitate to contact the school should you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



**Mrs. F. Hamilton**

Headteacher



**Mr. K. Toombs**

Chair of Governors

## **Appendix for Phase 2 Opening:**

During Phase 2 the following conditions will continue to apply as per Phase 1.

Children will **not** be eligible for a school place if any of the following reasons apply:

- Children present with any Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or are self-isolating within a household. In these cases, children, parents and family members should stay at home to avoid spreading infection to others. They should neither attend school nor come on to the school site.
- Children fall within the extremely clinically vulnerable group or are living in a household where family members fall into this group, i.e. shielding households. Our decision is based on consistent Government and Public Health advice and guidance regarding the increased vulnerability of these people and the increased risk of serious consequence or lifelong effects should they contract the virus.
- Children who will be attending another setting whilst also attending school, for example if they attend school 9.00a.m.-3.00p.m. and then attend an after school club/ childminder/ nursery before or afterwards. Doing so increases possible contamination and transmission and would bring increased risk into our Bubbles for the rest of the children and their families. Parents will need to give assurances that their child will not be attending any other setting if they are part of a Bubble.
- Children who cannot manage their self-care needs independently (toileting for example).

Furthermore, the Governors reserve the right to exclude eligible pupils from attending if they do not comply with behavioural expectations and consequently place staff or other pupils at risk, be this in terms of following hygiene requirements sufficiently or more general health and safety risks.

We also reserve the right to withdraw a school place should it become evident that parents have broken appropriate social distancing measures either on site or outside of school. This would bring increased risk to children, staff and their families, which would compromise our safety measures.

Any information which alters or compromises our current risk assessment outcomes may result in alterations to our current plan. The safety of our children, staff and families is our absolute priority.