

"We are God's family; the Light of the World. We work, We play, We pray together."

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

A National Support School

Todholes Road, Cleator Moor, Cumbria, CA25 5DG

Phone 01946 810 513 Fax 01946 810 515

www.st-patricks-cleatormoor.cumbria.sch.uk

admin@st-patricks-cleatormoor.cumbria.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Gayle Wilkinson

Planned phased reopening of St. Patrick's Primary School from 1st June

Dear Parents/carers,

From the 1st June, it is the government's intention to open primary schools in reduced numbers for: Key worker children, Vulnerable children, Reception children, Year 1 children and Year 6 children.

It is important to state that there is no expectation from the government or local authority to return all the year groups mentioned on June 1st, or all at once. Rather, 1st June is a starting point.

The safety of children, staff and families at St. Patrick's is paramount; we have been carefully considering our approach to re-opening and risk assessing our capacity to implement the protective measures outlined by the government.

As hub schools will no longer be open from the 1st of June, we feel priority must be given to key worker children and vulnerable children initially.

Therefore, we will open school on the 1st June for key worker children and vulnerable children only. This is the safest first step we can make for a school of our size and catchment. The parent survey results have also helped to inform our decision. Thank you all for your submissions – there was an excellent response.

Please note - this is not childcare and if you decide to send your child back on the 1st June, there is an expectation that they will attend **full-time**.

Only after careful review, and further risk assessment, will we consider extending our offer to other year groups. After key worker and vulnerable children, year groups will be prioritised in the following order: Reception, Year 1, then Year 6. We have planned a model which does have the capacity to increase in number; however, until safe working practice reviews are carried out, **we cannot guarantee that all year groups will be phased back into school by the end of the summer term.** We do understand that this may be worrying for Year 6 pupils who wanted to see each other before leaving for different secondary schools but in reality, if they were to return, they would be arranged in different classes. We will endeavour to plan some experiences for Year 6 to help with their final weeks as primary school pupils. Secondary schools are working hard to organise a model of transition for them and we will be in touch about this once we have more information.

We will communicate with you, as parents and carers, after each review. We will inform you if it has been deemed safe to introduce more pupils from the specific year groups to school and give you time to prepare your children for a return to school, if that is your intention.

I have attached **additional information** below for you about how we will implement protective measures to keep children, staff and families safe, and reduce risk. It is important information about the day-to-day organisation of



the school, during this phase. This has all been very carefully planned and considered. We know this is important for you to make an informed decision

Home learning for those children who have not been identified by the government to return to school, will be able to continue accessing home learning set by their teachers on our school website. Children attending school, will not be following the full curriculum as they were before but will continue to access the home learning activities in school, to ensure consistency.

The decision whether to send your child back to school as part of the phased return is an extremely difficult one. There is **no expectation** for you to send your child back should you wish not to. During this period **attendance at school** will not be monitored in the usual way. Parents **will not** face consequences for non-attendance and schools **will not be held to account** for attendance levels. Children with conditions which render them clinically extremely vulnerable **should not** attend school. Children who live with someone with conditions which render them clinically extremely vulnerable **should not** attend school.

Between now and Wednesday 27th May, senior leaders will contact all parents of children considered **vulnerable** to ask if they intend to send their child on the 1st June. Mrs Reid, our SENco (Special Educational Need Co-ordinator), may need to work alongside parents of those who have EHCP's (Educational Health Care Plans) to plan for a safe return.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

If you are a **key worker**, and have no other childcare options, and intend to send your child to school (from any year group) on the 1st June, please fill in the online form by Wednesday 27th May, at the latest. Click on the link below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hXm_KC5m7E67IV5zDfOb4gN5usd9pDtHmXAMfujCo1JU NUdDT1NBUkk2OUgzTIFXWVNZTUVETkNFMS4u

If you have been identified as a key worker, please indicate your role and your employers' contact details should they be required to provide confirmation that your attendance at work is essential to the Government's COVID-19 Response.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>

This is a challenging and upsetting time for us all. We would love to be welcoming all our children back with us, under much better and brighter circumstances. It does seem unfair to be open for some children and not others, but unfortunately this is not possible so we will do what we can for now. We will try our absolute best to make the experience a positive one for those children who do return to school from the 1st June, whilst continuing to support and motivate children staying at home. Please do continue to share their home experiences with us – we love seeing what they are achieving. Thank you very much for your ongoing support – it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

G Wilkinson

Michelle Rooney

Headteacher

Chair of Governors



Additional Information – Phase 1

Re – Opening for Vulnerable and Key Worker children

How will the staff and children be organised?

Children and staff will be organised into 'bubbles'. Each bubble will not mix with another. The bubbles will be organised in the following age phases:

- Reception
- Key Stage One
- Lower Key Stage One (Year 3 and 4)
- Upper Key Stage Two (Year 5 and 6)

Bubbles will be situated in a classroom of no more than 10 children and there will be up to 3 staff in each bubble at any given time.

How will the risk of mixing with other bubbles be managed?

Each bubble will be situated in a classroom that has an external door which leads out to an outdoor area. The classrooms are spaced out throughout the school. Children will be dropped off and picked up at the external door at the beginning and at the end of the day. The classrooms are*:

Reception – Use Reception external door

Key stage one – Class 5 (Miss Cooper's classroom)

Lower key stage one – Class 8 (Mrs Reid's classroom)

Upper key stage two – Class 10 (Mrs Gillson's classroom)

**PLEASE NOTE THIS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND IF THIS IS THE CASE WE WILL INFORM YOU*

Children will have access to their outdoor space throughout the day, and the door and windows will provide ventilation. Children will enter school directly into their classrooms and leave from there. They will keep their bags and coats in the class and will not congregate in a cloakroom area. Staff from the bubbles will be able to access the next-door classroom as their own staffroom and will not congregate with other staff members in one staff area. Each bubble will have their own toilets to access. Children will eat their lunches in their classrooms/outdoor area if the weather is fine and warm. Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and the use of the hall and big yard will be timetabled. Children will have their own table and tray on the table; this will have their own resources in, including exercise books, pencil case and an iPad.

How will drop offs and pick-ups work?

Both school gates will open at 8.45. Reception children and Key stage one children will come in to school via the church path entrance. Key stage two children will enter via the main entrance gate. If you have children in both keys stage one and two coming to school, please enter via the main gate. Socially distant markings will be outside of the class entrances to aid parents and children while they wait. Only one parent/carer can fetch their child/ren to school. We understand that some of you may have other children that will need to accompany you. Pick up will be 3.10 p.m. and we will send the children out to you when we see you. This applies to ALL children, even Keys Stage Two. We will not be sending any work home with the children from school.

What will happen at lunch times?

Children will have their lunches in their classroom. Reception children will have theirs in the hall. Staff will remain with the children at lunchtimes – midday supervisors will not be on site. Staff will rota for their own



dinners and breaks. If your child normally has a packed lunch, they can continue to bring one but please could you send it in a carrier or large sandwich bag so that they can just be disposed of. For school dinners, our catering service are developing the best options for our children and when we have more information we will share it with you. Our kitchen staff will deliver lunches, to those that order one, to a table outside the classroom and staff will collect them and distribute to the children. Universal free school meals for key stage one and free school meals will continue to be provided for those that are eligible. Classrooms will be cleaned after lunch while the children are playing outside.

Please note that the FSM parcel collection will continue for those families whose children are not attending school.

Will there be extra cleaning?

Yes, there will be extra cleaning. Classrooms, toilets, sinks and high contact areas will be cleaned after lunch and there will be thorough cleaning at the end of the day. Extra cleaners have been employed and risk assessments shared. There will also be antibacterial wipes available in all areas for cleaning as and when required. There is also an increase in bins for waste.

Handwashing

Children and staff will wash their hands on entering the school building in the mornings. Hands will be washed for 20 seconds with soap and water and patted dry with paper towels. To avoid soreness, we would encourage you to send a hand cream for your child which they can keep in their own individual trays. There will be handwashing before and after eating, and when using the toilet. Staff will support with this and there will be signs up to help and remind the children what to do.

What will happen if a child becomes unwell?

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature or a loss of, or change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), in the school or setting, they will be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance.

If a child who is unwell is awaiting collection, they will be moved to our nurture room (room with external door at the front of the school building), and a window will be opened for ventilation. Staff needing to enter the room with a child will have access to and will wear PPE.

The child will be picked up by a parent/carer from the external door.

What will happen if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19?

When a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and pupils who are attending the school or setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.

Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their school or setting will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise the setting on the most appropriate action to take.



What will my child be learning?

Your child will access the 'home learning' activities that their teacher has set for their class. This means they will be doing the same work that their classmates at home will be doing. Teachers will support with this and the children can use their iPads and resources, which we will provide. Other activities will be planned and there will be a structured timetable to follow and keep the children busy. There will also be opportunities for outdoor exercise and social emotional and mental health activities will be prioritised, given the current circumstances.

A FULL RISK ASSESSEMENT IS AVAILABLE, AT REQUEST.

