



21st May 2020

Dear parents and carers at Brindishe Green,

Thank you to everyone who took part in the survey we sent out last week. Your thoughts and comments are very important to us and it was fantastic to see a great number of you had taken the time to reply. It was lovely to read how many of you feel supported by the school and reassuring that we share many of your concerns. Although your feedback was shared with Governors on Wednesday and has formed part of our decisions moving forward, a more in-depth analysis will be sent to you after the half term holidays.

Since the Government announcement about the phased return of year groups from June 1st, we have been working to create a clear, staggered approach that will allow us to welcome back children and is fully supported by our Governing Body. We appreciate that many of you may wish to keep your child at home until September and we respect your decision to do so, but please read this letter which explains our three-staged approach and the ways in which we aim to keep everyone as safe as possible.

INSET day, Monday 1st June:

School will be closed for cleaning and will also allow us to prepare the provision or make any necessary changes at each school.

Phase 1, Tuesday 2nd June

Brindishe Green, Brindishe Manor and Brindishe Lee will be open and welcoming back all critical worker and vulnerable children who, so far, have been attending our provision at Brindishe Green since school closure.

Phase 2

Welcoming of any new families of critical workers and vulnerable children. We are anticipating an increase in the number of children who attend the provision. If you feel you may need this, please email the school office.

Phase 3

Phased return of Year 6, confirmation of dates will follow once we have settled in our critical worker and vulnerable child 'bubbles'. We will contact Year 6 parents/carers with specific arrangements for their child's return to school by the end of the week. The earliest this will happen will be 8th June.

Once we have these groups of children back into school, and it is safe to do so, we will be in contact with Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents regarding their phased return. The earliest this will happen will be 15th June.

Social Bubbles

As a school, we know that maintaining social distancing with children can be difficult. We have been advised that, during the settling of the provision back in each school and our

phased return, we set up a model that minimises contact and mixing between different groups. In order for this to happen we will be creating 'bubbles'. Each 'bubble' will have its own name and will still have social distancing measures within it, for example, your child sitting at their own desk:

- Each 'bubble' will have no more than 15 children in it
- Each bubble will have 2 members of staff and children will spend most of their time split into smaller groups
- Each 'bubble' will have its own timetable including toilet breaks, breaktimes and lunchtimes so that there will be minimal contact with other 'bubbles'. This will include staggered start and end times to their day.
- If any person in the bubble shows Coronavirus symptoms, they will be sent home and will need to be tested. If the test comes back positive, then the whole bubble will be tested.

Handwashing

In line with key recommendations, handwashing will continue to be part of the school day. Children will be reminded of the importance of good handwashing and opportunities will be provided throughout the day.

Home Learning

There will be no home learning posted onto Itslearning during half term week (week beginning 25th May) or on Monday 1st June as this is an INSET day. Home learning will begin again for all year groups on Tuesday 2nd June. We are currently exploring further options to provide some more video options from the staff and an opportunity for you to upload your child's learning for the teacher to respond to.

School Contact

We are putting in all the necessary arrangements we can do in order to keep your child safe at school and therefore we ask for you to continue to do the same. We will be asking you to limit the time you have in school, by just dropping your child off and walking off the premises. There will be no contact with teachers and/or the admin team, this will all need to be carried out through a phone call or email. We also be asking you to keep your distance between families as you come into school.

We understand that this is a very different approach to schooling from the one you are all used to, but we are doing all we can to ensure we can bring children back to school keeping our staff, our children and the community as safe as possible. We all know it will not be easy, but I can assure you we will continue to welcome everyone with familiar faces and smiles as wide as we can make them.

With best wishes,

Rachel Waite
Executive Head
Brindishe Schools

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher
Brindishe Green