14 May 2020

Dear parents and carers

As you will probably know, the Government announced that a phased reopening of schools could happen from June 1st at the earliest. The Government have stated that children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 are to return first. Here at Worth Valley Primary, this also includes our pre-school children. In addition, we will continue to provide childcare to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children that we have been looking after since 23rd March.

Plans will take shape over the coming weeks but in principle:

* There will be no more than 15 pupils based in each classroom
* Your child may not necessarily be grouped with their usual class staff
* The groups of 15 and their adult(s) will operate as a ‘bubble’ and will generally stay in their own indoor and outdoor space. They will not interact with other groups of children or adults in other ‘bubbles’
* If someone becomes unwell in a group, that group would stay off school for self-isolation, while everyone else could continue to attend school
* *With the exception of pre-school children only,* parents and carers will not be allowed on site at all. Children will have staggered start/end times and different entrances and exits in order to make it easier to social distance. Communication will be via phone or email only
* *With the exception of the children of critical workers already in school*, there will be no breakfast club or after school club during Summer term due to being unable to implement the Government social distancing measures in this provision
* Lunches will likely take the form of packed lunches provided to each group

There are mixed views in our community, and across the country, about the reopening of schools before September. For us to plan for the safety of the returning children and staff, I need to be clear on the numbers of children that we will have so as to write the most effective plan. The key part to keeping staff and children safe will be in how we form our groups.

**Therefore, if you already know that you are going to keep your child(ren) at home and not send them into school for Summer term, please could you inform us by email no later than 12.00 noon on Monday 18 May**

This way I will have a greater understanding of the likely numbers for June 1 onwards and can make a more effective plan. We will do everything in our power to implement Government guidance and keep our staff and children safe.

The email addresses are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pre-school, Nursery and Reception | c.oram@worthvalleyprimary.co.uk |
| Year 1 | s.hiley@worthvalleyprimary.co.uk  |
| Year 6 | l.boothroyd@worthvalleyprimary.co.uk  |
| Questions or enquiries | c.lodge@worthvalleyprimary.co.uk  |

*The Local Authority have been clear in that no parents will be fined (or subject to prosecution consequences) for choosing not to send their children back to school this academic year.*

As soon as we have a plan, which we believe to be the safest it can be, I will of course communicate this out to the families of these year groups concerned.

**In order for school to be thoroughly deep cleaned and to enable staff to make adaptations within school we will close school to ALL PUPILS on Friday 22 May, reopening on Monday 1 June. If of course any key worker children require urgent child care, we will work with the local authority, who will support any family with finding a child care place within the Bradford district.**

Stay safe and we look forward to welcoming many of our children back to school on 1 June.

Yours sincerely



Miss Lodge

Headteacher