

4th June 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Wider reopening of Crown Lane Primary School to more pupils on Monday 8th June

I hope since my last letter that you and your loved ones have remained safe and well.

Over the May half-term school remained open to the children of Keyworkers and to others who we have been caring for during lockdown. Many of our incredible staff who were not isolating at home chose to come to school in half-term to help to plan for our wider reopening which as you know begins on Monday 8th June. We also said goodbye to Mr Johansen who handed over to Ms Dawn Walsh our new School Business Manager. We wish Mr Johansen all the very best as he embarks on a new adventure with his wife in Bristol. Ms Walsh has worked at a number of Lambeth schools and was an excellent appointment at time where schools like our own continue to have to find creative ways to generate much needed income.

Despite the incredible work that you have all undertaken by teaching your children during lockdown, many of you with children in Years 6 and 1 may now be making that very difficult decision as to whether to send them back to school or not from next week onward. This decision is only yours to make. What I can say is that having worked with a cross section of staff to develop very detailed Risk Assessments, I am confident that the school is very well prepared for your child's return. As I said previously, I will respect whatever decision that you make around your child's return since I know that we can never *absolutely* remove the risk of a child contracting Covid-19 while at school.

Many of you may be hearing from a variety of news media information about schools reopening across the country that is often confusing, contradictory or that simply keeps changing. This is unhelpful to those of you who are still deciding on what to do next. Every school is unique and so at Crown Lane in preparation for reopening our staff focused on making the building as safe as it can be, while keeping in mind the need to socially distance ourselves by working with smaller groups of children. On top of this a huge amount of effort went into planning lessons that are fun and engaging, so that when your child returns we can reignite that flame that we refer to as a love of learning.

Like you we are worried that your children have missed out on teacher led learning for many weeks now. As a Local Authority school we want to ensure the very best educational outcomes for your children, however for this to happen we need them to be at school wherever this is possible. While we are now prepared for your children to begin to return, you might still remain undecided and so I will now explain in more detail some of the things that we have been doing behind the scenes if this helps you to make a more informed decision:

- ✓ On May 28th the government decided that the criteria had been met allowing schools to begin to reopen
- ✓ We looked at how other schools in Europe reopened and as much as possible learned from them their experiences

- ✓ I have had virtual meetings with other Lambeth Headteachers, Cathy Twist. Director of Education and Learning and with others key professionals who advise on areas such as Health and Safety
- ✓ This week we have had staff INSET training where we shared the school Risk Assessment with them and asked for feedback. Based on what they have said we have made changes so that everyone has had a part to play in making the school safe as it can be
- ✓ Limiting class sizes – staff and children have been assigned to ‘pods’ within each year group ranging in sizes of between 8 and 10 children. These pods will not interact with each other to support social distancing. Our classrooms are now arranged with 2m distancing between each table
- ✓ Children in each year group that has been invited to return have been divided into Groups A and B.
- ✓ The groups will attend school on alternate weeks and on the weeks when they are at home they will be provided with Home Learning
- ✓ The week on/week off arrangement ensures that while we are living with the threat of Covid-19 that we are minimising the numbers of children in school to keep them safe through social distancing
- ✓ Staggered the arrival, break times, and pick-up times of children to limit the amount of contact that they could have with other families to help with social distancing
- ✓ Increased cleaning around the school, especially in ‘high use’ areas
- ✓ We have employed an additional ‘Day Cleaner’ to support the school remaining clean during the day
- ✓ Keeping children and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home
- ✓ Ensuring that children eat in classrooms with their pod – for those who do not bring a packed lunch our chefs will prepare hot meals on covered trays and these will be collected by staff from that particular pod and delivered to the children
- ✓ Each pod will have its own supervised and cordoned off play area at lunchtime
- ✓ Increased handwashing throughout the day and hand sanitizing on arrival and departure from the school gates
- ✓ Children should not bring back packs into school - all equipment will be provide
- ✓ Unnecessary toys from home are not allowed at school unless they have a particular function that is recognised by the school such as ‘stress ball’
- ✓ Packed Lunch boxes are allowed and will be kept at pupils desks
- ✓ Use of social distancing during trips to the toilet so that only every alternate cubicle is used with staff supervision where necessary
- ✓ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be worn by staff who administer First Aid and those who help younger children to use the toilet
- ✓ Assemblies will take place within each pod
- ✓ Water fountains will be turned off and children will be asked to bring their own labelled bottle for water that can be safely refilled in school and keep at their desk
- ✓ Parents and carers will not be allowed onto school site to minimise the potential for social contacts
- ✓ We are asking parents and carers to only collect their own children and not children from other families to keep within the distancing guidance
- ✓ We are asking parents and carers to only have one person drop off and collect, ideally the same person wherever possible
- ✓ 2m markings will be in place inside and outside the school to support the safe arrival and departure of children
- ✓ Visitors will not be allowed into the school and the office will manage this process
- ✓ Meetings with parents/carers will be via telephone only

- ✓ Children from the Key Worker pod should go directly to the school office on arrival in the mornings and should be collected from the office.
- ✓ Parents and carers with children in *both* Year 1 and Year 6 are asked to email or to call the school so that we can arrange a specific collection time for them so as to avoid unnecessary waiting
- ✓ Parents are asked to give the school one working weeks' notice if they decide to send their child back to school on a date later than advised below – this helps staff to plan for their child's individual needs

Outlined below are the start and finish times of the Year 6 and Year 1 children. You will have received a text from school to explain which 'Bubble' your child is in.

Year 6 children will attend school on alternate weeks

Start date	Weeks in school	Start time	Finish time
Year 6 Group A 08/06/20 Bubble 1	08/06/20 22/06/20 06/07/20	8.30am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	2.30pm Collect from the main front gate
Year 6 Group A 08/06/20 Bubble 2	08/06/20 22/06/20 06/07/20	8.45am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	2.45pm Collect from main front gate
Year 6 Group B 15/06/20 Bubble 1	15/06/20 29/06/20 13/07/20 Last day of term 17/07/20	8.30am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	2.30pm Collect from main gate
Year 6 Group B 15/06/20 Bubble 2	15/06/20 29/06/20 13/07/20 Last day of term 17/07/20	8.45am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	2.45pm Collect from main front gate

Year 1 children will attend school on alternate weeks

Start date	Weeks in school	Start time	Finish time
Year 1 Group A 08/06/20	08/06/20 22/06/20 06/07/20	9.00am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	3.00pm Collect from main front gate

Bubble 1			
Year 1 Group B 15/06/20 Bubble 1	15/06/20 29/06/20 13/07/20 Last day of term 17/07/20	9.00am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	3.00pm Collect from main front gate
Year 1 Group B 15/06/20 Bubble 2	15/06/20 29/06/20 13/07/20 Last day of term 17/07/20	9.15am Line up (2m apart following markings) at the main front gate	3.15pm Collect from main front gate

Remote Learning for Years 1 and 6

If your child is returning to school, during the week's that they are working from home there will be work from Oak Academy to complete daily. Children will find this under the 'Remote Learning Tab' on our school website.

If your child is not coming into school at all, they will have one weeks' worth of lessons uploaded by teachers (as it is now) and the following weeks work will be work from Oak Academy. Children will find this under the 'Remote Learning Tab' on the school's website.

I am looking forward to hopefully seeing you all in the near future. We are only in a position to reopen our school because of all of the hard work that our community, particularly our Keyworkers, have done over the last few months to make it safe to do so.

Please remember when you meet with us again that our staff are Keyworkers too, that they have worked incredibly hard for your families and that deserve to be treated with dignity and with respect.

I will be in touch again soon, please take care and stay safe and well.

Gavin Farrell
Headteacher