



Dear Parents/ Carers

Over the last few weeks, we have been looking at how we will accommodate the Government's expectation to re-open our school on Monday 1st June 2020 for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as continue to offer provision for children of key workers and those who are identified as vulnerable. As I am sure you are aware, we have to implement a whole series of measures in order to minimise the risk for staff and the returning children from Monday 1st June, modifying our practices and implementing new procedures. I am now in a position to explain to you how we intend to do this should the government confirm their decision (hopefully on 28th May) to re-open schools on 1st June.

I would however, like to begin by thanking all of the staff for their hard-work and commitment to our school. They have continued to provide support to their classes, our children and their families over the last 9 weeks, working through their holidays and over weekends to ensure that we can make the best of what has been a very challenging situation. I would also like to thank all our Parents/Carers who have all been so supportive during this time. They have been patient, respectful and understanding of all the difficult decisions that the school has had to make- I could not be prouder of how the Isaac Newton School community has pulled together during this time.

Children Returning to School

(EYFS, Year 1 and 6, Key Worker Children and Identified Children)

We would expect the children from these groups to be in school from Monday 1st June 2020 in-line with Government expectations. It is expected that children attend school every day (Monday- Friday), unless you are a key worker with a child in Years 2- 5, in which case you would only send your child to school when you require emergency childcare whilst you are at work. We would kindly ask that you continue to fill out our online booking form if this is the case. For some children (such as those who are classed as extremely clinically vulnerable) it is still not safe for them to return to school. If this applies to you or we have serious concerns about your child returning to school then we will have already contacted you to discuss this. If we have been in touch then we would not expect your child to be in school (even if they are in the above year groups) and we will have discussed alternative arrangements with you. If you live in a household where someone is extremely clinically vulnerable then your child should also not attend school- **we may not be aware of this being the case within your household so it is important that you tell us about this if you think this may mean that your child cannot attend school.**

Parents **WILL NOT** be subject to fines for non-attendance, however we have been directed by the Government to contact parents in these year groups whose children are not attending school to clarify why this is the case and if there is anything that we can do to support you and your child with their return to school.

Children will be expected to wear school uniform when they attend school and we require that this is clean/ washed each day to help us manage the spread of Covid-19. We understand that this puts additional pressures on parents and also that some children may have grown out of existing uniform since we closed. We therefore ask that when you do not have a clean/washed item of school uniform, your child wears something as close to this as possible e.g where a child does not have a white polo shirt they may instead wear a white (unbranded) t-shirt instead for that day. Your child will also be required to come to school and remain in their PE kit on PE days (these will be communicated by the class teacher) with the above rule also applying to this.

We will continue to only allow essential visitors into our school and therefore ask parents not to visit the school during the day unless they have a pre-arranged appointment. Should you wish to get in contact with a member of staff from the school or book an appointment, we would ask that you do so by ringing or emailing the school office. They will then put you in touch with that member of staff and they will get back to you at the nearest available opportunity. We will try to deal with all issues via email and telephone and avoid meetings inside of the school

building. **Please can we ask that you do not try to speak at length to your child's class teacher during drop off or pick up times due to social distancing guidelines in place- if you would like to speak to them about an issue then please do so as outlined above.** We need to limit the amount of people on the school site and inside the school building as much as we possibly can. If you do need to visit the school office then we would ask that you queue using the social distancing 'markers' on the floor. **We will only allow one person into the foyer at any one time** and therefore ask that, when at the front of the queue, you wait until the other person has left the foyer before entering. Please DO NOT open the glass screen at the front office.

We would also like to remind parents/carers that we **will not be running a breakfast club or any extra-curricular activities** until further notice due to social distancing and also the need to minimise the contact between different groups of children (pods) across the school.

The School Day

When we re-open, the children may not be returning to their classrooms or to their class teacher. As you probably realise, all our classes are over the 15 children limit that the government has imposed. Therefore, classes are being reorganised to accommodate this guidance- we are creating what we are calling 'class pods', for those children that return. We have organised our 'class pods' by splitting each previous class in half alphabetically. We hope that this will make it easier for parents/ carers to work out which 'pods' their children are in. A list of all of our 'class pods' can be found below:

Previous Class	Pupils	New Class (Pod)	New Teaching Staff	Room	Drop off and pick up door
Class 1 (Mrs Fulcher/ Mrs Collishaw)	Child Surname A- J	1F	Mrs Fulcher <i>Mrs Dabrowska</i> <i>Mrs Wilson</i> <i>Mrs Wilson</i>	Class 1	Brown gate from the large playground into the EYFS outdoor area.
Class 1 (Mrs Fulcher/ Mrs Collishaw)	Child Surname K- Z	1A	Mrs Atter <i>Mrs Lamin</i> <i>Miss Taylor</i>	Class 2	Double silver doors on the small playground (EYFS Cloakroom)
Class 2 (Mrs Addlesee)	Child Surname A- Lo	2MA	Miss Mandefield <i>Mrs Walker</i> <i>Mrs Carlin</i>	Class 3	Single silver door on the small playground (EYFS Cloakroom)
Class 2 (Mrs Addlesee)	Child Surname Lu-Z	2MO	Mrs Moorcroft <i>Miss Rose</i> <i>Mrs Sharman</i>	Class 4	Silver studio hall door on the small playground
Class 3 (Miss Mandefield)	Child Surname A- K	3G	Mrs Gaze <i>Mrs Jurkiewicz</i> <i>Mrs Giles</i>	Class 6	External Classroom Door
Class 3 (Miss Mandefield)	Child Surname L- Z	3F	Miss Freeman <i>Mrs Skerit</i> <i>Miss Jones</i>	Class 5	External Classroom Door
Class 4 (Miss Haddock)	Child Surname A- G	4HO	Miss Howes <i>Miss Sutton</i>	Class 7	External Classroom Door
Class 4 (Miss Haddock)	Child Surname H- Z	4HA	Miss Haddock <i>Miss Baker</i>	Class 8	External Classroom Door
Class 13 (Mrs Roberts)	Child Surname A- Ka	13W	Miss Winston <i>Mrs Duncan</i>	Class 10	External Classroom Door
Class 13 (Mrs Robert)	Child Surname Ke-Z	13R	Mrs Roberts <i>Mrs Yates</i>	Class 13	Double silver doors (Year 6 Corridor)
Class 14 (Miss Jones)	Child Surname A- Lak	14M	Miss Meads <i>Mrs Curry</i>	Class 9	External Classroom Door

Class 14 (Miss Jones)	Child Surname: Lam-Z	14J	Miss Jones <i>Mrs Goodwin</i>	Class 14	External Classroom Door
Key Workers + Identified Children	Years 2 and 3	KWC	Mrs Clark <i>Miss Rudd</i> <i>Miss Selby</i>	Class 11	External Classroom Door
Key Workers + Identified Children	Years 4 and 5	KWB	Mrs Brownlie <i>Miss Cowley</i>	Class 12	External Classroom Door

Please pay careful attention to the pupils section and the letters when working out which pod your child is in- the letters refer to the first letter(s) of their surname e.g in 1F there will be any child currently in class one who has a surname which begins with any letter between A and J. **If you cannot work out which pod your child is in, please contact the school as soon as possible via the school office.** I have also attached a school map at the end this letter so that you can work out which classroom your child is now in- these are labelled with the class teacher and the new class (pod) names.

Each classroom has been re-organised to accommodate the social distance measures e.g. tables have been moved apart, children will not be allowed to work in groups or with other children, soft furnishings have been removed and shared equipment has been limited (unless it can be cleaned in-between uses). We will be limiting the movement of children around the school, however, there will be allocated opportunities for the children to use our outdoor spaces either as part of play or to work, within their pods. The Government have advised that pods do not interact with each other, as far as possible, therefore children will not be able to play with other children from other pods. To further minimise movement around the school and contact between the children we will not be using the hall or studio for assemblies or lunches.

Children will need to bring with them a **named** water bottle which they can use throughout the day. We cannot provide them with cups so we will be contacting parents who fail to send their child in with a drinks bottle. As I'm sure you can understand, it is very important that the children drink water throughout the day and stay hydrated. Children will also need a packed lunch which will be eaten in their classroom as we are not able to provide hot meals.

For those children in:

- Year 6: parents may purchase a packed lunch from our school meal provider, or provide their own;
- Reception and Year 1 may order a FREE packed lunch from our school meal provider, as part of the Universal Free School Meals, or provide their own;
- Parents of children who are in receipt of Free School meals may also order a FREE packed lunch or provide their own.

Please contact the school office either by phone or via email to order your child a packed lunch as outlined above. **We will continue to issue Free School Meals Vouchers via email to all eligible families until we receive any further guidance or updates from the Government regarding this. Vouchers will be sent the first week back after half term.**

During the school day the children will have access to a range of lessons provided by their new class teacher. These lessons will include reading, writing and maths (appropriate for their year group and in-line with the national curriculum) as well PSHE and other activities to encourage positive mental health and wellbeing. We will also ensure that all of our staff and children wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds frequently, and are encouraged not to touch their face, while using a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and using bins for tissue waste. There will be hygiene lessons provided for the children and we have increased our cleaning procedures to ensure that our classrooms are regularly and thoroughly cleaned at various points throughout the day. We will also be expecting our pupils to adhere to our social distancing expectations where possible (considering their age and cognitive development) and we will be reminding them to stay within their own (2 metre) bubbles. This will of course require a lot of practise as it is something that they will not be used to and as a result we **cannot guarantee** (in-line with the government guidance) that stringent 'social distancing' will be possible within school at all times.

Arrival and Collections of Pupils

The timings of the school day have changed slightly and they are outlined here for the different year groups. Please can you ensure that you are prompt with your pick up and drop offs as we have a number of strict measures in place to support with 'social distancing'.

	Start	End
EYFS	9.30am	2.30pm
Year 1	9.15am	3.00pm
Year 6	9.00am	3.30pm
Key Workers	8.50am	3.15pm

Classes will not begin until these times so parents with siblings must bring ALL children in at the **latest** drop off time- the other children can then go to their relevant classes. Similarly they must pick up ALL children at the **earliest** pick up time. They should be collected from external classroom doors- staff are aware that this will be the case and will ensure (as best as possible) that you child is ready for collection.

Whilst you are on the school site we will expect you to adhere to our 'social distancing' guidelines. There will be signs around the school site directing parents/carers and we expect you to comply with these **at all times** to help us keep everyone safe. You will be required to use the main school gate for **entering** the school site and the side gate for **exiting**, this will help us to create flow of parents/carers in and out of the site. We also ask that only **1 parent/ carer** accompanies children to school to reduce the amount of people on site at any one time. We expect that you exit the site as soon as possible and do not gather anywhere on the school site or near the school gates to talk to other parents/ carers. We should also remind you that you should not be walking with other parents/ carers and children to school unless they are from within your household.

A list of class drop off and collection doors can be found in the class information table above. Each entrance will have number of two metre intervals marked on the floor. Please form a queue using these markers when dropping off and collecting your child. The class teacher in charge will then do a 'hand over' for each child individually, one at a time. Signs will be placed at each entrance door, telling you the name of the class and also the teacher. If you are still unsure about where to go on the day then Mrs Pask, Mrs Beeby and I will be around to assist you.

If your child is in class (pod) 1F then you will need to go across our car park and onto our school field in order to get onto our large playground before walking with you child up to the wooden gate onto the EYFS outdoor area. This is where you will be greeted by the staff member in charge of 1F. This will be clearly signposted to you.

In order to avoid congestion around the school gate and to support with social distancing we kindly ask that where possible parents walk to school rather than drive.

Covid-19 Symptoms

If you, your child or any member of your household is displaying symptoms related to Covid-19 then you should under **no circumstances** enter the school site. People and households displaying symptoms should self-isolate in-line with Government guidance. Should we have a child in school who displays symptoms, our procedure is to isolate them immediately in a designated room. Parents will then be called to collect the child and it will be requested that they take them for a test immediately and inform the school of the outcome. We will send a message to parents within that 'pod' informing them that a child has displayed symptoms and that the school is taking the necessary action. If the case is confirmed via a positive test then we will close the pod immediately and all of the staff and children within this pod will be required to self-isolate for 14 days before returning to school. This is in-line with Government guidance.

Children Not Returning to School **(Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5)**

For those children in year groups not returning to school (see above) we will continue to provide Maths and English work through the 'Home Learning/Resources' page on our school website. We would also advise that you to use websites such as 'BBC Bitesize' and 'Oak National Academy' to support your child with their learning whilst at home. We will continue to try to call these families every fortnight to see how you are getting on and ask whether we can help in any way. However, it is unlikely to be your child's class teacher who will be calling as we have had to re-deploy many of our staff into other classes to support with returning pupils.

I understand that our parents/carers may have concerns about their children returning to school on Monday 1st June. All I can do is reassure you that we are following the Government's guidance very closely and modifying our school's systems and procedures as recommended. Should you be un-clear or unsure of any of the content within

this letter then please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office and we will try to clarify this for you.

In the meantime, enjoy the half term break next week and I hope to see many of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children return to school from Monday 1st June, if the school re-opens.

Kind Regards



Chris Heathcote
Headteacher

