



Coopers Lane Primary School

Pragnell Road, Grove Park, London SE12 0LF

T: 020 8857 7680

E: info@cooperslane.lewisham.sch.uk

W: www.cooperslane.lewisham.sch.uk



Head Teacher: Mr Paul Hooper

22/05/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all well.

Earlier this week I wrote to you with information about the planned phased opening of the school to more children, following new guidance from the government. We have been working very hard to plan this and I would like to share further information with you.

The health and safety of our pupils, staff and parents remain the most important factor and will always be our priority. For those reasons, we have made careful decisions about how we will begin to open the school to more pupils. It is important that we inform you of the measures we are taking to allow you to make an informed decision about whether to send your child back to school yet. I want to emphasise that the decision to send your child back to school rests entirely with you as a parent. You will not be fined if you choose not to send your child in to school.

We will continue to provide home learning resources via Google Classroom for the remainder of the school year. I know that as parents you have worked so hard to keep your children safe and continue their learning at home. Thank you for working with us during this extremely difficult period.

We have been busy planning how to welcome more children back in the safest possible way. School will be a very different place and it is important that you and the children understand this. These are some of the additional measures we are putting in place:

- Children will continue to wash their hands frequently at set points throughout the day. All classrooms have hand-washing facilities.
- Children will be in class sizes of no more than 15. We will call each group a 'bubble' and they will remain in the same bubble for the rest of the school year.
- Some children will not be taught by their current class teacher.
- We will do our best to put the children into a bubble with other children from their class. This may not be possible for the children of critical workers.
- Staff will be allocated a bubble and will only work with this group of children.
- Each bubble will be allocated a specific classroom, toilet and outdoor area to use during their time in school.
- Children in Year 1-6 will sit at individual desks and have a box of personal resources and books. They will not share resources in class, and we will not be able to provide resources for the children to take home e.g. reading books.
- All soft toys and cushions have been removed from classes.
- Movement around the school will be limited and we have marked 2m gaps in all corridors to help facilitate social distancing.
- You will be allocated a time for drop off and pick up so that social distancing guidelines can be adhered to. There is a new one-way system for entry and exit, with clear 2m markings to follow. We will provide an instructional video for you next week, which will make this very clear.
- It will be helpful if you continue to model and reinforce social distancing when you are in the school grounds. Do not have social gatherings with other adults outside the school gates.
- Children must not bring in personal equipment/toys.



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- We are unable to offer breakfast club and after school clubs due to the fact that we are unable to allow the children to mix between different groups.
- The office will be closed to personal callers other than by appointment only. All queries should be directed by email to info@cooperslane.lewisham.sch.uk or by phone: 020 8857 7680.

Social Distancing

We will endeavour at all times to maintain social distancing guidelines, but there is no doubt this will be almost impossible. This is particularly difficult with the youngest children.

In the early years and Year 1 social distancing is going to be extremely difficult, which is why staying in a bubble with the same children and not mixing with others will be so important.

This is the government guidance:

"We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account.

You should, therefore, work through the hierarchy of measures set out in implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings:

- *avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms*
- *frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices*
- *regular cleaning of settings*
- *minimising contact and mixing"*

Sickness

- **DO NOT send your child into school if he/she is unwell.**
- **If you, your child or anyone that you live with are displaying symptoms of Covid19, you must not come to school.**
- **If they are showing symptoms of COVID-19 then they will need to be tested. If the test is positive all the children and adults within that family and their school bubble will need to isolate for 14 days.**
- **Please think about the rest of the children, their families and the staff before sending in any child who is not 100% fit and well.**
- If children display symptoms of Covid19 during the school day, the school has a designated room where the children will rest in isolation while parents are called. Parents will be asked to follow the government guidelines in relation to self-isolation for the whole family.
- We will follow government guidelines if any children or staff test positive for Covid19. You can read these here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Timings

School will be closed to all pupils on Monday 1st June. This is so that we can provide training to school staff. We have new and comprehensive risk assessments and procedures that all staff need to be fully briefed on before we can reopen the school to more pupils.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



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Opening the school to more pupils will be done with care and by adopting a phased approach. Priority will be given to the children of critical workers and to our most vulnerable children, who will return to school first. We currently have 90 children in this group, who will be split into our first bubbles. This is a much high number and it will take a considerable amount of staff to facilitate them all returning to school together.

After the first week, we then hope to expand to Year 1 and Year 6. Our Reception classes will only open to the children of critical workers and for our vulnerable children at the moment. However, we will review this on a weekly basis.

We cannot mix children or adults once they are in a bubble, so it is possible that we will not have the capacity for all named year groups in school this term.

School will be open Monday-Thursday only.

School will be closed on Friday for cleaning and to allow teachers to plan and resource for both in school and home learning.

School will only be open on Fridays for the children of critical workers who have no other childcare. It is very important that all parents in this group let us know if you need Friday provision – this must be done on parent pay. The children will be put into bubbles on this basis. If you do not book a Friday place now, the children will not be able to have school on any Friday. We would like to keep most of the school closed on Fridays so please do not take a place if you don't need it.

Please note: The following dates are dependent on the government decision on 28th May, so are subject to change:

Monday 1st June	School closed for staff training
Tuesday 2nd June	School open for Critical Workers and Vulnerable Groups
Monday 8th June	Expand to include Year 1 and/or Year 6
Monday 15th June	Expand to include Year 1 and/or Year 6

We will contact you to give you specific details about a start date and time. Please do not come to school unless you receive this information.

Will your child be returning this term?

In order to plan for Year 1, Year 6 and Reception, it is important for us to know if you intend on sending your child back to school. Please answer the simple question on parent pay as soon as possible. This will help us to determine when the children are able to start back at school.

What else do I need to know?

- A packed lunch will be available from the school kitchen as a school meal, this can be paid for as normal on Parent Pay. However, your child can also bring in a packed lunch from home – please ensure as much of this as possible is disposable. Lunches will be eaten in the classroom to avoid mixing of children and to minimise movement around the school.
- The playgrounds have been separated into zones so that the bubbles do not mix during break times.



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- The children will wash their hands as soon as they arrive at school and soap and tissues will be readily available throughout the day
- Only 1 adult may bring a child to and from school. Year 6 children – even those who normally walk to school on their own – must be brought by an adult.
- School will be shut every Friday for cleaning. We will only remain open for the children of critical workers who have no childcare on a Friday. This must be booked now via Parent Pay.
- Parents will not be allowed inside the school building - contact must remain via telephone or email.
- Children will be given a named water bottle to fill up throughout the day as water fountains will be out of use.
- Children will need to bring a clean PE kit in each week.
- Children do not need to wear school uniform.
- Parents will not be fined if they do not send their children into school.

Important actions for you now:

Please access ParentPay to answer the following (no later than 9am Tue 26th):

<https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/#/login>

- 1) Critical Workers: Do you need Fridays?
2) Year 1, 6 & Reception: If able to, will you send your child back to school?

We will contact you again next week with further information. **Please do not send your child back to school until I have confirmed with you directly the date and time of their proposed return.**

Please remember that whether or not your child returns to school is your choice to make. There is no penalty for children not returning to school this term. Only you can make the decision for your child/children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support through this difficult period. We have an amazing community and we will get through this together.

Kind regards

Paul Hooper