



Moss Side Primary School
Paradise Lane
Leyland
Lancashire
PR26 7ST
Telephone: 01772 432048
www.mossside.lancs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr A Wright

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Hopefully you are all well and continuing to look after each other during the current global pandemic. Further to information sent via email and/or Class Dojo over the last few weeks, including [Tuesday's update](#), please see more details about the possible opening of school to larger numbers of pupils over the next few weeks.

The current situation still remains 'conditional', dependent on the Government's '5 Steps' being met and the Department for Education are continuing to discuss a variety of proposals for a safe, phased return to school life for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils (as well as continuing to support children of key workers where necessary). As such, the situation is constantly changing and, as such, it is hard to be definitive at this time. Following long hours of work by staff, and a School Governor meeting held on 20th May 2020, provisional new plans have been made. Key elements will be outlined to you here but there is also a [parent version](#) of the plan via the school website, which will have further detail. A detailed risk assessment has been created and is also being updated to include information to be released this weekend. This will also be available via the website from early next week.

Overarching principles of a return

Government guidelines make clear that 'early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff'. Instead, schools are asked to work through a 'hierarchy of measures' to reduce the risk within these groups:

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

The Government have asked schools to plan a safe, phased return from 1st June for current EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils (in that order).

When might my child be able to return?

The proposal, risk assessment and previous information distributed to parents, reflect the carefully considered decisions that have been made. We have decided that the safest way to return to larger numbers in school safely is to take a careful, phased approach, introducing one year group at a time. The proposed dates that school are working towards, but **will be continually reviewed and cannot be final at present**, are:

W.b. 1st June - Open to key workers

W.b. 8th June - Reception pupils return

W.b. 15th June - Year 1 pupils return

W.b. 22nd June - Year 6 pupils return

When year groups are re-introduced, they will work in 'bubbles' of no more than 15 and attend school on alternate days. For example, if you wished your child to return to school and they were placed in Rec A bubble, they would attend Tuesday 9th, Thursday 11th, Monday 15th, Wednesday 17th... If your child was placed in Rec B bubble, they would attend Wednesday 10th, Friday 12th, Tuesday 16th...



How will school be different?

Key changes:

- Bubbles of no more than 15 pupils, who will stay away from any other bubbles for the majority of the day. The same staff will work with these bubbles the majority of the time.
- Bubbles will be based on year group or 'key worker' and every pupil will only be assigned to one bubble.
- Different staff may be required to teach your child, often in a different classroom, than they are used to.
- Reduced resources in classrooms to reduce items that are more likely to transmit infection.
- Regular hand washing.
- Increased cleaning.
- A changed curriculum to reflect the challenges posed by grouping pupils differently reduced timetables and limited resources.
- Pick up and drop off times adapted to reduce the amount of parents on site at the same time.
- Limited (if at all) items sent back and forth between school and home.

What if my child does not return to school?

We will still support all pupils, whatever their year group with home learning. Part of the thinking behind the 'day in, day out' rota is that it gives staff an opportunity to provide some support, although this may be slightly less than previously if your child's normal class teacher is teaching bubbles in school. We will keep parents informed on any changes.

We do not want pupils not in the Government's 'priority' year groups to be disadvantaged or for parents in reception, year 1 or year 6 to feel pressured that a decision not to return to school means that we will no longer support them at home.

Next steps

Bubble groups, dates and times will be confirmed when parents confirm the return of their child. Initially, we would like confirmation from any **reception parents** who ticked 'yes' or 'maybe' on their survey, to confirm their final decision by **8:30AM Monday 1st June**, to allow us to plan for those bubbles from **week beginning 8th June**. Parents will be able to send pupils back later in the term, and the question will be asked on a weekly basis. All other year groups will be contacted separately.

Key worker families will have their place on the register confirmed between now and Tuesday. If there are any other families who believe that they should be on the list, they should contact Mrs Price for a form and return by Tuesday 26th May at the latest. If any families believe that they are on the list but have not used the service in recent weeks, they should email bursar@mossyde.lancs.sch.uk if they wish to re-confirm.

Year 6 families will receive a separate communication, next week, to address some year group specific issues.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Wright (Headteacher) and Mr Whittaker (Chair of Governors)

As I have previously stated on several occasions, the decision over whether your child returns is solely yours. We have attempted to provide detailed information for you to consider and I would urge all families to make the decision that is right for you and you feel most comfortable with, remembering that any decisions are not final for the whole half term and will be reviewed regularly. There are no right and wrong answers in this situation and, again, I will support all families with their final conclusion. We are all part of the same school community and will get over this next hurdle together again.

Mr Wright