



CASTLETHORPE FIRST SCHOOL
North Street
Castlethorpe
Milton Keynes
MK19 7EW
Tel: 01908 510342
Email: office@castlethorpe.milton-keynes.sch.uk
Website: www.castlethorpeschool.co.uk

HEADTEACHER: Julie Baldwin MA

21.5.20

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware the government has asked schools to reopen for Year 6, Year 1 and foundation from the 1st of June in addition to continuing to prioritise places for vulnerable children and children of key workers.

There has been guidance issued to schools as to how to manage this as safely as possible. Our risk assessment has informed our planning and we will be implementing the following measures for children from the 1st of June.

As more than 50% of our children are key worker children we surveyed parents to clarify the need for spaces. For the week beginning June the 1st we will only accept those key worker children who have booked spaces. We will operate in two 'bubbles'. Foundation children in class 1 and KS1 children (years 1 and 2) in class 2. We then aim to offer places to foundation children to join the class 1 'bubble' from Monday June 8th. (More information to follow.)

We are very tight for space, and so we are not able to offer year 1 children places. This will only change if the guidance on space required in classrooms changes.

From June 1st for eligible children:

- School will open Monday to Friday with no breakfast club or after school provision.
- Children will not be required to wear school uniform as the guidance is that clothing should be changed every day. Children should wear suitable clothing and shoes for outdoor learning without the need to change for PE sessions. Long hair must be tied back as usual. Children should come to school already wearing high factor suntan lotion as staff will not be able to help with applying this. They must also have their own sunhat.
- A packed lunch will be provided by our caterers for all children. Children should bring a piece of fruit for morning snack in their book bag and their own named water bottle. Children will remain with the children in their 'bubble' throughout the day including lunch times and play times.
- All children will need to be brought to school by 1 adult only. We will be using the side gate as our entrance (not the front doors) and there will be markers on the playground for you to stand by with your child (socially distanced) until the teachers tell your child what they are to do next. You then need to leave by the gate whilst maintaining the 2m distancing rule. Any communication with school should continue to be by email please. At the end of the day children are to be collected from the playground similarly.

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- Parents must not enter school unless absolutely necessary.





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- Before the school gate is opened, parents should observe 2m social distancing.
- We will stagger entrance and collection times to limit interaction times:

	Drop off time slot	Pick up time slot
Foundation children	8.45-8.55	2.45-2.55
Years 1 and 2	9.00-9.10	3.00-3.10

Please arrive and leave promptly within the given time slots. Children will not be allowed to go home with a child from another household.

- Each 'bubble' will have the same group adults working with them at different times in the week.

Foundation in class 1	Mrs Pearson, Mrs Crompton, Mrs Almeda
KS1 in class 2	Mrs Miles, Mrs Flach, Mrs Baldwin, Mrs Bird

- As far as possible the work covered in school will be the same as the work set for home learning. However, it must be made clear that staff will be observing the social distancing requirement in their classes and will not be sitting close to children so as to keep everyone as safe as possible.
- It will be a limited curriculum in school. Maths, English and wellbeing will be key subjects. Teachers will then focus on Art, Topic work and outside learning.
- If your child is unwell please don't send them to school and ring school as usual. If you or your child shows Covid symptoms your family will need to be tested and please inform the school of the result (positive or negative)
- If a member of staff or a child tests positive the rest of that class will self-isolate for 14 days.

Like every other head teacher, I am very sad that we have to put in such stringent measures for our very young children but I hope you understand that I am following Government guidance, echoed by our LA. As I have already said in an earlier letter, school will not be the experience that the children are used to and there won't be the opportunity for children to mix freely.

We are putting in measures to minimise interaction but as the DFE has said social distancing is difficult, if not impossible with our young children. Because of the size of class 2 and lack of ventilation our plan is that tables will be spaced 2m apart for learning inside with individual work trays for each child, but for outside learning they will work and play in a small team. In foundation, individual tables are not practical as their learning is very much through play. ~~It is a bigger room and so they will have a team that they work~~



'Inspired to learn, confident to achieve'

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and play with. If you are not happy with this it has been made clear by the government that if you choose to keep your child at home, there will not be any fines or repercussions.

Thank you again for all your support.

Julie and all the team at Castlethorpe.

