

25th May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Re: Phased Re-opening of Goosewell

Yesterday, the Prime Minister confirmed the phased re-opening of primary schools in England with a focus on welcoming back Reception Class, Year 1, Year 6 as well as continuing to provide Educare for vulnerable children and children of key workers. Over the past few weeks, we have planned the phased return for the year groups mentioned, based on the feedback from the survey which asked parents if they were planning to send their children back to school. Our planning (developed alongside the Reach South Executive Team) also follows guidance set out by the Department for Education.

You will appreciate the practical challenges posed by social distancing guidelines. The safety and well-being of children and staff remains paramount.

Please read the information below carefully to ensure the first few days back go as smoothly as possible.

Key dates

- Monday 1st June - Inset day for staff with continued Educare
- Tuesday 2nd June - Inset day for staff with continued Educare
- Wednesday 3rd June - Educare and Reception Class return to school.
Virtual learning recommences
- Monday 8th June - Educare, Reception Class, Year 1 & Year 6 return to school

Drop off and pick up times

To avoid congestion around the school gates we are implementing a one-way system with staggered timings:

- Educare 8.45am – 3.15pm
- Reception 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Year 1 9.15am – 2.45pm
- Year 6 9.15am – 3.00pm

Drop-off and pick-up locations

Educare and Year 6 will arrive via the lower KS2 playground entrance and leave via the ramp and out through the main gate. To help reduce numbers of adults, we kindly ask Year 6 parents to avoid coming on site unless necessary. If you do have any questions, please ring or email the office. Reception Class and Year 1 will arrive via the KS1 playground and leave via the main gate. Only 1 parent/carer allowed on site. Signs will also be in place to help direct.

Drop-off and pick-up protocol

Staff will greet students and parents wearing a face mask and everyone entering the building will be asked if they are feeling well to help avoid admitting anyone into school who may have symptoms of COVID19.

Booking your child in to school

To adhere to social distancing guidelines, parents and caregivers are required to book their child into school, for the term, using the Eduspot website <https://eduspot.co.uk/>

By using the booking system, we will be able to organise classes and ensure all needs are catered for while maintaining small class sizes. Should you choose not to send in your child then I can confirm there is no penalty for non-attendance. If you change your mind and would like to attend, then you will be able to book at a later date by contacting the school office.

Classes and class sizes

Class sizes are based on children being seated 2 metres apart from each other.

Educare – Children will continue to use the Gallery (Year 3 and 4 classrooms) with a maximum 9 children per classroom. Current Educare children will return to their year groups, if they are Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. However, those Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children in Educare that use the Gosling Trust for breakfast club and afterschool care will remain in Educare to stop 'bubbles' from mixing. To be clear, Gosling Trust will only be used for the children of Key Workers or children classed as vulnerable who are already in Educare.

Reception Class– Children to use 4 spaces in the Reception block and classrooms in KS1 with a maximum of 8 children per classroom.

Year 1 – Children will use classrooms in KS1, with a maximum of 8 children per classroom.

Year 6 – Children will use the Year 6 and Year 5 classrooms, with a maximum of 13 children per classroom. We will also use the main hall which has capacity for 20 children.

Once classes have been booked and numbers of children finalised, we will confirm which adults will work with your children. Where possible, we aim to ensure teachers and TAs work within their own year group.

Other measures to reduce the risk of transmission

Classes will operate in 'bubbles' and will not mix with other groups. Where possible, staff will stay within their own bubbles throughout the day (including break time and lunchtime). Children will be reminded to always remain 2m apart and break time and lunch times will be staggered. Please bear in mind that brief, transitory contact, such as passing in a corridor is described as low risk.

Children will be allocated tables, where they will keep all their belongings including their bags, as cloakrooms will not be available. The curriculum will reflect what the children have been learning via the YouTube videos, there will also be plenty of outdoor learning as well as transition work for Year 6 and Reception Class. There will be a big focus on well-being and fun to help any children who may be anxious about returning to school. Access to resources may be limited to reduce risk and classrooms will be cleared of unnecessary furniture.

Younger children will be given their own learning tool kit to use, with older children bringing their own pencil cases from home. Please be aware that books will not be physically marked by staff. Books are left open on tables by the children so staff can look at their work and adjust their teaching for the next day.

The school environment will be cleaned regularly and to a high standard. Tables, door handles and light switches will be cleaned regularly through the day. Children will be prompted to wash their hands regularly. Hand sanitisers will also be available around the school.

Children will eat packed lunches as hot meals will not be served. If your child does have a school lunch, Grab and Go will be delivered to children in class where they will be eaten unless there is the opportunity to eat outdoors.

It is recommended that children's and adults' clothes are washed daily and to help with this we are saying there will be no requirement for children to wear uniform. Please also dress children appropriately in clothes that are suitable for PE and going outside as there will be no 'getting changed'. For younger children please ensure they are in clothes that they can be completely independent in, especially when going to the toilet. Short sleeves are also recommended for aiding the washing of hands.

Goosewell has a high standard of expectations of behaviour from all children and we are very proud of how our children interact with each other and with adults around the school. Considering the current conditions, we will review our behaviour policy; children and families will be advised of this next week. Please note that children will not be allowed to get up and move around the class as they are used to, instead any movement will be managed by the adult in charge.

SEND is also another area of pride at Goosewell and I know the SEND team have been working closely with these families from around the school. If any First Aid or intimate care is required, staff will wear PPE equipment, including a visor, gloves and mask. As we return to school, Julie Mills (SENDco) and Clare Philips (Hub Lead) will liaise directly with the families to aid transition back to school.

Other year groups

As children do return to school, we will continue to provide virtual education to Year 2, 3, 4 & Year 5 via our YouTube channel and Microsoft Teams. We will also continue to provide those children in Reception Class, Y1 and Y6 with virtual learning should they choose not to return to school. Please ensure your children actively engage with this where possible. However, please note that teachers will not be able to engage with children to the level they once did due to many of the teachers being back in school.

These measures are new to all of us, and we will improve and develop them as we go. There may well be further changes, which I will update you on in due course. I will send out another survey asking for feedback in a few weeks. If you do have questions or concerns, please contact me.

We look forward to welcoming your children back to school.

With best wishes



James Gentile
Headteacher



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