

Tuesday 26th May 2020



Dear Parent,

From Monday 1st June schools have been asked to be ready to welcome back more pupils starting with older preschool children and children currently in YR then Y1 and Y6 . On Thursday 28th May, the Government is due to make an announcement about whether this planned opening to more pupils can begin. We will confirm final arrangements on Monday 1st June. However, our initial planning indicates that we will **not have enough space or sufficient staffing to safely welcome back Y6 children** unless the guidance around social distancing changes significantly. We are not yet clear as to whether we will be able to accommodate Y1 children at either school.

Our plans ensure that we can continue to care for the children of critical workers and children needing more care as our first priority. Schools have been told to plan for all eligible children in each year group to return. Many parents have already told us that they do not intend to send their child back to school before September but we have been instructed by the DfE to allow space just in case. Parents will not be penalised for keeping their child/ren at home but we will ask parents of children in eligible year groups who are staying at home, to talk to us about this decision.

Subject to the Prime Minister's announcement on Thursday, we hope to welcome back to school children in **West Down Pre-school who are due to begin school in September 2020** AND children who are currently in **YR at Berrynarbor or West Down** schools from **Wednesday 3rd June**. Our schools will be open Monday - Thursday to these children (Fridays will be non pupil days to allow staff time for planning, preparation and assessment, and to support the children learning at home).

School start times will be staggered between 8.45 and 9.30am and collection times staggered between 2.15 to 3.00pm to ensure that there is no congestion at the gates and to allow staff the time to undertake additional cleaning of resources. Drop off and pick up times will be allocated. New guidelines come into effect from Monday 1st June that will need to change what the provision in school looks and feels like. These changes will help us to manage larger groups of children more safely. The changes are detailed below along with action that we would like you to take to support us and your child - these have been tabulated in an attempt to make a complex and changing situation clear. Please do get in touch if you have any questions. Guidance is changing regularly and our practice in school will reflect the latest guidance as soon as possible.

**Children of critical workers** can continue to attend school as needed Monday to Thursday. Care in school for the children of critical workers will be available on a Friday if needed. Before and after school care will be available to those indicating their need for this by 1st June (we will begin charging for breakfast club and afterschool club again from 1st June). Critical workers should indicate their childcare requirement on the form so we can plan appropriate support and make sure children are in the correct bubble.

[Click here to complete the form](#)

**Please follow the link and complete the form by Monday 1st June if :**

- you or your partner are a critical worker
- your child needs more care (defined as more vulnerable - see [here](#) for definition)
- your child is due to start school in September 2020
- Your child is currently in YR

West Berry Federation

Children invited to return to school in June 2020

Please complete this form by Monday 1st June.

**\* Required \***

Name of children \*

Your answer

Which school does your child usually attend? \*

Berrynarbor

West Down

Changes to school life	Action needed by parents please
<p>Instead of being in a class, children will learn and play in fixed 'bubbles' with the same adults. The bubbles may grow as more children return to school but children will not move between bubbles. Children and adults from different bubbles will not share spaces or have any physical contact in school. This will limit the number of social contacts that each person has.</p>	<p>Help your child to understand this. They may not be able to see friends, favourite staff or siblings who are working in another bubble. Each bubble will have allocated spaces, toilet and handwashing facilities. We will try and put children in a bubble with their friends where possible.</p>
<p>Bubbles will start small and may grow to a maximum of 12 children depending on room size. Bubbles will be spread across the school using all suitable spaces.</p>	<p>Children may be learning and playing in a different classroom to normal. Help your child to understand that they must stay in their allocated spaces with the rest of their bubble.</p>
<p>Children will be supported to wash their hands regularly for at least 20 seconds. As a minimum - on arrival, before eating, after outdoor play, mid morning, mid afternoon and before going home. We will also have moisturising cream available for children to use.</p>	<p>Help your child to learn how much moisturising cream they will need for their hands.</p>
<p>Children who need care before 9am and/or after 3pm at any point over the next half term will all be in the same mixed aged bubble to enable the same adults to provide education and care to these children. Depending on the number of children needing the provision, this bubble may be at West Down only.</p>	<p><b>If you are likely to need Breakfast Club or Afterschool AT ALL during the summer term please let us know by Monday 1st June so that we can put your child in the correct bubble.</b> We will begin charging for Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club again after half term</p>
<p>Children will arrive and be collected from school at different times to avoid congestion on the gate. Time slots will be allocated. Only one adult from each family should bring children to and from school.</p>	<p><b>Critical Workers should let us know by 1st June the drop off and pick up times that they need.</b></p> <p>Other parents should wait to hear their allocated drop off and pick up times.</p>
<p>Parents of school aged children will not be able to come onto the school site (unless in an emergency) and so should say goodbye to their child at the school gate. Preschool children will be encouraged to say goodbye to their Parent at the gate or the door - parents will not be permitted in the classroom.</p>	<p>Prepare your child to say goodbye to you at the gate. A member of staff from their bubble will be waiting for them.</p> <p>In the event that a child struggles to separate from their parent for more than 5 mins, we will need to ask the parent to take the child home.</p>

<p>The spaces around and in the school will be marked with chalk and tape to help children to learn what 2 meters looks like. Social distancing will be encouraged. The classrooms have been marked with a grid on the floor. Some smaller rooms will not be in use.</p>	<p>Help your child to understand what social distancing is. There are some useful stories on the Google classroom that you might find helpful.</p>
<p>Lessons will follow those set on the Google Classroom so that children in school and at home have the same opportunities to learn.</p>	
<p>Children must wear a fresh set of clean clothes each day. Children may wear school uniform or their own clothes suitable for active PE lessons and spending time outside. Children will not be changing into PE kit during the day.</p>	<p>Prepare for the additional laundry that this will make. Staff will be following these same guidelines and so may be dressed less formally.</p>
<p>Children will have their own stationery pack and will be encouraged not to share resources or toys.</p>	<p>Help your child to understand the rules about not sharing as this is the opposite of what usually happens and is encouraged in school!</p>
<p>Toys and resources that are not easily cleaned have been removed from the classroom. Remaining toys and resources will be cleaned regularly. Excess furniture has been removed to maximise space</p>	<p>Explain to your child that classrooms will look different and the day will be organised differently. Favourite toys might be missing for a while but are being stored until it is safe to allow the children to use them again.</p>
<p>Children may not bring toys or resources into school from home other than a water bottle, sunscreen and hat and lunch box if needed (the school kitchens will be open and preparing hot meals).</p>	<p>Explain to your child what they will and won't be bringing to school.</p> <p>Prepare your child for having a packed lunch or school dinner - children will eat with their bubble in the classroom.</p>
<p>Children will be discouraged from hugging or having physical contact with each other and staff. Not all children will be able to return to school.</p>	<p>Help your child to think about other ways to greet their friends and grown-ups.</p> <p>Help your child to stay in touch with their friends at home and school by virtual means where needed.</p>