



Blakeney School's Action Plan Returning to School Reception, Year 1, Year 6

June 1st
2020

Dear Parents,

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception Year 1 Year 6 Rainbow School*	Reception Year 1 Year 6 Rainbow School*	Rainbow School*	Reception Year 1 Year 6 Rainbow School*	Reception Year 1 Year 6 Rainbow School*

Year Group	Arrival	Collection
Rainbow School*	08.30	3.30
Year 6	08.45	2.45
Year 1	09.00	3.00
Reception	09.15	3.15

**Rainbow School is the term we use for children who have been attending Blakeney School throughout the lockdown. These are children who may have an EHCP or one of their parents is a key worker*

You will see that the school will not open for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children on Wednesdays. The school will be having a deep clean on that day, and staff will be preparing lessons for their children in school, as well as the home learning.

Following lock-down, the government has asked us to do our best to open our school whilst maintaining the principles of social distancing. This is despite the government acknowledging that social distancing will be particularly challenging with younger children. The aim of social distancing is to decrease the opportunity of spreading Covid-19, or any other germs, between us. We think it's important for you to know that social distancing is really not possible with groups of children, even less possible with 106 children – it is difficult enough for us as adults. The Government has issued guidance surrounding how we operate, and staff have been working hard to implement it. These are a few of the actions:

- Smaller class sizes
- Staggered start and finish times
- Staggered lunch and break times
- Stricter illness policy
- Parental contact to be on the phone or email
- Different classroom layout

- Allocated areas to play
- As much outside learning as possible.

In the recent parent survey that we carried out with the government return focus year groups, approximately 30% of our families said that they intended on sending their children into school when they were invited to return, with another approximately 20% considering the option. Approximately 50% indicated that they did not intend their children to return during this period of uncertainty.

You will have worked out that given social distancing restrictions, if we are only allowed to have half of the class in a room at any one time (maximum of 15 children in a group) we will need to use different classrooms when the children are back. We will use our existing space creatively. Not all of the children will be in their usual classroom.

Does my child have to attend school?

If your child is in one of the year groups that has been invited to return to school, they can attend. The government have said that there will be no fines for parents if their child does not go to school so ultimately, attendance is parental choice. Please understand that as a school, we continue to have a responsibility, whether your child is at school or not, for checking on your child's wellbeing. We therefore ask that if you choose not to send your child to school for whatever reason, you continue to work with us and inform us about their home learning and wellbeing.

Will my child have to attend fulltime?

If you decide you would like your child to attend, it will be for the allocated days of Monday, Tuesday Thursday and Friday. The school will not be open on Wednesdays (see above)

What happens if my child shows symptoms of illness at school?

Your child will be taken to our safe area and you will be called to collect them. We respectfully ask that you collect them as soon as you receive a call from us to keep all members of the school community safe and well. Staff will need to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when helping your child in this instance.

If your child shows symptoms of Covid-19, even if you think they are actually struggling with another medical need such as hay fever or asthma, we will still need to send them home in the interests of infection control – this is because, in this instance it will not be suitable for staff members or other children to be exposed to a child who is constantly sneezing or coughing. **This is non-negotiable.**

If anyone at school (child or adult) shows symptoms of Covid-19, they will be asked to undertake a test. If this test shows to be positive, all children and adults within that child's key group will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days. We reserve the right to insist that you take your child home (see above) and will expect you to have them tested. If a test is not undertaken, your child will not be able to return to school for a period of 14 days when the whole household has been in isolation.

Will home learning continue?

Thank you for all your support with home learning, I know it has been a difficult experience for some. These home learning tasks will continue to be provided weekly or fortnightly for the foreseeable future. Please be mindful that most staff will be in school and teaching, where the focus of the teachers will need to alter to the taught lessons that will be delivered in school with the rest of the class. As a result, some of the home learning may come in a slightly different format. Children will be able to access the home learning for the days that they are at home each week. I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding.

How will we get to/from school?

Please bring as few people on the school run as possible – consider leaving other children at home with another adult supervising them and just one adult doing the school run if this is possible – this is to limit the number of people around our school. It is not acceptable for a non-household adult to bring or collect your child.

We would like to encourage you to walk to school. If you do need to come to school by car, remember to utilise parking safely to help keep social distancing to the recommended levels.

We need all parents to socially distance from each other, leaving our entrance gate as clear as possible. Please avoid gathering for a chat and use other ways of communicating at the moment, rather than face to face communication on the school run.

As the English lockdown rules ease in general, we will not tolerate people not observing safe social distancing near school property

Children will **not** be allowed to come to school on their own, even if this was previously the case before lockdown.

A member of staff will escort the children to and from one of the school gates at the times below. Please wait at your usual school gate.

We ask that all parents are prompt with their entry and exit to school to help us keep everyone as safe as possible. Parents are not permitted on the school premises.

If you have messages for the key adults who work with your child, may I ask you to email in advance so the message can be passed on accordingly. Please use the email address that was given at the start of lockdown and which can be found on our website.

To exit the school site, your children will be brought up to the school gate to be collected. Please stand back from the gate and your child will come to meet you once we have seen you.

Clothing

As Government guidance dictates, children and adults **must** wear fresh clean clothes every day. Therefore, it may be difficult for you to have clean uniform every day. If this is the case, children may wear sensible and appropriate clothes to school as an alternative.

We will relax the shoe policy – as pupils will not be asked to change into PE kit. Suitable trainers need to be worn instead of school shoes.

The government guidance for school setting states that PPE is not required and could even put children at higher risk of spreading germs and picking up germs if they wear face masks and PPE. However, this is your choice, and you provide a face mask if you so wish. If we feel that the mask is potentially increasing possible transmission of infection (eg the child is fiddling / playing with it), we may ask them to remove it.

Guidance has discouraged adults wearing PPE in school, but I have made it clear to staff that if they so wish, they may wear it. The government guidance therefore suggests that PPE is not necessary in a school setting. However, Staff will need to wear PPE if your child shows symptoms of Covid-19 to protect themselves.

How do I stop germs transferring from home to school and back again?

Your child should only bring what they need for the day – a water bottle, their lunch (if they don't have a school packed lunch), a healthy snack and a coat. They should not bring toys or home learning in from home. We will provide everything else they need in school – this includes stationery. PE kit will not be needed for the remainder of the term see above).

Please can you make sure your child washes their hands with soap and warm water prior to leaving home in the morning and as soon as they return home in the afternoon. I would strongly suggest that once your child arrives back home, they change their clothes immediately and the clothes they've worn at school are washed. Their shoes are removed at the door. All of these measures will minimise the spread of any germs between home and school.

What will happen for lunch?

We are waiting to hear about the arrangements that Caterlink are making for our return to school but we know that they will be providing a lunch for Reception and Y1, and those entitled to free school meals. It will also be possible to order a lunch. We are not yet sure whether this lunch will be a cold packed lunch or a cooked lunch – we shall let you know as soon as we have that information. If you usually bring a packed lunch, please do so still.

What about breakfast club and after school club?

At the moment, breakfast club and after school club will not run until the government guidelines advise us to do so. If we are in a position to open this facility, we will inform you. There will be no other after school clubs for the rest of this academic year.

I am a key worker, how does this plan alter for my child?

If your child is in Y2, Y3, Y4 or Y5, your child will remain eligible for a school space (Rainbow School) for each day they need it.

Please note – if your child attends the Rainbow School provision, it needs to be for the whole day. You cannot pick them up before 3.30

Behaviour

We will expect the same level of good behavior at all times. If your child does not listen to the reasonable expectation surrounding distancing and hygiene, you will be asked to collect them immediately. You will be asked to speak with Mr Stevenson on the telephone following this, so we can support your children coming back in the future.

Learning and Environment

The classrooms will be cleared of as many resources as possible that may be touched and infected. The resources that children will use are to be kept to a minimum, and will be sanitised frequently. Desks may well be separated to a distance of 2 metres or more if possible. The type of lessons will inevitably be focusing on independent learning, with 1:1 intervention kept to a strict minimum.

Here are some photos of two of our classrooms at Pillowell. The other classrooms will be similar.





