

Hemblington Primary School

Mill Road,
Blofield Heath,
Norwich,
Norfolk,
NR13 4QJ.
Tel: 01603 713243
Fax: 01603 716994
Headteacher: Mrs. C. Edmunds
Email: office@hemblington.norfolk.sch.uk
Website: www.hemblingtonprimaryschool.org



15th May 2020

RE: Possible Arrangements for School Re-opening

Dear Parents,

Following the government's announcement that schools may reopen in some way, I am writing to seek your view and to enquire if you are requesting a place within your child's current year group, should it be deemed that the school is set up safely and in line with all Public Health England requirements.

Arrangements to provide for the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children will remain but children may be placed within the new class groupings.

We are looking forward to seeing all the children once again, but I would like to reassure you that the safety of our school community is our priority. We recognise that some of you may have some concerns about your child returning to school and that for some children another change will be unsettling for them. We also understand that the past weeks will have been challenging for many families. If you would like to talk to us about your child and any concerns you have about their return to school, please contact your child's class teacher via email.

We must point out that if open, school will feel very different to your child. They will be working in groups of no bigger than 10. They will stay, just with this group only for the day, including for breaks and lunchtimes. We cannot at this stage guarantee the makeup of these groups.

School Staff

Your child will work with a small group of staff and most likely be with the same adults for each day they are in school. This will not necessarily be with their current class teacher.

Time Spent in School

Currently we are looking at different models of operating but it is unlikely that this will on a full time basis until the end of term because of the social distancing requirements. Some schools are considering operating one week in every three for an individual child (a class of 30 divided into three). We have not yet set a final model.

Maintaining a Safe School Environment

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the preventative measures we will be aiming to put in place in order to minimise the spread of infection.

As per the advice from the government, the following actions for infection control remain in place:

- Displaying coronavirus infection control measures information posters around the school
- Encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least

20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:

- Before leaving home
- On arrival at school
- After using the toilet
- After breaks and sporting activities
- Before food preparation
- Before eating any food, including snacks
- Before leaving school
- Installing alcohol-based hand sanitiser dispensers that contain at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school
- Ensuring pupils and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue away
- Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual
- Calling NHS 111 if someone becomes unwell, isolating any unwell people in a separate room, and providing a separate bathroom, where possible
- Telling pupils and staff to stay at home for 7 days if they develop symptoms of coronavirus and to self-isolate for 14 days if someone in the household has symptoms.
- The wearing of face masks, gloves or other PPE is not appropriate in school for staff and pupils.

If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, please contact the school at the earliest opportunity and do not allow them to attend.

Arrangements for the Start and End of the School Day

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults congregating together in one place and maintaining safe distances within normal arrangements can be a challenge. We will be introducing staggered start and end times for school and it is important that you and your child keep to these times.

To and From School

We would encourage you to walk where possible so it is easier to maintain social distancing at all times and you will need to keep 2 metres from other families.

Arrangements for Breaktimes and Lunchtimes

We recognise the importance for all pupils to have a break from learning and to enjoy time outside during the school day. Reconnecting with friends will be an important aspect of pupils settling back into school life, but please stress to your child that they will not be able to mix with children outside of their new group of 10 and they will be restricted to an identified play area.

Pupils should bring a packed lunch and this will be eaten in their class space. Those entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals or eligible for free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch. They should bring plenty of appropriate drink as there will be restrictions on access to shared drinking facilities.

The school day

If you request a place, you will be informed of the staggered start and end times. The timings during the day for break and lunch will be different for each class group. There will be no larger gathering for activities such as assemblies.

Support for Pupils and Families

We do not underestimate how difficult the recent weeks have been for us all and we all will have been touched in some way by the coronavirus pandemic. We recognise the need to focus on pupils' emotional wellbeing as well as their return to learning.

Having set out our current thinking, you now need to consider your response. It is your decision whether you apply for a place, if the school is open, or choose to continue with home study that will continue to be provided.

Your Response

Please will you complete the attached response sheet. Your views will contribute to a robust risk assessment which will inform the way forward. We will inform you of our final plans and if and when a place could be available.

Wishing you well and hoping you remain safe.

The Yare Education Trust T/A Hemblington Primary School