



## Re-opening of Redbridge Primary School in September

### Frequently Asked Questions

Dear Families,

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our children and families back to school in next week. We have missed all the children and the school has been very quiet without them. We did send this document out in July, and have now made some tweaks. Please read through the questions carefully. Unfortunately, we cannot compromise on these as we are following the government guidance for re-opening schools. Please understand that as a school we are trying to keep our whole school community safe even if it may seem inconvenient to you as an individual. We ask for your support in these difficult times.

#### **Do I have to send my child back in September?**

*The DFE have stated that school is going to be compulsory in September and parents could be fined for non-attendance. If you are concerned about your child returning in September, please speak to a member of staff.*

#### **How is the school going to keep my child safe when they return in September?**

*The school are following the guidance set out by the DFE. The school have carried out a thorough risk assessment in line with LA guidelines. The children will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the school day. Every classroom has a handwashing station with antibacterial soap. If children wish to bring their own hand sanitiser they can, it will need to be labelled with the child's name. The children will be reminded to not share the hand sanitiser with other children. Each classroom will have antibacterial spray and will be cleaned throughout the school day. We have implemented an increased cleaning schedule so that that classrooms are thoroughly cleaned each evening. The toilets will be cleaned at different intervals throughout the school day.*

*We have made small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. This includes seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on. Through maintaining a distance between people whilst inside and reducing the amount of time they are in face to face to contact lowers the risk of transmission.*

#### **Are the children going to be in 'bubbles'?**

*Following the DFE guidance, we have organised the children in Year Group 'bubbles'. This means that the children can have playtime and lunchtime together. The Year Group 'bubbles' will not mix with the other year groups. Playtimes and lunchtimes are staggered to minimise contact between the year groups.*

#### **How is the school ensuring that the children are socially distancing?**

*By keeping the children in Year Group 'Bubbles', this reduces the number of contacts between children and staff. Children will be encouraged to maintain distance between individuals. Children will be encouraged to maintain distance and not touch staff and their peers where possible.*

**Will the school day start and end at the same time?**

*Following the government guidance, we have decided to stagger the start and end of the school day. This is to reduce the number of people on the school site at any one time. There will be a one-way system in the playground with one entry and one exit. The playground gates will close at 9:15am*

	<b>Start</b>	<b>End of Day</b>
<b>Reception and KS1</b>	<b>9:05- 9:15 (soft start)</b>	<b>3:25</b>
<b>Year 3 and 4</b>	<b>8:50- 9:00 (soft start)</b>	<b>3:15</b>
<b>Year 5 and 6</b>	<b>8:50- 9:00 (soft start)</b>	<b>3:15</b>

**Is my child getting the same amount of learning time as before?**

*The government guidelines are very clear that any staggered start and end times must not reduce the amount of teaching and learning time. Therefore, we have staggered the start and end time but have shortened lunchtime to make up the time. The learning time is exactly the same in terms of hours and minutes as it was before.*

**How and where will I drop off and pick up my child?**

*KS1 children will be dropped off and collected at the classroom doors as before. Year 3 will enter and leave the KS2 Building through the side door in the Playground ( near the bike shed). Year 4 will be entering and leaving the KS2 building through the door next to the new build block, Year 5 will enter and leave the KS2 Building through the middle door in the KS2 Playground. Year 6 will enter and leave the building through the Year 6 entrance next to Year 2. There will be clear signs on all the doors to help direct the children. KS2 children will line up in the playground behind their teacher and be collected from there. Year 6 children will be collected from the Astroturf near the field.*

**What happens if I have more than one child in the school?**

*If you have children in different year groups, you can drop off the children at the same time. At the end of the school day however, the children will need to leave at their allocated time as it will be too disruptive to have children leaving from classes at different times. We do ask parents to ensure that they are socially distancing from other parents. We understand that this can be challenging for parents but due to the current guidelines this is our only option to ensure the health and safety of our whole school community.*

**What happens if a sibling from Beal collects my child and they finish at the same time?**

*We are aware that Beal finish at the same time as our KS2 children at the end of the day. We informed all parents in July about the new timings so parents will have made alternative arrangements. You may wish to contact Future Stars After School Club and enquire about the provision they offer. We do allow year 5 and Year 6 children to walk home alone with written consent from the parents. Unfortunately we are not able to keep children at the end of school day therefore any child who is collected late will have to wait outside. Any child who is collected late on a regular basis will need to attend a meeting with the head teacher. If this was to continue, a referral will be made to the Educational Welfare Officer.*

**Will the children have to wear school uniform?**

*Children will need to wear full school uniform. We ask that children are in clean clothes every day.*

**Will the children still have PE lessons?**

*Children will have PE outdoors in the Autumn Term. Children will need to have a warm PE kit in school Monday to Friday as PE will be only cancelled in extreme weather. All children are expected to participate in PE lessons.*

**Can my child bring in a packed lunch?**

*Children will be able to bring a packed lunch in if they wish. Each year group have a staggered lunch so that all children in that year group can eat together. Children must have their packed lunch with them at the beginning of the school day. The office will not be accepting any packed lunches or food items during the day. **In the event your child forgets their packed lunch, they will be given a school dinner for which you will be charged.***

**Will school dinners be available?**

*School dinners will be available, however in order to facilitate year groups not mixing and the revised timings for lunch, the kitchen can only offer a cold option. The school dinner menu will be available on the website before school starts. Due to the space, the number of children, and the bubbles, it might be that some days children will have an ‘indoor play’ at lunchtime. On these days, we will ensure that the children have some time outside once all the lunchtime staggers have happened.*

**Can my child have home dinners?**

*Unfortunately, children will not be able to have home dinners until further notice. This is to minimise transmission during the day.*

**Will the children be given reading books and homework in September?**

*All children can take home a reading book and homework books.*

**What will playtimes look like?**

*Playtimes have been staggered to minimise mixing and contact. Each Phase will have a set playtime and a set playground zone.*

**What will the curriculum look like in September?**

*We have revised our curriculum to take into account the mental health and wellbeing of our children on their return to school. There will be a focus on PSHE in the first half of the Autumn Term to address any concerns and anxieties the children might have. An information leaflet about our revised curriculum will be available on the school website soon.*

**How will the children 'catch up' on missed learning?**

*Our teachers have worked hard on identifying gaps in the learning based on the transition meetings with the previous classteacher. Teachers are planning to meet the children wherever they are in their learning and address any misconceptions and gaps. Teachers will be using the objectives for the current year group and those for the previous year group to ensure coverage. We are planning intervention groups for all year groups for any child who needs it.*

**Will there be any clubs happening in school?**

*There will be no clubs in the Autumn Term.*

**Will Breakfast and After School club be open?**

*Breakfast and After School club run by Future Stars will operate as usual in the Autumn Term. Children will be kept apart from other children not in their bubble during Breakfast and After School club.*

**Will there be any workshops/events in school?**

*Unfortunately, we cannot offer any workshops or whole school events in the Autumn Term. This will include sharing assemblies and the Stay and Learn sessions. Hopefully these can resume again in the Spring Term.*

**Will there still be assemblies in school?**

*There will be no assemblies in the Autumn Term. The children will participate in online assemblies in school.*

**Will the school still be closing at 2:35 every Friday?**

*No, the school will not be closing at 2:35pm every Friday until the Spring Term.*

**Are there any school trips planned for the Autumn Term?**

*There are no school trips planned for the Autumn Term. We will make good use of online virtual tours and video conferencing to enrich our curriculum.*

**Can children wear PPE to school?**

*The guidance is very clear that children under the age of 11 do not need to wear PPE – mask etc in school. If you travel by public transport then it is up to you if your child wears a mask on the journey. The children will be expected to remove the mask before entering the school building.*

### **What happens if my child is ill?**

*We have organised an isolation room in case an adult or child falls ill. You will be contacted to collect your child immediately from the school office. If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.*

*Please do not send your child into school if they have these symptoms:*

- *High temperature*
- *New, continuous cough*
- *Loss of taste/smell*

*Seek advice from 119 and book a test. It is of the utmost importance that no one comes into school with these symptoms. This is for the health and safety of the whole school community.*

### **Will I be told if someone in school tests positive for Coronavirus?**

*In the case of someone testing positive, the school will contact the local health protection team. This team will also contact the school directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.*

*The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.*

*The health protection team will work with the school in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, the school must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. This is likely to be the whole year group bubble.*

### **If the school goes into lockdown what will happen?**

*If a local area sees a spike in infection rates that is resulting in localised community spread, appropriate authorities will decide which measures to implement to help contain the spread. The Department for Education will be involved in decisions at a local and national level affecting a geographical area, and will support appropriate authorities and individual settings to follow the health advice. Where a class, group or small number of pupils need to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring pupils to remain at home, we will offer immediate remote education. We are currently working on a contingency plan for remote education using different online platforms.*

**I am worried that my child has been adversely impacted during the lockdown. How can I let the classteacher know this?**

*If you are concerned about your child's return to school or if they have been adversely impacted during lockdown please do not hesitate to contact the school office through email. This can then be forwarded to the classteacher.*

**How do I make arrangements to meet the class teacher once the children are back in school?**

*If you wish to speak to the classteacher, please contact the school office and your request will be forwarded to the classteacher. The classteacher can then arrange a phone meeting or a face to face meeting if required.*

**Will the school office still be open?**

*The school office will be open but we request that parents phone or email where possible. This is to minimise the number of visitors on school premises. Please note that the school office will not be taking in any items to pass onto the children. This will include: coats; bags; packed lunches; water bottles; PE kits; reading books etc. If your child forgets their packed lunch they will be given a school dinner which you will be charged for. Parents will not be allowed to bring in the packed lunch/hot food for the children.*

**My child has been classed as clinically vulnerable, can they still come back to school in September?**

*If your child has an underlying medical condition and is classed as clinically vulnerable, please seek advice from your GP/Consultant first. We can conduct an individual risk assessment for them. If they are not able to return, please contact the school office.*