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Cawood Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

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Friday May 22nd

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to keep you up to date regarding the possibility of Cawood School opening in June.

Following on from my recent letter I wish to inform you of our provisional plans taking into consideration the latest up to date information issued by the government. It is very likely that our plans may have to change following any new guidelines. The governors are looking carefully at the ever changing landscape and continue to shape plans as to how and when the school will reopen in June. This is a complex process taking into consideration the health and safety of the children, staff, parents and the wider community. The governors are also looking closely at the 5 key tests announced by the government that should be met for the easing of the lockdown.

The first phase of reopening - how are we doing this?

It is very important to recognise and state clearly that the health and safety of staff, children and the local community is the guiding principle in all our decision making. In the first instance, therefore, we have decided to offer a gradual, phased reopening of our school. The key worker children are very much a priority and we will continue to have a group (bubble) of key worker children. From this point, we want to begin to welcome the Nursery children, then Reception, then Year 1 and finally the Year 6 children. However, I must emphasise, that these steps of reopening will be taken extremely cautiously, year group by year group; only when we are confident that the bubbles are well established and are operating safely, will we continue to welcome more children into school. We will continue to work carefully and methodically.

June 1st is the first possible date mentioned by the government. When will the school be open and which children will be coming into school?

These are questions that we have talked about for a long time and we have thought long and hard about the best way to proceed.



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If we receive the go ahead from the government on 28th May, at the point when the national criteria has been met, our provisional plan is as follows:

1st and 2nd June there will be staff briefings about the health and safety measures, health and safety training and preparation for the week ahead. There are many new measures, systems and detailed organisation to put in place.

The care centre for the key worker group of children will be the only bubble open on Tuesday 2nd for the children of key worker families and this will continue to operate throughout the week.

Here is the planned timetable for a possible reopening in June

Date	Event - what's happening	Staffing	Further comment
1.6.20	Training Day	All staff	The school is closed to pupils.
2.6.20	The care centre opens in class 4	Mrs McKee Miss Richardson Supported by additional staff.	Care centre Bubble open for all key worker children in all year groups. This bubble will continue throughout the week.
8.6.20	open for nursery	Mrs Rodgers Mrs Taylor	Nursery open – Monday 8 th and Tuesday 9 th June - staggered entry. See the nursery bubble letter for more details.
15.6.20	Open for reception	Bubble A: Mrs Ferguson/ Mrs Sanderson Bubble B: Mrs Jackson/Mrs Taylor	Bubble A attend on Monday and Tuesday. Bubble B attend on Thursday and Friday. See the reception bubble letter for more details.
22.6.20	Open for year 1	Class 1 Bubble A: Mrs Ferguson/ Mrs Sanderson Bubble B: Mrs Jackson/Mrs Taylor Class 2 Mrs Ramsdale/ Mrs Sykes	some children to join the reception bubble (class 1) See the Y1 bubble letter for more details. New Bubble in class 2 for year 1 children Mondays and Tuesdays.
Start date (TBC)	Opening for year 6 date to be confirmed.	Mrs Walker	Opening for the year 6 children as soon as possible. Please look out for more details to be published soon.

Apart from children of key workers and vulnerable children, our primary school offer will be for 2 days per week. Each class teacher will write to you with the details confirming which children are coming into school on which days and how the day will be organised with staggered start and finish times to the day and procedures for collecting the children.

The governors are concerned that the R rate in North Yorkshire is on the increase, at the time of planning to reopen. (The reproduction, or 'R' rate, is the number of people that a single infected person will go on to infect.) The governors and Mr. Payling are being cautious in these circumstances and will be watching the R rate for our region very carefully. If the situation improves, then we will speed up the process of welcoming children back to school. However, as it stands, we will be open for the key worker children from June 2nd and we will be planning for some children to attend from Monday 8th June.

Schools are opening from June 1st.

Why is our school opening for nursery children week beginning 8.6.20

It is the government's aspiration that schools in England should begin to 'reopen' from June 1st where circumstances permit. We are working and planning very carefully and we are following very stringent health and safety measures that are underpinned by a rigorous risk assessment. In following the government guidelines our first priority is to make sure that the key worker children bubble is settled and doing well. In the second week in June, from June 8th, we will ensure that the nursery children have settled well into their bubble (group) and we will continue to welcome other children into school.

School is statutory - does my child have to come to school if they are offered a place in one of the bubbles?

We are desperate to return to normality as soon as we can and we sincerely hope that every child that is offered a place will return to school feeling happy and comfortable with the measures we have in place. However, the complexity of the last few months means that we will have some children and families who cannot take up a places due to shielding or may feel uncertain. The government has clarified that children and families who do not attend will **not be penalised** at this time. However, as the school will become officially open for certain year groups, we have a duty to require absence notification in the normal way for any children who should be in attendance.

To assist in our planning, if you haven't yet booked a place for your child in the care centre, key worker group, please would you do so as soon as possible. We will continue to be as flexible as we can but, in the circumstances, the other bubbles in school is determined by the number of children coming into the key worker group in the first instance. Please email or ring school if you need to book a place for your child in the care centre, key worker group. The booking form has been added to our web site. Please note that the deadline for this has been extended to Monday May 25th but please let us know as soon as possible.



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What will it be like in June and what control measures are in place to ensure my child's safety?

Working with the diocese and NYCC, and following the advice of various external health and safety bodies, The governing body with Mr Payling have undergone a rigorous risk assessment process. Most, if not all the schools will be following the safety measures and the risk assessment that have been produced by NYCC. We have looked into various options governed by the safety protocols and we have identified that the best way for Cawood Primary school to start to reopen would be through a structured phased return. Pupils, staff, parents and governors must feel happy and confident about reopening the school in the knowledge that the correct systems and every possible safety measure has been put in place and that we have reduced any risk to an acceptable level. There will be an element of risk involved and we must state very clearly that, whilst we will endeavor to keep all children socially distanced by 2 metres, this is not possible for nursery and young children.

We have made provision for additional cleaning, including during the day. We will also provide clearly defined hand washing routines, social distancing as much as possible, including break and lunch times and we will continue to adapt and refine these control measures according to the age of the children and to their needs and understanding.

School meals will be a 'grab a bag' or a hot lunch that will be brought to the children: lunches will be served within the bubble classrooms; children will not meet or congregate in the hall at lunch time or for worship; bubbles will have their own separate break and playtimes which will be carefully managed. Teachers will explain to the children the new routines and play social distancing games to help the children understand how to move around the bubble area and outside. We will do everything that we can to make the learning environment safe and enjoyable whilst we are teaching. We want every child to continue to enjoy school and to continue to learn.

All parents, carers and families coming to school will be given detailed guidance which will involve staggered start and finish times, changes to class bases and staffing, along with special timetables for the day and week ahead. This will allow for social distancing when moving around the school site. Teaching spaces are being altered and resourced in June to maintain social distancing. Class bubbles will vary according to the practical needs of the children and room layout, but no bubble will exceed 15 children. The children will stay and learn in the bubbles and there will not be any movement between these class bubbles.

Each bubble will therefore have its own children and its own staff that will only work with those children. Each bubble will then work out its own bespoke timetable taking into consideration the age and the education needs of the children in the bubble. Teachers are very keen to create good learning environments but the classrooms and learning will be different as children will not be able to work together in the way that they would normally.

Finally, I am delighted that we have been able to work with Kidzone and that they are able to operate from within the school setting. In this way, we are able to offer before and after school childcare. Please give kidzone as much notice as possible but we understand that it is not always easy to predict working patterns at this time if you are frontline key worker. Kidzone have said that they will be as flexible as possible and are very happy to work with the school to offer as much help and support as they are able. Kidzone will also be following the stringent guidelines as set up by the school and are happy to work within the context of the care centre, key worker group. Kidzone will be operating from 7.30am in the morning to 8.45am and then 3.30pm to 6pm. They are able to offer some breakfast



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options and snacks in the afternoon. Please ring - 07882 545859 (or email suzyanne67@gmail.com) if you would like further details or you wish to make a booking.

We have met a lot of challenges in setting up learn packs and remote learning, establishing the care centre for key worker children and now we are looking forward to welcoming more children in early June. I'm sure there will be further problems and challenges that lie before us. Please do be patient with the situation and do contact the school via telephone or email if we can offer any further help and support. Staff are working very hard to provide the best we can for all the children. We do know and appreciate the highs and lows of home learning and the difficulties in balancing work with the demands of a home.

Thank you for your support, patience and understanding, and we look forward to seeing you before too long.

Very best wishes

N. B. Payling
(Headteacher)

Mrs J. Grey
(Chair of governors)

