

## Millhouse Primary School & Nursery

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**Millhouse**  
Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr G Allen

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

### Reopening Plans

We are writing to let you know what our plans are for the partial re-opening of our school. As you are aware, the government announced that they want schools to prepare for re-opening to children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6. The date they have given is 1<sup>st</sup> June, however this is a provisional date and will depend on the scientific statistics at the time. We have been told that we will know if this is definitely the date on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May.

We have been working tirelessly over the past few weeks to ensure that any plans we have are robust and most importantly, take into account the safety of children, staff and parents. As part of all this, we have had to consider the space we have available, the number of staff who are able to return safely, the number of children who we are expecting to return and how to maintain the guidance around social distancing and infection control (as well as the ever changing government advice and communications which we receive daily). We have undertaken thorough risk assessments for all aspects of school, including for those children who have SEND or medical needs.

As you read through our plans, we must remind you that we are working with children. We will make sure we implement all possible measures to limit the spread of the virus; however, knowing our children, we recognise that we may not be able to maintain social distancing at every point during the day. This is something that the government too, has recognised.

Whilst we are trying to ensure that children are in groups with others they know, they may not be with their own class teacher or in their own classroom. This will not be school as we recognise it. Normal teaching practices are not possible and normal routines will change. The classroom environment will look very different to the one the children are used to with individual tables for each child. If your child is returning to school, it would be beneficial for you to explain this to them to help them prepare.

We are basing our plans on the numbers that have been confirmed with parents. If you have not let us know your child is returning, they will not be allocated to a group. If parents change their mind at any point and want their child to return to school, they must email the school office and we will contact you to let you know when they can return. This will not be until the following week, to allow us to organise another group.

We are not pressuring any parent to send their child back to school, clearly you know your child and personal situation best, and no parent will be penalised for opting to keep their child at home during this time.

Our current plan is to place the children in small 'bubble groups' of 10-12 children with 2 or 3 adults. Each group will be completely separate from other groups and will not be able to mix at any time. School will be open for these pupils Monday-Thursday for 4 hours (more detail is attached). Nursery children will be welcomed back during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June. This will start with Year 6 on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, followed by Reception on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and Year 1 on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

*Inspiring tomorrow's generation, today.*

For children who are staying at home, we will continue to provide home learning via Google Classroom and maintain contact with staff and offer support where needed. Free school meal vouchers will continue to be sent to parents with children at home. Where a child has returned to school, these vouchers will stop and a packed lunch will be provided for them.

We wanted to give you as much information as possible so that all parents are fully informed with the correct details. Parents of children returning to school will be contacted separately next week with their child's specific times and group organisation. However, please also be mindful that these plans may change if the government advice changes next week.

We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding during this difficult time. It was also lovely to receive some heart-warming comments and messages of support from some of you.

If you have any questions relating to any of this, please email either your child's year group team or the school office and we will do our best to answer them.

Yours sincerely,



Mr G Allen  
Headteacher



Mrs J Haken  
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs D McGarry  
Deputy Headteacher