

FAQ – Parents of Year Six children

What size class will my child be in?

The DfE guidelines state that children will be educated in groups of no more than 15.

How will you social distance at school?

The DfE guidelines recognise that this is very hard for primary school age children to do. We will remind children about social distancing throughout the day. Children will sit as close to 2 metres apart as possible on a desk by themselves. Children will not take part in learning or recreational activities with children from other groups. Any lining up, for example in the dining hall to collect lunch etc, will be as close to 2 metres as we can manage.

Will my child be taught by their own teacher?

Children need to be taught in groups of no more than 15 therefore each Year 6 class will be split into two groups. As the staff are not allowed to mix between groups of children, it means that some children will be taught by their class teacher and some will be taught by teachers from other year groups. We are aiming to have a class teacher and a Learning Support Assistant in each class.

What will the curriculum content be?

The government have asked schools to open for Year 6 pupils in order to help prepare them for secondary school. This may mean catching up on some work missed during lockdown, sharpening skills, teaching new learning and carrying out transition work. The children will also be doing some work, as recommended by the DfE, around their own health and well-being following Lockdown.

If my child is not returning to Year 6, what work will be available for them?

Year 6 teachers will not have the capacity to set work on the VLE once they are back teaching full time. If you decide not to send your child to school then we will email you with work that the children are accessing in class. However it is not practical for us to simply email to you the work being taught in school – it invariably needs adapting for home learning. Therefore the volume of work set will depend on the time commitments of the Year Six teachers.

Does my child have to attend full time?

Yes, as our provision for Year Six is full time. The government have asked schools to stagger start and finish times to aid social distancing. Their preference is for schools to avoid having children in on a part time or rota basis if at all possible.

What will the SEN support look like?

There will be one Learning Support Assistant in each class of 15 to assist the teacher. Children won't be leaving the classroom for any interventions but will have guided support, if they require it, to support them with their work. LSAs and teachers will aim to maintain an appropriate distance from pupils while supporting them.

How will the classroom be set up?

The classroom will have one desk per child and desks will be spaced as far apart as is possible in the classroom. Use of equipment will be kept to a minimum. Children are asked to bring in their own learning equipment such as pens, pencils, rulers, etc.

What will happen at break time?

Each group of 15 children will have their own break times and their own space to have break times. For example one group may use half of the field whilst another group may be on the playground.

Will teachers and other staff be tested for Covid 19?

If any staff begin to display symptoms of Covid 19 then they will be eligible for testing. Staff have been advised on how to access test kits should they need to do so. We will be closely following government advice on this.

Can you guarantee that my child will be safe from contracting Coronavirus?

No, we cannot provide you with full certainty that they will not catch the virus in school. However we have minimised the chances as much as we are able to by following the government's detailed guidance. You should read the guidance, consider the measures we are putting in place and then make an informed decision as to whether you would like to send your child to school.

What measures are you taking to keep the school clean?

Mario and our cleaner, Sandy, are cleaning the school diligently each day. We also had the carpets, dining hall, main hall and toilets deep cleaned in advance of re-opening. The school will continue to be cleaned daily, with key areas cleaned during the day. We have copious supplies of hand sanitiser and cleaning wipes. Posters will direct children to appropriate washing facilities. Each classroom will have their own hand sanitiser unit and large specific bin for disposal of tissues and wipes. Children will be directed to wash their hands frequently.

What shall I do if my child develops symptoms of the virus?

If your child or anyone from your household develops symptoms of the Coronavirus then you should keep your child at home. Do not send them to school, and please notify the school office by 9am on the day of absence. You should then follow the government guidance with regards self-isolating.

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Version 22.05.2020