

Introduction

Thank you to all parents and carers who have sent in questions. We have anonymised some questions or made them more applicable to all parents. If we have missed out your question or want further information, please be in touch.

We have tried to group the FAQs in order to help you find the answers you are looking for.

Please note that we may have to change what we are planning to do following advice from the DfE, local authority or others. We may also have to be responsive to what is, or is not, actually working in practice!

There will be some parents (and staff) who would like a 'tighter' approach with health and safety and social distancing and others who are more relaxed. We have, and will try, to take a proportionate approach but welcome feedback from staff and parents as we gradually welcome more children back into school.

These FAQs are longer than I envisioned, but they are your questions and as many as possible deserve to be answered!

Before you read the FAQs this is what parents are saying:

Thank you for your excellent communications both during lockdown and with regards to the reopening of our school. We have constantly appreciated that you have put well-being at the heart of everything you do, not just for our children, but for our whole family and the school staff. At a time when we have been apart, we have never felt more included or supported by a community. Thank you.

Thanks for all your hard work in preparing so well for the children to return to school. The information that came home was very reassuring and I have every faith that the school environment will be as safe as it possibly can be and I'm delighted that year 6 will have the opportunity to experience a positive ending to their primary school years.

Thank you so much for all of the school's wonderful support during this time of staying at home. Our children have especially loved your Awesome Assemblies. This has been a difficult time however there has been a silver lining as it has been an incredible journey for us as a family and highlighted what is important in life.

Kind regards
Mr Etherton

OPENING

Q When will the school be communicating their final decision in the school reopening and when do the school need to know if we are sending our child in?

A We will only open the school if we are sure that we are sufficiently ready and that it is as safe as we can reasonably make it. As a Church of England (Aided) school, it is the governors who make the final decision about whether to open or not. We will always let you know our plans as soon as we can. However, the school also reserves the right to close the school at no notice for health and safety reasons.

ATTENDANCE

Q Do we have to send our child to nursery/school?

A No. It is up to you.

**Q A) Should the stats change and the country find itself in a stronger position in coming weeks, will we have the option to send our child back or is the decision we are making now, final?
B) In the parents survey sent home we responded that it was unlikely that our child would return to school. We are still undecided but do we need to let you know if she will be returning?
C) If my child is returning when do you need to know by?**

A Parents and carers can send their child(ren) back whenever they decide to.

- Once a child has started back at school, we request that they attend every day for the rest of term (unless ill!) to avoid further disruption.

- You do not need to let us know in advance as we have the capacity for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to return (except Wednesday afternoons) Parents of Little Fishes children need to liaise with the nursery about which sessions they can attend in due course – although at the moment we are unfortunately unable to move sessions.
- Children will still be placed in their originally allocated bubble – even if they start later than the others.
- According to the parent survey carried out before half term, we expect that about 10 or 12 children out of each bubble of 15 will attend school.

Q Should the children return to school but even after a reasonable period of adjustment, do not find that it is working for them, is it okay for them to be withdrawn?

A If you are considering this, please speak to the relevant teacher at the time so that any issues can be resolved.

Q If I have one child in Year 6 (or Year 1 or Reception) can my other child attend Rainbow Class for 2-3 days per week if I am a key worker?

A Yes – as you are a key worker, and provided we have space.

PLEASE NOTE: We expect demand for places in our **Rainbow Classes** to rise but we have LIMITED capacity of 15 children per year group (Years R to Year 5) and 8 in both Year 6 and the Nursery. Priority will be given to frontline NHS staff and each request will be considered on an individual basis. It is ESSENTIAL you book your child in (via email, not sQuid) and if demand is too high we may have to ring parents to assess who to prioritise places for.

TRAVEL

Q Can my child walk to school on their own?

A Ultimately it is up to you because you know whether your child can be trusted to walk safely AND follow social distancing rules. If so, talk to them about this. You could do a trial walk one evening to agree the exact route. Year 6 should really be coming to school independently as they will be for secondary school. Other than for Year 6, please email the school if you want your child to walk home (or part way home) on their own.

Q Will the lollipop man (Mr Lilly) be on duty?

A No. There will be no crossing patrol until September.

Q We have limited use of a car and can't use public transport so can our child attend part time?

A We would strongly urge children to attend full time. However if there are difficulties with this, please contact the school.

Further information about safer travel can be found here: <https://extranet.dft.gov.uk/safer-transport-campaign/schools/>

COMING INTO SCHOOL

Q School uniform?

A Yes – all children should wear school uniform. If this is not possible then please send a note/email into school. Children should not wear open toed sandals.

Q Please could we have a list of what you would like children to bring in to school on the first day?
A All children

- need to bring: named water bottle, sun hat, packed lunch (unless they have hot dinners), plimsolls or trainers Everything that children bring in to school should be in one small bag.
- may bring a healthy break time snack
- should not bring in: stationary (except Year 6), PE kit (except plimsolls/trainers) or home learning books (as they will use the exercise books they already have in school)

In addition:

- **Year 6** children may bring in a small pencil case which should then be left in school, on their table and not shared with others.
- **Reception and Nursery** need to bring in a small bag with a change of clothes (in case of accidents)
- Any **library** books should be returned to the labelled crate that we will leave by the school gate every Friday morning.

Q Will there be break time snacks?

A The government supported fruit and veg scheme is currently on hold. Children will need to bring their own health snack to school if they so choose.

Q What about water bottles?

A Children should all bring a named water bottle to school. For Years 1-6 this will be kept on their own table. (not altogether in one box/tray). Children need to be able to refill their water bottles from a tap as the water fountains are out of use.

PASTORAL CARE

Q How is best to feedback to the school on emotional well-being of children returning, i.e through letter or email?

A Either, but email is best so that we can make sure it goes to the right member of staff more quickly. We would also rather be paperless which is better for infection control.

Q How will it work for children returning to school who already have issues with going to school? What are the expectations of parents if a child does not go in to school with ease at drop off?

A If a child will not go in without their parent/carer, they will have to be taken home. Parents and carers will not be allowed to come into the school building. If you think this will be a challenge, please contact the school.

Q Can teachers comfort anxious children and those that need a bit more closer support to adjust?

A Yes. Although we will try to maintain appropriate distancing, we are human and staff will want to comfort pupils as appropriate – particularly those who are in their bubble.

Q I have some concerns about my daughter's learning and support in the classroom. She has been expressing a lot of upset about returning to school. Can I speak to her new/old teacher about her support needs before she returns to school?

A Our priority is definitely about supporting pupils and we recognise the anxiety that many children (and parents and carers) will have. All staff have received training on this just before half term. Once you know which bubble your child is in, do email the school office requesting an opportunity to speak to the new/old teacher. However, please only ask for a phone call if it is really necessary as it will not be possible to contact everyone!

Q Will children's day be more pastoral rather than academic?

A Our priority is pastoral, but we will want to move to the academic as soon as we can!

BUBBLE – groupings

Q Could you please let me know as soon as possible which group my child will be in?

A We have lots of questions on this theme – here are some answers:

- Children will be made up from children from their existing class, not a mixture of the year group (other than for year 1)
- We have not 'streamed' or grouped children according to ability. Friendship has been our main driver.
- We will let parents know early w/b 1st June. It has not been possible to do this earlier. Timetabling teachers and support staff is a very time consuming process and was not possible to complete prior to half term.
- We understand that parents would prefer their child to be with their current teachers and in their current classroom but it is not possible to agree to all these requests.
- We appreciate that different bubbles have different start and finish times but we are not able to coordinate this.
- We have not grouped children according to whether they are children of key workers or 'stay at home parents'.

Q How will the bubble system work?

A We have lots of questions on this theme, particularly about the mixing of bubbles in Octopus Breakfast Club, Rainbow Classes and normal class bubbles – here are some key points about it:

The ‘bubble’ system is not perfect and we cannot completely isolate one bubble from another bubble for Octopus Breakfast Club and Starfish After School Club. With limited staffing and accommodation, we can reduce risk and implement the following:

- Wherever possible we will keep children in their own bubbles, or at least in their own year groups.
- We will only offer places to children of key workers in Octopus Breakfast Club and Starfish After School Club.
- Octopus Breakfast Club and Starfish After School Club will be limited to around 15 children per day to make social distancing easier. Children in Octopus Breakfast Club will essentially come in, sit at their year group (or sibling) table in the Small Hall and stay there. Children can do activities in their place/table and breakfast will be brought to them, rather than for children to mill about.
- We can only accept a eight Year 6 in on a Wednesday afternoon so that they can maintain social distancing. They will be in a separate area room(s) away from the other year groups.
- Year 1 children will be limited to 15 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon and will form two year group bubbles eg Spinner and Dusky. They will be in their own room(s)
- Reception children will also be limited to 15 pupils on Wednesday afternoons and form two bubbles, Gray and Blue.

Q Will there be any restrictions on contact between children and the teacher within the bubble. e.g. if a child is upset will the teacher be able to comfort/ hug them?

A Contact between staff and children will be age appropriate. Year 6 should be able to socially distance but children in Early Years are not expected to do so.

Q While I understand why you will not be enforcing social distancing within the class bubble, I would like some reassurance that there will be some monitoring or guidance for the kids to follow as some children are naturally more tactile than others.

A We will be enforcing social distancing, as age appropriate. Eg Year 1 up.
Our ‘Bubble Rules’ will help children to understand what is or is not acceptable.

Q Will there be pictures showing the lay out of the classroom so I can show my child to get her prepared for the changes. I.e. will they be sat at desks by themselves spaced apart like we see in other schools in the news.

A Teachers are uploading short films on the school website so that children can see how they go into school and what the classrooms look like.

Q Will children be able to play freely with each other and not maintain a physical distance?

A Children in Year 1 and Year 6, as well as those in Rainbow Classes, will be expected to maintain a physical distance as much as possible. However, this is not possible for children in Early Years (Reception and Nursery).

Q Will there still be carpet time?

A Years 1-6 will not have carpet time as they will be based at their individual tables. Early Years will, but more spread out.

Q I would like to know more about how things will be managed in relation to disinfection for spaces my child will be going to, both on a daily basis and after usage by other bubbles.

A Generally, children will only use areas of school assigned to their own bubble or year group. Eg

- Only Year 6 will use the IT suite
- Only one reception bubble will use the art room
- PE will normally be outside
- Children won’t visit other classrooms.
- Small group work (interventions) won’t happen.

PLAYTIMES AND LUNCHTIME

Q Will milk be available?

A We have been informed that the milk scheme will not be running for the first week of June.

Q Will children and teachers stay in their bubbles during break times too or will they be mixing with the other bubbles?

A Children should be remaining in their own bubbles, except Y6 who can socially distance.

Q Will break times for each of the bubbles in the same year group be staggered?

A No, but bubbles are likely to be in different parts of the field/playground. The exception is for Year 6 provided they follow social distancing rules.

Q At play times will they be playing with equipment that other bubbles will also be playing with in their break times?

A No. Some fixed equipment (eg climbing wall, gym, castle etc) will be out of bounds. Most sports equipment, stilts etc will also not be in use. We will allow children to pass a football (not throw ins!)

Q Will it be advised that the children bring in packed lunches?

A As things stand, the school will be offering hot dinners. It is up to you whether you choose to send your child in with a packed lunch.

Q How is it anticipated that the children will safely manage lunchtime? In particular the concern was around the handling of cutlery.

I am concerned about the plans for play time and lunch time. It is not clear how these will remain completely separate for the bubbles. Will the children be accompanied by their teacher/teaching during all break to prevent mixing?

A A few points about lunchtimes:

- Children who have a hot dinner will collect their dinner and then sit in a designated place. Cutlery and mugs will be put on the tables in advance. Tables will be wiped down in between sittings – and sufficient time has been allowed for this.
- Most bubbles will be assigned two members of staff. One member of staff would accompany their bubble for the first half hour and the other for the second half (so they can also have a break) although some additional staff are needed to help over lunchtime.
- Each bubble will use a specific part of the field or a playground and not mix with other ‘bubbles’ The exception may be Year 6 where a member of staff may oversee more than one bubble – but Year 6 would be expected to maintain social distancing eg when picnicking with their lunch.
- For lunch, each bubble will be assigned a table or area to eat.

Q Where will children be eating their lunch?

A Children will eat as follows:

- Children in Year 1, Rainbow Classes and Year 6 who have a packed lunch will eat it in their own classroom bubble at their own table (except year 6 who may eat outside if fine).
- Rainbow Classes will eat their hot dinner, if they have one, in the Small Hall.
- Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who have a hot dinner will have it in the Main Hall in sittings.

Children will be assigned their own ‘bubble’ table(s) if eating in the Main Hall, Small Hall

PLEASE NOTE: Staff cannot help children to open sealed packed lunch items. Please make sure your child can open anything you give them!

OCTOPUS AND STARFISH CLUB

Q Do you foresee Octopus and Starfish Club opening this school year?

A Octopus and Starfish Club will only be open for the children of key workers and some vulnerable children for the foreseeable future.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Only children of key workers should use Octopus and Starfish Club.**
- **It is essential that children are booked in.**

CURRICULUM

- Q Will there still be show and tell?** (From a child)
A Unfortunately we cannot have too many things being brought into school. However, you could email a picture in!
- Q I have read in a newspaper report that children will not be taught anything they have not covered over the remaining half term, is this correct?**
A Partially correct. The priority is to settle children back into a routine and to prioritise key skills around reading and mental maths. Year groups may well continue (or start) topic work but it will not be possible to cover everything that would normally be taught. Children are likely to work in exercise books as well as worksheets as normal.
- Q Will the children in school be following the same curriculum as BBC Bitesize 'lessons' that home learners will be following?**
A Where possible we will be following our own curriculum. BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy can be used by those still at home.
- Q How much screen time will the children have?**
A Children will have less screen time as there will be more face to face contact! In addition the IT suite will only be used by Year 6 who will alternate between 'A' and 'B' computers on alternate days.

RESOURCES

- Q Will children be sharing stationary in the class room or allocated their own?**
A In years 1-6, children will not share stationary. They will be given their own stationary which will be kept on their own table
- Q Sharing books/ toys/ learning materials- will there be any restrictions?**
A Some toys and equipment have been removed from classrooms, particularly if they are hard to clean like soft toys.
- Q Will children be able to share resources?**
A Generally children will not be able to share resources. Each bubble will have their own set of resources which will not be shared with others. Some whole school resources and areas will be out of use.

ORGANISATION

- Q Will more classes be taught outdoors and will more time be spent outdoors?**
A We hope that more time will be spent outdoors but this does depend on the weather! Also, with 16 bubbles, plus the nursery, we will have to coordinate who is using which outdoor space.
- Q Will children be expected to sit at desks for lessons?**
A Children in Year 1, Year 6 and Rainbow Class will be expected to sit at their own desk for lessons.
- Q Will children be able to work collaboratively together?**
A Children are always expected to collaborate but this may look different. A bubble of 12-15 children may share ideas and solutions within a whole group context but not do, for example, paired work side by side (except in Early Years)

ASSESSMENT

- Q Will work be marked? And will they receive corrections and help with their work?**
A Staff will not be marking work as the focus will be on verbal feedback (which is actually more effective anyway). Sometimes a teacher could write a comment on a 'post-it' which the child then sticks into their book.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Q Will my child continue to get additional support?

A We are not able to provide additional support outside of each bubble except in exceptional guidance. If you need more information or support, please contact your child's 'bubble' teacher in due course.

BUBBLE RULES

Q What are the bubble rules?

A We have kept the bubble rules very simple, and are backed up with reminders and more detail!

*Stay safe in your bubble - Wash your hands - Keep a safe distance
Stay in your play area - Play the Bubble Games - Spread smiles and bubble hugs*

LITTLE FISHES NURSERY (LFN)

Please see some additional Nursery FAQs at the end of this document

Q Will there be flexibility around sessions that my child can attend?

A Several parents pointed out that their child would normally attend sessions on a Wednesday afternoon and/or Thursday when the nursery will be closed. Unfortunately, due to our capped numbers of children per session, we will not be able to offer your child an alternative session at the moment.

Q Will you share the names in the LFN bubbles on Monday?

A Yes

Q You mentioned that LFN will not have access to outside play equipment. Will LFN have access to outside space and the opportunity to be outdoors?

A Outside play equipment will be limited as some items are easier to clean than others. However LFN will have as much access to the outdoor space and school grounds as possible. They should be outside more than in!

Q What bubble rules will LFN children be asked to comply with?

Do the bubble sizes apply to LFN? There doesn't seem to be as much info on how LFN will work. Obviously some LFN children will do different days... if my child is in a bubble on Monday will it be the same bubble or fewer on Friday or will they potentially be exposed to more children to maintain a sensible number in the bubble?

A In keeping with the rest of the school, and with classroom availability, we will have no more than around 16 children in each classroom (bubble). Miss Gallagher will oversee both classes, and our Nursery TA'S will be split into two groups of around 8. All children are allocated into one bubble. They will not mix with each other. There may be less children in one bubble on one day and more the next day.

Q Could you share an outline of what the LFN day will look like? Will they be allowed to do their usual activities? What will be different for them?

- We will have a huge focus on our children's mental wellbeing- talking about how to own our feelings
- We will focus on re connecting with our children and helping them to feel like they are part of our class family.
- We will listen to our children, and support them through their emotions.
- We will be spending a lot of the day outside – in our forest area, in the field, in our learning garden.
- We will ensure that we keep the children in shady areas as much as possible.
- We will read together.
- We will do lots of singing together.
- We will learn all about how to look after ourselves.
- We will learn all about good hygiene
- We will begin to talk about the transition of moving up to reception.
- We will continue to follow the 7 areas of our EYFS curriculum.

Q Will they be expected to sit at a desk?

A Nursery children will not sit at desks.

Q Will the reduced sessions continue in September?

A We hope that all sessions will return to normal in from September – but we don't really know!

RECEPTION (New starters – September 2020)

- Q How do you plan to do 'Introduction to Reception' sessions for my child and other children who are starting in September as, obviously, that would have taken place this term?**
- A We are in the process of planning how and when we welcome new children to Reception for September 2020. We will send more information in due course.

RECEPTION (Current Reception) and YEAR 1

Reception and Year 1 parents asked a number of questions which have been answered elsewhere in this document – or will be answered through other information sent to parents.

YEARS 2-5

- Q Do you have any plans in place to invite Years 2 to 5 back to school before the end of the summer term?**
- A We don't have plans for Years 2-5 to return to school because the government has not advised us to prepare such plans and our focus has been on those year groups which will be returning. However, if it is safe to do so, we would be delighted to welcome everyone back before the summer break if we can.
- Q Can you accommodate the full school returning to bubbles of 15?**
- A No, we do not have the space. We could only have more year groups back in school if we have bubbles of 30 and/or year groups come back on a part time basis.

YEAR 6

- Q Should Year 6 wear school uniform with just a few weeks of school left?**
- A Yes. The PTA are looking at what second hand uniform can be made available. If any parents/carer has any challenges with school uniform, please let us know – just email the school office.
- Q With up to 12 children in a bubble, will this allow effective social distancing in the classroom?**
- A There will be up to 15 children in a bubble. Our classrooms are a good size and larger than for many schools. The advice of government is that this is ok. Whilst it may not be possible for all children to be 2m apart all the time, tables will be spread out as much as possible.
- Q Please could you roughly outline what the content of the last six weeks for year 6 may entail?**
- A The Year 6 team will inform parents about this in due course.
- Q Will Year 6 who attend Rainbow Class be in a separate bubble or will they mix with other Rainbow children?**
- A They will be separate, but with other Year 6 children. They will be expected to maintain good social distancing.

RAINBOW CLASSES

PLEASE NOTE: We have very limited capacity for the number of children we can accommodate in our Rainbow Classes. Please see the latest Parent Bulletin / Update for new booking in information.

- Q Who can go to rainbow classes?**
- A Vulnerable children and children of key workers who are in years 2-5 (every day), Nursery (Wednesday afternoons and Thursdays) and Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 (Wednesday afternoons only)
- Q Do I need to book in my child to Rainbow Classes if their year is going back to school?**
- A Yes please – especially for the first week when some returning year groups have a staggered start. Don't forget that all year groups need to book in for Rainbow Class on Wednesday afternoon when school is shut.

For more information about Rainbow Classes, please click here: [More Rainbow Classes Information](#)

HEALTH AND SAFETY

WASHING AND CLEANING

Q What are the enhanced cleaning arrangements? Are there cleaning facilities in each classroom, e.g. if a child coughs or sneezes on the desk so the teacher can quickly clean it?

A Enhance cleaning arrangements include:

- Premises staff to clean communal areas (eg corridors and toilets) before and after children arrive, mid-morning and after lunch.
- Bubble staff have a cleaning kit each to wipe down mid-morning and afternoon – on top of normal cleaning
- Additional cleaning on a Wednesday afternoon when the school is largely closed

Q What hand washing procedures are going to be in place? Will children be made to wash hands as soon as they arrive? Are their handwashing facilities in each classroom?

A Staff are ensuring that children wash their hands on arrival. Most classes have handwashing facilities or sinks nearby. We promote good handwashing practice.

Q Are children allowed to bring in hand gel from home?

A No thank you – we have plenty of gel / soap and water in school.

Q Will there be recommendations for parents to wash uniforms daily? What is the guidance?

A The government is to do normal washing, not necessarily every day.

Q Will the children use hand sanitiser or wash their hands frequently? We ask because during the course of this epidemic we noticed that certain brands of hand wash and sanitiser caused rashes and dryness with frequent washing.

A We appreciate that some children and adults have suffered dry hands. If you have a specific problem, please be in touch.

TOILETS

Q How will the toilets be managed for all the children in school?

A Children will use toilets assigned to their bubble eg

- Year 6 – Key Stage 2 toilets
- Year 1 – ground floor Ark toilets
- Rainbow Classes – first floor Ark toilets
- Reception and nursery – EY toilets.

Staff are also assigned toilets too.

Toilets will be cleaned more frequently eg mid-morning, mid-afternoon and after school.

FIRST AID

Q What about Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?

A Staff will not wear facemasks in school unless dealing closely with a child/adult who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus. Staff will wear gloves when appropriate eg cleaning or doing first aid. Staff will not routinely wear face masks when dealing with normal first aid. Children should not wear facemasks in school as this is not government policy and could unsettle other children.

COVID-19

Q Will parents be told if someone has COVID-19 in school? Can we please be updated before the school reopens if there has been any COVID-19 cases in the school during lockdown, currently or before including staff, children and their families?

A We are not able to collate all this information. If staff, children and their families have the symptoms of COVID-19 then we would expect them to follow government guidance around isolation and report absence from school accordingly. We would only inform parents if advised to do so by the authorities. We will inform the relevant authorities and seek advice. It may be that staff and children within the affected bubble are advised to be tested and/or isolate.

- Q A) **If someone in school when reopened is diagnosed with COVID-19- what is the procedure and how will it affect children in the school?**
 B) **Should a child display symptoms of Covid-19 what procedure will the school take? If positive what will happen to the rest of the students in the said class?**
 C) **I note WSCC guidelines on reporting it to Public Health England but as a school will we ask the bubble to self isolate for 7 days ?**

A Essentially the child would be isolated and sent home. Staff would wear PPE if needed. The areas of the school that the child had used would be vacated and cleaned. It may be that children and staff in that 'bubble' or who had had contact with the child would have to isolate and/or be tested for COVID-19.

For anyone – pupil or staff member - who believes they may have symptoms or is notified that they are a confirmed case of coronavirus, the individual affected must stay at home self-isolating, following the [guidance found here](#).

- If you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, OR you have received a positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test result, the clear medical advice is to immediately self-isolate at home for at least seven days from when your symptoms started. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.
- You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 if you haven't already – [visit this website](#) to arrange.
- Consider alerting the people that you have had close contact within the last 48 hours to let them know you have symptoms of COVID-19.
- Following a positive test result, you will receive a request by text, email or phone to log into the NHS Test and Trace service website and provide information about recent close contacts.

A headteacher receiving notification from a pupil or staff member should contact Public Health England, Sussex Health Protection Team:

Q **What happens if R in our area or nationally exceeds I? Will the school shut again?**

A We will consider the advice of the DfE and local authority but it is the governing body who make the final decision.

Q **Can you guarantee no medical procedures will take place without the written approval from both parents? This includes disinfecting, testing and vaccinations**

A There are no plans for testing or vaccinations on school premises. If there are, we would inform parents and carers and seek permission.

Cleaning and disinfecting does happen in school and will continue to do so in line with our first aid policies.

Q **Many other schools are sharing their risk assessments and control measures, detailing the many measures that need to be put into place to ensure staff and pupil safety. When will you be able to share this key information with parents so that we can make an informed decision on our children returning?**

A The guidance from the government keeps changing and some guidance (eg for EYFS) still had not been published prior to half term. Likewise, WSCC have only relatively recently updated their model Risk Assessments for schools following comment from the unions. We also need time to apply good practice and statutory guidance to our own settings, whilst also consulting our own staff and allowing parents and carers to ask questions / raise concerns. Part of the reason for delaying the start date to reopen the school is allow sufficient time to pull all this together. We hope to complete our risk assessments early w/b 1st June and can make this available to parents and carers.

Q **Will each school have COVID-19 tests in stock ready to be given out to children/staff?**

A No – this will have to be undertaken via the NHS.

Q **If staff or children have symptoms other than the key coronavirus symptoms, what is the guidance? eg. headache, sore throat, runny nose etc?**

A We would follow our normal medical policies and NHS advice.

Q **Will the school take the temperature of children each morning or ask parents to do so?**

A This is not government policy at the moment and we don't have the equipment or capacity to do so.

ADDITIONAL FAQ Nursery

- 1. *My child normally attends nursery on a Wednesday afternoon and Thursday am or pm, will they be allowed to attend Rainbow Club as nursery will not be open.***

If your child is considered vulnerable or if either parent is a key worker, yes your child will be able to attend Rainbow , which will be in our nursery class.

- 2. *I am not a key worker. Will I be able to swap my child's sessions as they normally attend on a Wednesday and Thursday all day?***

Swapping days and sessions is not an option due to the new capped numbers for each bubble.

- 3. *Will I be able to come into the Little Fishes classroom to help my child settle back in? Are both parents allowed to drop off and pick up?***

In line with the rest of the school, it is crucial to reduce contact between parents and carers when dropping off and picking up your child, this includes limiting drop off and pick up to one parent or carer per family and staggering timings. We will not allow parents or carers into the setting. One of the Little Fishes staff will come out to meet your child outside the 2metre perimeter of nursery and welcome them into nursery.

- 4. *My child has not been at nursery for a very long time, what if they are very upset and don't want to come in?***

We will do all that we can to positively invite and encourage your child into nursery. However, if your child is extremely distressed, we will ask you to bring your child in later in the session or in their next session.

- 5. *Can my child bring their comforter from home?***

This should only be if *absolutely essential* and, where this is the case, items should be appropriately cleaned on arrival and kept in their rucksack.

- 6. *My child attends two separate early years settings, are they allowed to attend both?***

No, to reduce mixing, children should attend just one setting to minimise contact between groups of children and staff.

- 7. *How will children be organised and how many children will be in each classroom?***

There will be a maximum of 15 children in each class. If demand for places is higher than the setting's capacity when measures to allow physical distancing between groups are in place, *it may be necessary to have a temporary cap on numbers of children attending the setting.*

- 8. *Which grown-ups will be in each room?***

As far as possible, the same members of staff will be assigned to each group and these will stay the same during the day and on subsequent days. We endeavour to keep our staffing arrangements as consistent as possible.

- 9. *How will hygiene be managed and maintained in nursery?***

Children will wash their hands on arrival and throughout the day. Children will be supervised when washing their hands and using hand sanitiser, they will learn how to do it effectively. We will ensure that we have a good supply of disposable tissues throughout the setting.

- 10. *Can my child bring in their own hand gel or tissues?***

No, to reduce lots of extra belongings from home coming into nursery, we will provide children with hand gel and tissues.

- 11. *How will staff ensure that the nursery is kept clean?***

We will ensure surfaces that children and staff are touching, such as toys, books, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, are cleaned more regularly than usual by putting in place an enhanced cleaning schedule using disinfection as appropriate.

- 12. *What will my child be allowed to play with?***

We need to minimise the sharing of resources between groups. Painting, sticking, cutting and outdoor construction activities, will be thoroughly cleaned before and after use by different groups. Malleable

resources, such as play dough, should not be shared between groups and public health advice is that, as sand pits cannot be thoroughly cleaned between uses, they should not be used at this time.

13. Will my child have access to free flow play in the other reception classes?

No, children will stay in their bubble during the day.

14. Where will my child have lunch?

In their separate bubbles in their separate classrooms.

15. How will the nursery environment look?

Public health advice is to remove all soft toys, and any toys that are hard to clean, such as those with intricate parts. Soft furnishings, including pillows, bean bags and rugs will be removed. Fancy dress clothes, dolls, cuddly toys, babies, baby clothes will be removed from the class.

16. Will my child be expected to maintain 2 metres apart?

We know that, unlike older children and adults, children in the early years cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. We will therefore work through the hierarchy of measures set out in the protective measures guidance:

- ensure parents are advised to keep children with any symptoms at home
- ensure staff who are symptomatic do not attend work
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning of settings
- minimising contact and mixing
- ensure children and staff mix in a small consistent group and that small group stays away from other groups.

We will also ensure:

- physical distancing between groups of children and staff as far as possible
- that individual groups use the same area of a setting throughout the day as much as possible
- that the sharing of toys and resources is reduced
- that any toys or resources that are shared can be easily cleaned between different groups' use

17. What must I do as a parent if my child has coronavirus symptoms, or there is someone in their household who does?

The child should not attend the setting under any circumstances. Their child and members of their household will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and they are encouraged to get tested.

18. What will happen if my child develops signs of covid at nursery?

Anyone who begins to display coronavirus symptoms while in nursery should be sent home immediately and follow government guidelines on what to do if you or someone in your household develops symptoms. If a child is waiting to be collected, they should be separated from their group and isolated with one member of staff if this is possible. A facemask should be worn if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained from a child who is symptomatic and awaiting collection and if contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a facemask should be worn. If a risk assessment determines there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing or spitting, then eye protection should also be worn.

19. Will the staff be wearing PPE and masks?

The majority of staff will not require PPE, beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain distance of 2 metres from others.

20. Can I chat to the teachers at the end of the day?

As mentioned above, in line with the rest of the school, it is crucial to reduce contact between parents and carers when dropping off and picking up their children. Therefore we ask if you could email the office any queries that you have before and after each session. We can email you back asap.