



21 May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that you all continue to remain safe and well. Thank you for your continued efforts to home school and support your child/children during this pandemic. Following the government's announcements that schools should plan to welcome back more children from the 1st June, and the subsequent letter from our partners at the Wessex Learning Trust, I am writing to share our plans for the pupils of Fairlands Middle School.

Much of the government intention was around early years provision. All of this information was based around a primary/secondary model of education, not the unique 3-tier system that runs so successfully here in the Cheddar Valley. The Year 6 requirement is not something that is important for us, as our transition points take place in Years 4 and 8. In this letter, I will outline a summary of our plans.

The priority for providing places at Fairlands continues to be:-

1. Our most vulnerable pupils (from all year groups)
2. The children of key workers (from all year groups)

The number of pupils attending these groups continues to grow rapidly. Consequently, the only provision in school for the first two weeks, weeks beginning 1st and 8th June, will be for this group of pupils. Staff will be in school supporting these pupils, as well as receiving training and preparing rooms for a wider return of pupils. They will also be preparing and issuing further online learning for pupils.

The following will then be implemented:-

- Week beginning 15 June - keyworker/vulnerable pupils and **Year 6 pupils only.**
 - Week beginning 22 June - keyworker/vulnerable pupils and **Year 5 pupils only.**
 - Week beginning 29 June - keyworker/vulnerable pupils and **Year 7 pupils only.**
 - Weeks beginning 6 & 13 July - keyworker/vulnerable pupils and **Year 8 pupils only.**
- We hope this may include some transition work with Kings

Arrangements for pupils:

- Pupils will attend for **mornings only** from **9:00am to 12:30pm**. Pupils will only attend the morning to enable deep cleaning of every classroom, as well as remove the risks associated with meals and lunchtime.
- The arrival and finish times will be staggered to prevent all pupils entering and exiting at the same time. Further details to follow.
- Pupils attending will be in small classes of between 10-12 pupils.
- Pupils will sit at the same chair and table, in the same classroom, for the duration of their time in school each day.



Fairlands Middle School

Masons Way, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3PG, Tel: (01934) 743186 Fax: (01934) 744457 Absence Line: (01934) 743908
E-Mail: office@fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk Website: www.fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Stefan McHale
Deputy Headteachers: Helen Heffernan and Kate Persaud
Associate Leaders: Robert Cooling and Matthew Vincent SENDCo

Safeguarding Children is everyone's responsibility.

If you are worried about any child please make an appointment to see either Helen Heffernan, Designated Safeguarding Lead or Robert Cooling, Felicity Grant, Sally Virgin, Designated Safeguarding Deputies
Alternatively, you can phone NPSCC: 0808 800 5000 Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224



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- Break times will be staggered *and pupils from different groups will not be allowed to play together.*
- Pupils will need to bring their own water bottle, snack, pen and pencil.
- No lunch/break-food will be provided. Pupils eligible for free school meals will continue to receive the government voucher.
- No online learning will be set for that year group of pupils for that week.
- Sessions for the week of attendance will include online safety, mental health and preparing them for the next stage of home learning.
- We will continue regular hygiene – hand washing and hand sanitisation between each activity. Social distancing will be aimed for but cannot be guaranteed at all times! We will continue our 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it!' approach.
- Uniform does not need to be worn. There needs to be a complete change of clothes from one day in school to the next.
- School transport may be arranged, but again socially distancing cannot be guaranteed. I would urge families to provide their own transport arrangements where possible.

This plan has been put together as we would like to offer every child the opportunity to spend some time in school before the end of the academic year. We recognise that these plans will not suit every family and that some families may not choose to take up this offer. Any family that chooses not to attend will **not** be penalised. Tutors will also be in touch to check in with each child. For families that are struggling to access Edmodo please contact office@fairlandsmiddleschool.co.uk where we will arrange for paper copies to be sent home. These plans are subject to the latest scientific evidence and may change. I know that this will cause disruption to families, so would like to thank you in advance for your support throughout this difficult period.

To help us to plan for this phased return, could you please complete the short survey via the link below by 31st May, thank you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YHQFT7D>

My very best wishes

Yours sincerely

Stefan McHale
Headteacher



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