



St Francis Catholic Primary School

Myers Lane, Bradford BD2 4ES: Tel/fax: 01274 638520

Email: office@stfrancisbrad.co.uk

Website: www.stfrancisbradford.sch.uk

Twitter: @stfrancisbrad

Executive Headteacher: Mr D. Copley

Head of School: Mrs A. Haines



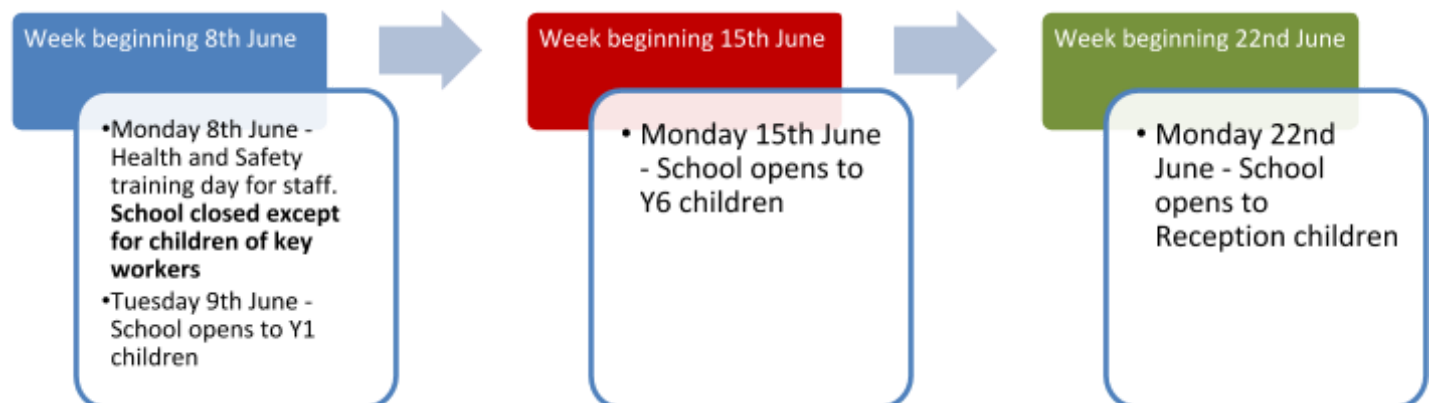
1st June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to start by extending a big thank you for your patience and understanding during the period that school has been closed to the majority of children. We understand that this will have been a difficult time for you, having to juggle childcare, home learning and work commitments, as well as with the many other difficult circumstances your family may have found themselves in. As a school community, we would like to send our deepest sympathies to those of you who have lost loved ones during this time, and our prayers for all who have suffered.

As stated in our previous letter, we will shortly be in a position to open school to a larger number of pupils using a **safe, steady and sustainable** approach: gradually increasing the number of pupils accessing school over a period of time, reviewing our safety procedures regularly and ensuring that we are able to continue to operate safely as our numbers increase. We would like to set out the timetable for this wider opening below and to make you aware of the safety measures we will be putting in place. Please note that we will only begin this programme if we consider it is safe to do so, in accordance with government advice:

Timetable for wider reopening to pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 only



At this stage, while the government guidelines on social distancing and *implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings* are in place, **we will not be able to open to other year groups**. This is due to limitations on space and staffing available. We will also be unable to provide Breakfast and After-School club provision due to the necessity for pupils from different groups not to mix. However, we will be continually reviewing our procedures, and the above timetable will be revised if necessary or appropriate.





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We would like the children returning to school and the children of key workers to wear school uniform from Monday 8th June. We will of course be flexible with this as we understand that during the lockdown period, children may have grown out of some items. We strongly advise parents to wash any clothes the children have worn at the end of each day.

Some important points to note:

Childcare will continue to be available for children of key workers and pupils with EHCPs

School will be closed for deep cleaning every Friday afternoon **EXCEPT** for children of key workers and those with an EHCP

Weeks 4-6: details to be confirmed

Key worker parents

If your child(ren) has been accessing our childcare facility during this time of school closure but your child is in one of the eligible classes to 'return to school', you have a very important decision to make. You need to decide if you wish your child to continue to access the childcare provision which runs from 8am-6pm **OR** return to school within their year group which runs from 8:30am-3:30pm Mon- Thurs and 8:30am-12:30pm on Fridays (please note: these times will include staggered drop offs and pickups for different groups of children). Whichever provision you decide on, your child must remain within this for the foreseeable future as we must minimise contact and mixing. If you choose the childcare provision for key worker children, you can continue to select days and times which suit your working pattern and we will continue to survey you for these details weekly.

We believe that the decision on whether to send your child back to school at the present time rests with you as parents and carers. The government have explained that no fines for non-attendance will be issued until further notice. We will continue to provide home learning on our website (for FS1/2 and KS1) and Google Classroom (for KS2), as we have been doing, for as long as it is possible: children both at home and in school will be able to complete these tasks. However, we have been working hard to ensure school is as safe as possible and have made a number of significant changes to ensure the risks to our pupils and staff are minimised. These can be found on the next page:





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St Francis – Covid 19 Safety Measures



Children will be taught in consistent **groups of no more than 15 children** with 2 adults. These groups, or 'bubbles' will have very little or no contact with each other. There will be separate break times and lunchtimes, and staggered drop off and pick up times for each group.



Children and staff will **clean their hands** more often than usual. We will teach the children how to do this and supervise them washing and sanitising their hands at frequent intervals.



Children will be taught to '**catch it, bin it, kill it**' – sneezing or coughing into tissues and throwing these away.



The school will be **cleaned more often** than usual. There will be cleaning products available for staff to use during the day, and our cleaning team will clean classrooms, toilets and high traffic areas frequently. School will close 1 afternoon each week for a thorough deep clean.



We will ask staff and parents to **maintain good social distancing**. Only one adult must drop their child off or collect their child. There will be markers to ensure a socially distanced queue, and parents are asked not to gather in groups outside school.



Children will be given an **allocated drop off/collection time** which must be adhered to: this is vital to ensure that we can maintain effective social distancing between parents.



The **school office will be closed** to visitors: anyone wishing to speak to a member of staff must telephone or email the office and face to face appointments should be avoided.



Children **will not bring items to and from school** – e.g. book bags, reading books, toys, etc. to limit the potential for cross-contamination.





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Specific Medical Needs

We strongly recommend that if your child or anyone in your household has received an NHS shielding letter that they do not attend school until they have been advised by a medical professional it is safe to do so.

Advice from the DfE about children and families with specific medical circumstances

- Children who have been classed as **clinically extremely vulnerable** due to pre-existing medical conditions have been advised to **shield**. **We do not expect people in this category to be attending school, and they should continue to be supported to learn or work at home as much as possible.**
- For a child who lives in a household with someone who is **clinically extremely vulnerable**, as set out in the guidance on shielding, it is advised they "only attend an education or childcare setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, if they are able to understand and follow those instructions." **As a school, we must advise you that we are unable to guarantee that every child will adhere to every social distancing and safety measure, and as a result, those in this category may choose not to send their child into school.**
- **Clinically vulnerable** (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.
- A child who lives with someone who is **clinically vulnerable** (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, can attend their education or childcare setting

Advice from the DfE about testing and suspected/confirmed cases of coronavirus

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be **sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days**. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are **encouraged to get tested in this scenario**.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, **the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days**. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases a larger number of other children or young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.





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Staggered drop off and pickup times:

	Staggered drop off time Monday-Friday	Staggered pick up time Monday-Thursday (Friday in brackets)
Year 1 YELLOW BUBBLE	8:30am	2:45pm (11:45am)
Year 1 BLUE BUBBLE	8:40am	3pm (12pm)
Year 6 PURPLE BUBBLE	8:50am	3:15pm (12:15pm)
Year 6 ORANGE BUBBLE	9am	3:30pm (12:30pm)

Until we know which children will be returning to school, we cannot allocate the children to a bubble. We will be in a position to release this information this Friday 5th June. Information for parents/carers of Reception children will follow at a later date.

Once again, thank you for your understanding as we move into this next stage of our plans for your child's education during this ever-changing period. Please take the time to read and consider the information presented here and decide **if you intend to send your child to school** on the date above. We need to know this information by the dates set out below so we can plan for the safe return of this wider group of children.

On Wednesday this week (3rd June), we will make a video available to your children to help with their transition back into school. Through this video, we hope to show the children (and yourselves) what school will look like on their return, the new systems and routines we will have in place and the new expectations we will have for hygiene and behaviour. We hope this letter and the forthcoming video will provide you with clear information on what the return to school will look like. On Thursday this week (4th June), we will then survey all parents/carers of children in eligible cohorts once again on whether you intend to send your children back on the dates given.

We have worked extremely hard to establish this small-group structure, and it is therefore essential that you complete this survey so that we can continue to plan to ensure school is as safe as possible. Children whose parents register them as a definite 'yes', will then be added to a register: **children who are not registered will be unable to start school on the stated date.**

If you wish to discuss your options, are unable to access the surveys, or you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the office email address. We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and trust that you will help us to make this transition as safe and as smooth as possible.

Yours sincerely,

D. Copley

Mr D Copley
Executive Headteacher

A. K. Haines

Mrs A Haines
Head of School



