

GLENDALE INFANT SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Wider Opening Update

Here is an update regarding wider opening and the plans and preparations that have been going on over the past few weeks. Our Risk Assessment was completed earlier this week and sent to the Local Authority for quality assurance, once this is returned we will be in a better position to give a date for the wider reopening for RECEPTION children ONLY. Please note that Key Worker provision has and will continue to be available. The government will today inform us if the wider opening is able to start from June.

Classrooms are being changed to allow for the bubbles/groups of children to come in. Groups of children will be given a gate and a time to arrive and leave. You will get this in writing. If there are problems we will try and help to solve them, but it may not be possible in all cases and you may need to speak to your employer if timings cannot be changed.

Reception will be split into 6 bubbles, with a maximum of 15 children per bubble and 2 staff. 3 classes will have their usual class teacher and a TA, the other 3 will have their familiar TA and a different teacher. Each bubble will have the exclusive use of an allocated outside space. Which they will be encouraged to use as much as possible, weather permitting. You need to ensure your child has a hat and sun cream with them – clearly labelled.

We will have 2Key Worker/Vulnerable children bubbles from wider opening, as our numbers requiring a place will increase significantly. There is capacity for a third at short notice, it numbers go beyond 30.

The children in **Reception** will be in school for 4 full days Monday – Thursday, and until lunchtime on Friday, to allow for teachers to review, plan and prepare more widely and for additional cleaning. Children will have the option of a hot or cold lunch on 4 days and will bring home a deli bag on a Friday. Parents have already begun to ask if their children have to be in everyday, we are leaving the decision to you, but you will need to use the usual absence reporting and phone/text school to inform us of your child's absence. If they are in for the day, then it will be a full day.

Key Worker & Vulnerable children will be in 5 days, full-time, if required.

EARLY BIRD - Our ability to offer it more widely would mean mixing bubbles and staff and having 8 different bubbles of EB/ASC is unmanageable, with some staff having their own childcare arrangements too. Therefore it is only available to the KEY WORKER group currently.

We will be using 3 entrances (the fourth being left for the exclusive use of the private Pre-School), these will be clearly marked and staffed at the beginning and end of the day. Each bubble will have a start and finish time, meaning there will be a maximum of 15 parents & their child(ren) at each entrance at any time.

At this time our building is then full, with regards classroom space. We would not be able to take Year 1 back, unless the government change their guidance on group sizes or further classroom space is somehow provided.

It might be advisable for you to 'walk your child' to school once you know the date of their return to let them see their entrance and what it looks like, with the pavement markings etc.

EXCEPTIONS ON WIDER OPENING:

You will need to wait outside your allocated gate and a member of staff will come and unlock the gate and let your child(ren) in, parents will not be allowed to come on site, except in an emergency/prior invitation. This will reduce the risk of spreading the virus as the number of adults and children returning to school increases. We ask that only 1 adult/person drops off and collects. We are asking that parents do **not** park in Skye Close and Oldany Way to ensure pedestrian safety. If you have 2 children, in different groups/bubbles, you can bring them both to the same entrance and they will be escorted to their room/bubble by a member of staff.

Children should **NOT** bring in any personal belongings, including bags and book bags with the exception of:

Own packed lunch (if bringing) please put it into a carrier bag, these will be disposed of at the end of lunchtime, so do not overfill as food will be wasted

Drinks bottle

Coat/jumper/cardigan

Hat

Sun-cream – please ensure your child's name is on the container.

Our kitchen will be providing meals for all children as normal, there will be one hot and one deli option each day. Deli bag/sandwiches will be eaten in their classrooms or outdoor area and hot dinners will be served in the hall.

The children will only be allowed to the toilet one at a time and an adult will accompany them (waiting in the corridor), but will ensure correct handwashing after.

Children should **NOT** bring cuddly toys, or toys of any description.

If your child comes to school on their bike or scooter you will need to take it home at the moment.

Children are expected to be back in their uniforms on their return to school, if their uniform no longer fits please telephone/email school and we will try and provide some second hand uniform.

Children will be asked to wash their hands as soon as they enter their room/bubble and they will wash them before they leave the room/bubble on an afternoon. Obviously, they will be washing them lots during the day too. (We will send you a full copy of all of the details when we send out letters to the other parents.)

If you are choosing to send your child back, you are accepting to agree to and follow the rules set out in this and any further letters. Failure to do so could result in your child's place being withdrawn. Any type of abuse towards staff will not be tolerated and could result in the place for your child being withdrawn.

If you have any questions at any time please do feel free to ask, please do this via phone, text or email and not when dropping off or collecting to avoid unnecessary waiting for other parents/children and staff.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Hopkins