



Plan for June 1st 2020

Reopening

The following document outlines Gentleshaw Primary Academy's plan for a phased return on June 1st 2020. If it is determined by the government that a phased return is not possible on 1st June, this plan will be referred to at a later date.

In order for this plan to be most successful it is vital for the academy, parents/carers and employers to work together.

Introduction

The Government directive is that Primary schools in England prepare for the possibility of a phased return of children from the 1st June for pupils in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6. These cohorts will be the first to return to school alongside the key worker children and those identified as vulnerable. The government has also announced that the aim is for children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 to return to school for 4 weeks before the summer.

In order for this to occur with minimal risk to pupils, families and staff, suitable plans must be put in place for aspects such as: class size, groupings, breaks and lunchtimes, movement around the academy building, cleaning and pick-up and drop-offs.

If all pupils from nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6 returned to the academy on June 1st this would be a total of 76 pupils. This would require 6 learning bubbles with the addition of key worker children bubbles. To minimise risk, social distancing would need to be adhered to at the drop-off and collection of pupils; contact amongst pupils in school when moving around the academy building or outside areas prevented and home learning opportunities continue for those pupils not attending school. We do not have the physical space available for this structure for all pupils at once, nor does it take into staff absence and that not all staff members work on a fulltime basis.

Therefore, it would not be the safest option for Gentleshaw to operate with this number of children.

OUR AIMS

1. To support vulnerable families.
2. To offer childcare to the children of key workers.
3. To support parents in returning to work.
4. To enable the children of designated year groups to have interaction with their teacher, familiar adults and some of their peers.
5. To support the emotional well-being of children and families.
6. To continue to support those children not attending the academy with remote learning.

ORGANISATION

When considering health and safety, the logistics and practicalities, a part time model is the safest way for the academy to operate.

Each cohort (nursery/reception, year 1 and year 6) will be separated into 2 learning bubbles.

Learning Bubble	Days Attending Gentleshaw Primary Academy
Learning Bubble A	Monday and Tuesday
Learning Bubble B	Thursday and Friday

The academy will be closed all day on a Wednesday, except for key worker children, in order for a deep clean to take place in preparation for the next bubble and as staff PPA time. Key worker children will be placed in a separate bubble/bubbles and this will be available based upon need from Monday to Friday, following discussion with academy staff.

In the circumstance of government directive to reintroduce other year groups back to the academy, the learning bubble structure will enable this to be carried out whilst maintaining existing routines and practice.

Once parents/carers have completed the online form, learning bubbles will be allocated. If you decide that your child will be attending school, you will receive a text message informing you if they are in learning bubble A or B by Sunday 24th May.

Learning Bubbles

Each learning bubble (with exception of the key worker bubble) will be led by the class teacher and one/two members of support staff with a maximum of 15 pupils. There will be the option for learning bubbles to break into smaller groups with the adults (class teacher and support staff) within the learning bubble.

The learning bubbles will be designated specific areas and toilets in order to avoid cross contamination as much as possible, as well as designated time for break and lunchtimes.

Staff and Pupil Expectations

Appendix 1 shares expectations of the academy, staff and families. Staff will also adhere to specific staff expectations and act as role models at all times.

Social Distancing

The government has acknowledged that children consistently adhering to a 2 metre distancing within a school setting is not consistently possible. Even so, we will be encouraging and expecting pupils and staff to retain a safe distance from one another and staff will act as role models for this. Routines and activities will support social distancing. We will not be marking or taping off areas for individuals as we want to ensure that children feel safe and as comfortable as possible during this different time.

Classrooms will be configured to support pupils working at a safe distance and activities and resources will support social distancing at all times.

Staff will adhere to social distancing and avoid any unnecessary contact with adults from other learning bubbles or working within the academy.

Squirrels

Squirrels will not be operating during this time. Limiting interaction amongst pupils and adults is a key priority and attending before and after school provision would therefore be counterproductive. We will continue to evaluate this as the weeks go on.

After School Clubs

No after school clubs will take place for the rest of the summer term. This is to support the prevention of pupils mixing with other children not in their learning/key worker bubble.

Hand Hygiene

Each class will have an allocated hand washing areas which will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Children will have access to soap, water and paper towels, as well as 70% alcohol hand sanitiser gel. All children and staff will be required to wash their hands regularly during the day, including upon entering the academy building at the start of the day.

In preparation for pupils returning to the academy a deep clean has taken place. Specialised cleaning products have been used throughout (Mediclean) and will continue to be used.

Playtimes

Each learning bubble will be allocated a specific time to use the playground/outdoor areas, not mixing with other learning/key worker bubbles. Should the weather not permit children going outside we will ensure recreation time takes place inside the academy building whilst still ensuring that pupils and staff only mix with their bubble.

Lunchtimes

To avoid additional adults mixing with pupils, lunchtimes will be supervised by the adults working within each learning/key worker bubble.

School lunches will still be available to order and for those pupils in receipt of universal free school meals (reception, year 1 and year 2) and free school meals. There will be one hot and one sandwich option per day. These lunches will be delivered to the classroom to prevent the need for children to travel to other areas of the academy.

Children will eat their packed lunch or school lunch in their designated classroom or outside – not mixing with any other learning bubbles. Staff will eat their lunch in the classroom or in a designated space whilst socially distanced from other staff members.

Drop-off and Collection

It is necessary for us to stagger the drop off and collection times of each learning/key worker bubbles, therefore there will be changes to the timings of the school day. Details of timings and drop off points will be available on the academy website the week commencing 25th May, once we have a full picture of numbers in each bubble. Where parents have children in multiple groups they will be given one time slot. Parents will not be permitted to access the academy premises, will be expected to keep an acceptable distance from one another and to keep the number of people dropping off and collecting to a minimum – ideally one. These factors are vital in minimising the risk for all. We also ask that children do not come to school alone or walk home alone as we cannot ensure that social distancing is maintained.

Curriculum

Due to the nature of the circumstance, when pupils return to the academy there will be a focus upon their personal, social and emotional health and well-being, as well creative topics and key skills. In addition, staff will utilise opportunities for outdoor learning.

Home Learning

Home Learning will be provided for learning bubbles A and B when not on the academy site. Those year groups not initially on site will continue to receive remote learning packs and online support. For those year groups back in school, it may not be possible for teachers to continue the same frequency of live video lessons however packs will be created for all children so that learning can continue at home.

PPE

The government have stated that PPE is not expected to be worn by school staff except in circumstances of providing intimate care or where a child shows signs of COVID 19. In such instances we have appropriate PPE for staff members to wear and an allocated, well ventilated area for these cases.

All classrooms will have a PPE pack including gloves, aprons and facemasks to be used as necessary.

Only essential visitors will be allowed on the academy site. Such essential visitors will be required to wear a face mask and gloves at all times.

School Uniform

As children have not been attending the academy for a number of months we are aware that uniform may no longer fit and we do not wish for families to incur unnecessary costs at this time. Formal school footwear will not be compulsory and children can wear comfortable and practical footwear when on site. Where possible school clothing should be worn, however this may not always be feasible which we understand.

To reduce the risk of contamination children must wear clean clothing for each day they attend the academy setting. Long hair must be tied back and no jewellery can be worn. It is recommended that pupils change their clothing as soon as they return home and that this is washed immediately. In addition, children should have a bath/shower before returning to the academy. Staff will also adhere to these expectations.

Visitors on Site

Only essential visitors will be allowed on the academy site. Such essential visitors will be required to wear a face mask and gloves at all times. It will be necessary for these visitors to confirm that they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms in order to access the academy site.

For the foreseeable future parents/carers will not be allowed into the academy building other than in exceptional circumstances.

Communication

Any communication is requested to be by telephone or email and the academy office will endeavour to reply as soon as possible. For the foreseeable future we will not be sending home paper letters and all information and updates will be shared via text, Twitter, phone calls and the academy website.

Cleaning

Whilst the academy has been closed it has undergone an in depth clean in preparation for reopening. The cleaning staff have been using the product 'Mediclean' on all areas. Once the academy opens cleaning will take place throughout the day of key areas including toilets, frequently touched areas (door handles etc) and bubble staff will have cleaning materials available in every room. At the end of each day the academy will be cleaned again. With the planned structure, each Wednesday an intense clean will take place to prepare for the change of learning bubbles.

Attendance

Attendance is not compulsory at this time and parents/carers have the right to refrain from sending their child into school. Gentleshaw fully respects the decision of all families. It is vital that families make the decision that is right for them and not based upon the actions of others. No fines will be issued and attendance figures will not be shared.

Following the parent/carer form results, registers will be compiled for each learning/key worker bubble. A register will be taken every day and those not attending but expected will be contacted by telephone to determine the reason for absence. Parents/carers have the right to stop sending their child into the academy at any point and should a parent change their mind and decide that they do wish their child to attend this will be possible, however sufficient notice will be required in order to make arrangements.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is always of paramount importance. The academy will continue to adhere to the Future Generation Trust Safeguarding policy and a member of the safeguarding team will be available and on site at all times. The safeguarding team will continue to work closely with those pupils known to be vulnerable.



Academy/Home Agreement

Upon opening the academy for learning bubbles to attend, it is not possible for us to eradicate risk, however we will work in partnership to minimise risks to pupils, families and staff.

<p style="text-align: center;">THE ACADEMY WILL...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide part time provision for pupils in EYFS, year 1 and year 6 in a 'Learning Bubble' format. • Put plans and procedures in place to limit pupil interaction to their learning bubble. • Ensure that health and hygiene is addressed through a strict cleaning regime using suitable cleaning products and equipment. • Provide suitable equipment/PPE for occasions when this is required. • Limit access to the academy site to essential visitors only. • Stagger drop-off and collection times to avoid groups gathering and support social distancing.
<p style="text-align: center;">STAFF WILL...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to support every child's social and emotional well-being and ensure that children feel safe and comfortable when attending the academy. • Utilise learning opportunities when on site. • Promote social distancing and put routines and structures in place to limit interaction and contamination. • Adhere to staff guidelines and risk assessments • Continue to provide high standard home learning opportunities for those pupils not attending.
<p style="text-align: center;">GENTLESHAW FAMILIES WILL...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that they have thoroughly read all guidance and information shared. • Discuss with the academy any questions, queries or concerns. • Ensure that the academy is informed if their child or a member of the household displays any symptoms (even mild) of Covid 19 and not send their child to the setting, for the safety of other children and staff in the learning bubble. • Adhere to expectations regarding uniform/clothing, drop-off and collection timings and social distancing.
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>We will all work collaboratively to support each other and put our children's needs first at such a difficult time.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>#TeamGentleshaw</i></p>	