

1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### Widening the opening of our primary schools

Following the government's decision on May 28<sup>th</sup> that schools should begin to re-open for certain year groups from June 1<sup>st</sup>, I am writing to update you with our trust's position.

We are working on widening our provision and welcoming back children in nursery (Cheddar Grove School only), Reception, year 1 and year 6 on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Each school has planned carefully for this and we have produced detailed risk assessments for each site and school setting. These will be scrutinised by the Trust Board on Wednesday evening and trustees will make the final decision for each school based on their analysis of the risk assessments. The decision for your child's school and the detailed information about the re-opening will be emailed to you on Thursday. The detailed risk assessments will also be available to view on the trust's website from Thursday onwards.

Our plans are very thorough and based upon the hierarchy of controls the government has asked school to focus on to help control the spread of coronavirus. These are:

- *Controlling the transmission of the disease:* minimising contact with children and adults who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- *Management and control through personal hygiene:* cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- *Ensuring good respiratory hygiene:* promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- *Enhanced cleaning regimes:* cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach.
- *Minimising contact and mixing:* altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times).

To help you in your planning we would like to share with you the provisional opening plans for Cheddar Grove Primary School:

<b>FOR CHILDREN IN NURSERY</b>	
Start Date/Class setup	Due to the numbers wishing to attend, we have split the nursery into two groups on a rotation. This means your child will attend Nursery on alternate weeks. Willow A will start back on the <b>8<sup>th</sup> June</b> (Monday and Tuesday). Cherry A will start back on the <b>10<sup>th</sup> June</b> (Wednesday and Thursday). Willow B will start back on the <b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b> (Monday and Tuesday). Cherry B will start back on the <b>17<sup>th</sup> June</b> (Wednesday and Thursday). <b>Details of which group your child is in will come out later this week.</b>
School day	Start time 9:15-9:30am / Lunchtime 12:00-1:00pm /School Finish 2:55pm (Monday –Thursday) <b>Friday Closed</b>

<b>FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION</b>	
Start Date/ Class setup	Reception children will start back on <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June.</b> Each class will be divided into two separate learning bubbles. <b>Details of which group your child is in will come out later this week.</b>
School day	Start time 9:15-9:30am / Break time RF 10:15-10:30am/ RD 10:30-10:45pm/ Lunchtime 12:00-1:00pm /School Finish 2:55pm (Monday –Thursday)/ (Friday) 11:30pm

<b>FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 1</b>	
Start Date/ Class setup	Year 1 children will start back on <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June.</b> Each class will be divided into two separate learning bubbles. <b>Details of which group your child is in will come out later this week.</b>
School day	Start time 9:00-9:15 / Break time 1A (1R) 10:15-10:30am/ 1P 10:30-10:45pm/ Lunchtime 12:00-1:00pm /School Finish 3:10pm (Monday –Thursday)/ (Friday) 11:45pm

<b>FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 6</b>	
Start Date/Class setup	Year 6 children will start back on <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June.</b> Each class will be divided into two separate learning bubbles. <b>Details of which group your child is in will come out later this week.</b>
School day	Start time 8:45-9:00am/ Break time 6A 10:15-10:30am/ 6C 10:30-10:45pm/ Lunchtime 12:30-1:30pm /School Finish 3:20pm (Monday –Thursday)/ (Friday) 12:00pm

We are planning for full time provision, with the exception of Friday when each of our schools will finish at 12pm to enable the schools to be deep cleaned ready for the following Monday. Initially however it is possible that the provision in some of our schools will be part time. We are planning for children to be taught in small groups of no more than 15 and for there to be no contact between groups. Staff will not routinely be using PPE unless carrying out first aid or looking after a child who is isolated because he/she is unwell.

The provision for key worker and vulnerable children will continue and will be full time, Monday to Friday, 9am – 3pm. Key worker parents with children in the eligible year groups can decide whether to keep their child in this provision or to return them to school with their year group. They will not be permitted to move between groups however, once this decision has been made. Key worker provision will continue to be flexible whilst the provision for children in the eligible year groups returning to school will not and these children will be expected to attend all of the sessions available to them.

The confirmation letter you will receive on Thursday will be accompanied by a form asking you to indicate whether you will be sending your child back to school on Monday. I hope you will be reassured by the level of detail you will receive and by the amount of thought, planning and preparation that has gone into widening our provision. If you decide not to send your child back on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> you will be able to change your mind later on but should give one week's notice of this to enable your child's headteacher to modify their plans and staffing rota accordingly. Children in the eligible year groups, whose parents choose not to send them back, will be expected to continue learning at home so they do not fall behind. Parents will be signposted to appropriate websites but we will not be able to continue with the same level of support as has been the case because we will not have enough staff working from home to be able to do this. The exception to this will be children who have to isolate and cannot return to school; they will continue to be supported remotely, through Seesaw, as will children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 who also do not have the opportunity to return to school.

We are excited to welcome the children back into school and to start getting back to some sense of normality. Children need to be in school and as a society we need to shift the emphasis towards how we live with the virus, finding new ways of operating that are sustainable and scalable. Schools have received a considerable amount of guidance on how to do this and our trustees will make the decision on whether each school is ready to re-open based on this advice and on a detailed and rigorous risk assessment process.

We will be in contact on Thursday to let you know the outcome for your child's school but, in the meantime, please accept my thanks once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A Arlidge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Andrea Arlidge  
Chief Executive