



Collingwood Primary School

Friday 26th June 2020

Dear Collingwood Family member,

As you know, it has always been our hope to get pupils from other year groups into school but have been hindered by bubble limits and floor space. Our survey showed that the only changes we are able to make are in Year 1. From **Monday 29th June, we will merge our Yr 1 bubbles so that all Yr 1s currently attending on Monday/Tuesday are in one room and all Yr1's currently attending on Thursday/Friday are in one room.** This will still be less than 15 pupils. Pupils should arrive and leave at the same times as before and will be taught by Mrs Burton or Ms Lees.

We welcome Friday's news that all pupils will return to school in September and Tuesday's news that social distancing can be 1m+ where 2m is not possible. We are expecting to receive Government guidance for schools next week but were informed by the DFE on Wednesday that **bubble limits of 15 still stand.** The latest staying safe outside your home guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-safe-outside-your-home>

We still plan to offer *all* of our pupils a chance to "meet the teacher" in July and have the Local Authority's support in doing so. The only way we are able to manage this is by ending term early for children currently attending. **This does mean that some staff will meet with more than one bubble.** This is unavoidable if all pupils are to meet their new teacher. I understand that some parents may not be comfortable with this so am asking you to **let us know if you wish to take us up on this offer of your child meeting their new teacher, by emailing admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk by Wednesday 1st July so that we can organise bubbles.**

If we have not heard from you we will assume that you do not want to take up the offer. I am afraid that you will not be able to change your mind, after this date. We will contact you individually with days and start and finish times after Wednesday 1st July.

E.Y.F.S. and Year 1, will "meet the teacher" on Tuesday 7th or Friday 10th July and **this will be their last day of term.** (Days as now, arrive and leave as now)

Year 6: William De Ferrers staff will visit Collingwood next week to answer Year 6 pupils' questions. **Tuesday 7th or Friday 10th July will be their last day of term.** Please do not bring party poppers, streamers etc and expect to be in the playground after school...this is a cleaning and social distancing nightmare for us! Please keep your party poppers for the Leavers Disco we have promised you at some point in the future!

Years 2, 3, 4 and 5: Pupils will be offered 1 day during the week 13th-17th July, in bubbles up to 15. They will not meet as a whole class but *will* have an opportunity to ask questions and talk about September with their new teacher.

Critical Worker pupils: School remains open for up to 5 days per week for existing critical worker pupils from now **until Friday 17th July when school will close for the summer holidays**. If pupils are in school during their year group's "Meet the Teacher" they will be able to stand at the door and wave, listen and ask questions but will then need to return to their own bubble. You may need to consider which days your child attends that week, if you would like your child to be included.

What's new this week:

Catch Up: A [press release](#) regarding the £1 billion COVID19 "catch-up" package has been released stating that:

- £650 million will be shared across state primary and secondary schools over the 2020/21 academic year.
- Head teachers will decide how the money is spent, although the government expects this to be spent on small group tuition for whoever needs it.
- A National Tutoring Programme, worth £350 million will also be in place for 20/21, designed to reach up to two million of England's most disadvantaged children

What you need to know going forward:

Home Learning: Next week watch out for the Collingwood **101 Challenge**. We are expecting *all pupils, staff and parents* to take part in our Sports Day...we can't wait to see your video clips! Thanks to everyone who is frantically retweeting and liking on our Twitter feed...any messages we get will be posted on the message section on our sports Day pages so keep looking. (If you decide to upload video clips or photos of your child competing on your own Twitter, don't forget to add #cip2020 and @Collingwoodprim so that we get to see them.)

Free school meals: School meals can still be booked if pupils are in school, (for any pupil). Let us know if you would like a food pack, for the remaining 3 days (for pupils eligible for free school meals). If you wish to apply for free school meals, see www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals. Contact us if you have any questions about free school meals, vouchers or the food bank especially if your financial situation has recently changed, on 01245 322258.

Safeguarding: Please contact myself or Mrs Minister as Designated Safeguarding Leads, or any teacher if you are concerned about a child's safety or phone 999 in an emergency. Our updated Safeguarding and Child Protection policies are on the school website.

www.collingwoodschool.net

School Development: This term we are focussed on provision for pupils who have been offered a place for their child to start school, organising staffing and reviewing our curriculum to address the gaps in pupils knowledge and mental health needs for September.

A new section will shortly appear on our website aimed at pupils who are due to start school in E.Y.F.S. in September as we have been unable to offer them our usual induction.

Reminders about how school looks this term:

Who should not attend school:

- Anyone who is "extremely clinically vulnerable", even to drop off or collect. If someone in your household is 'extremely clinically vulnerable' (shielded), **(This changes on 1st August)**
- Any child, parent or member of staff displaying symptoms or living with another person showing symptoms.
- Anyone who has been contacted by Track and Trace.

If a child or adult shows symptoms:

- Anyone can now be tested. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- Any child or adult displaying symptoms at school, will be isolated in a separate office. The adult treating them will put on a face mask and gloves. Parents will be called to collect. We will inform parents individually of all pupils who we think may have had contact with a diagnosed person and then inform parents generally.

Social Distancing at School:

- The government acknowledges it might not be possible to keep young children apart, but says schools can mitigate the risk with "frequent hand cleaning", "regular cleaning" and "minimising contact and mixing". There is some debate in the media about whether or not schools will need to socially distance in the future.
- Staff attempt to maintain social distancing in school but may choose to get closer to comfort children if they become distressed.
- Although it will be discouraged, pupils may automatically touch someone to try to get their attention.
- In Yr 1 and 6 each child is sat at their own desk with their own equipment. Desks are spaced apart, with up to 9 pupils in each room (Up to 15 in the EYFS and Yr 6 double classrooms)
- EYFS pupils are not sat at desks all day and whilst sharing is limited, it is impossible to enforce.
- Children do not leave their classroom other than to go outside for adult led activities.
- Whilst waiting, to drop off or collect, please ensure that you socially distance.

Adaptation to our Behaviour Policy: *(We have still not used this once...our pupils are amazing!)*

We are fully aware that most children are likely to forget to socially distance at some point. If children INTENTIONALLY do not adhere to social distancing, we will continue to use our yellow, orange card system as children already understand this. We will follow this procedure:

1. remind your child this is a rule to keep everyone safe.
2. speak to you in front of your child
3. issue a yellow card (Your child will lose 2 privileges at school - please show your disappointment)
4. issue an orange card (Your child will lose 4 privileges at school - please show your disappointment)
5. Your offer of on site schooling will be withdrawn due to unsafe behaviour towards others.

PPE:

- Staff and pupils will not routinely wear face coverings.
- Regular hand washing and "catch it, bin it, kill it," is encouraged throughout the day.
- Children are encouraged to share their fears about the virus and experiences during lockdown and are being taught how to clean their own belongings.

Cleaning:

- On Wednesdays, school is open only for Critical Worker children only as the whole building is thoroughly cleaned. The same happens on Friday/Saturday .
- Staff wipe surfaces, handles, light switches etc regularly and each night and cleaners clean classrooms.

What we are currently able to offer under the government guidelines:

- A maximum of 8-9 pupils will fit in each room with 15 in EYFS and Yr 6. With additional Critical Worker groups, all of our classrooms are being used which is why we cannot offer more than 2 days to pupils and cannot make new "bubbles".
- Adults cannot be with different "bubbles". Adults onsite on Mon-Tues are different to those here on Thurs- Fri other than sports coaches, office staff and myself and Mrs Minister. Children will not be able to swap groups or days. Staff are having to communicate by mobile as they cannot move between rooms.
- Key worker children remain together in their own "bubbles". **We will not merge these children in their peer groups as they are likely to attend on different days.**
- Year 6 use the car park gate, Year 1 use the Collingwood Road gate, (not the main gate). E.Y.F.S. use the main entrance gate, turn left and enter via the EYFS classroom door. Preschool use the side gate, on the playground, at the top of Benbow Drive.
- Children bring as little into school as possible, a full, named water bottle which stays on their own desk and is taken home for cleaning and a packed lunch in disposable bags is all they need. Trainers can be worn, there is no need for PE bags. Uniform should be anything white and navy (no ties). Ideally we would like children to wear a clean set of clothes each day.

- Cover your child in "once a day" suncream as they will go outside every day for periods of adult led Physical activity and we cannot apply it for them.
- 7 'til 7 Club is currently closed until "bubbles" are able to mix.
- Working in such small groups is very intensive so we may let pupils watch a film, "play" or do artwork in the afternoons. Your child is likely to be tired and grumpy when you get them back! They might also tell you about the strange lady who keeps waving at them through windows and shouting "hello" from a distance...don't worry, it is me!

Support:

The Essex Family Support Service for families children aged 8 to 19 years is available to families who are not already receiving support from specialist and statutory services (for children under 8 years, support will be provided by Home-start Essex) The aim is to support families to work towards the following outcomes:

- Emotionally healthy, happy and resilient- supporting families to develop and retain positive relationships
- Behaviour choices that promote safety and wellbeing - including reduction in participation of risky behaviours
- Socially connected, resilient and resourceful families- supporting people to connect with peers and communities
- Healthy inter-parental/guardian and family relationships- effective communication and conflict resolution Families can also self-refer into the service - please see link for more information. <https://www.livewellcampaign.co.uk/essex-family-support-service/>

Families can self-refer if they feel in need of support in resolving or managing conflict in their relationships. <https://www.parentingtogethersupportprogramme.org.uk/spring-2020/essex/current-services-in-essex>

The Children's Society website has some excellent information for parents regarding signs of exploitation by gangs <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-is-county-line>

The NSPCC has some useful information about grooming on its website, including the signs, effects and how to report it. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/grooming/>

If you or your child inadvertently accesses sexual abuse material online it can be reported using the [Internet Watch Foundation website](#).

If you are struggling with home learning, need help with a topic or subject, creating a routine, dealing with behaviour or managing the learning of several children this national parent helpline *is open six days a week and covers all areas of the curriculum across all phases of education.* 0330 313 9162 (calls charged at local rate).

Compass 24/7 Domestic Abuse helpline - 0330 333 7 444 providing information, advice and guidance to anyone who has concerns about family, friends or themselves who may be victims of Domestic Abuse

Educational Psychology Service Parent Helpline (Essex) 01245 433293 Mondays and
Wednesday 1pm - 5pm (during term time)

Enjoy the sunshine. Remember that we are on the end of the phone still and hopefully, we will
see you all soon.

Mrs Buckland-Garnett