

Dear Parent/Carers

We are very pleased to announce that we will be starting our phased return next week for children in nursery, YR, Y1 and Y6 plus accepting a larger number of keyworker children (Y2-Y5). For parents with children in these year groups please look again at the letters sent previously explaining drop off and collection times and routes around the school. The dates of the staggered entry are:

Monday 8th June All keyworkers (Y2 – Y5)

Tuesday 9th June All keyworkers and Year 1 children

Wednesday 10th June All keyworkers, Year 1 and Reception children

Thursday 11th June All keyworkers, Year 1, Reception and Year 6 children

Friday 12th June All keyworkers, Year 1, Reception, Year 6 and Nursery children

We have spent a great deal of time planning and considering different eventualities but until the children return we have not been able to test the structures fully. We will be evaluating the timings, structures and processes over the next few weeks and will make changes as they are needed. Please be assured you will be kept fully informed throughout.

We have placed some videos in Dropbox for children returning next week. Please see the links below for keyworkers and Year 6. Reception will share their video via ILD and Y1 will follow on Monday.

[Year 1 video](#)

[Keyworker and Year 6 Videos](#)

We have been asked if YR, Y1 and Y6 need to be fulltime. The government expects these children to participate daily but has stated that the schools will not take action for any non attendance. If you are planning to keep your child away regularly on a day ie Friday then please let the office know. Equally if your child has been coming in regularly but is then absent please let us know. We still need to be informed about all illnesses and not just Covid related absences as I am sure the sickness bugs will still be making the rounds!

Please note that if you said you did not want to return in Nursery, YR, Y1 and Y6 we have not sent you a letter. If you change your mind and wish to return you will need to contact the office (not individual teachers) on office@highdownschools.org as due to the capping of numbers for each 'bubble' we may need to set up a new bubble and room for your child.

Journey to school

We have been advised by North Somerset that they are in the process of developing safer routes into school to support social distancing. Their main message is to walk or cycle where possible to allow social distancing <https://extranet.dft.gov.uk/safer-transport-campaign/schools/> and that if parents need to drive, then they should be prepared to park away from the school and walk the last part of their journey.

They have stated that there are plans to shut some of the side roads, near school, to motor vehicles (except for resident access) and will be placing social distancing signage near the school site. As they have not yet signed off the details I cannot pass on any further information but as soon as I am sent details I will let you know.

Sun safety

Please can I remind you to send your child to school with a sunhat and already wearing a long lasting suncream. Many thanks.

Dinners

Can I please remind Junior keyworkers and Y6 children that any meals purchased through Aspens will need to be paid for in the usual way.

Year 6 transition

Unfortunately Gordano is unlikely to be able to offer visits to the school site for our children due to their need to keep their 'bubbles' intact. They will be providing further information soon and we will share this with you as soon as possible.

Home Learning

I hope you have been able to fully access our drop box learning activities. <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e9h2nezsf8r6c12/AABIWoU0k5Jc4GhO4FjQ-pYQa?dl=0>

We would like children in Year 2 to Year 5 (who have not been invited back into school) to send in one piece of maths and one piece of English work weekly to the year group email address. Can you please send both pieces of work in one email.

yeartwo@highdownschools.org

yearthree@highdownschools.org

yearfour@highdownschools.org

yearfive@highdownschools.org

Staff will then provide feedback during the week. The feedback is unlikely to be from your child's class teacher as we will be relying on a central team that are not teaching groups on the school site. With the expanded year groups and keyworkers on site we are running 15 'bubbles' for the Infant children and 12 'bubbles' for the Junior children so the vast majority of the teachers and LSAs are working on the site running classes. We will also be monitoring the children's use of Bug Club and Times Table Rockstars (Juniors)/Education City Maths (Infants) weekly so please email the year group folder if you are having any difficulties accessing this information.

Future Developments

We are currently developing our IT capacity so that, as well as the learning offer on drop box, we can also make virtual connections via our Virtual Learning Platform. Our IT team are currently linking our children (family emails) to Microsoft Teams so that we can 'invite' children to have virtual links to the off site staff team. Once the IT team have ensured the system is ready we can then train the staff and enhance our current support for the children. LSP will also be altering our current safeguarding policy to enable staff to have this offsite group access.

Thank you for your patience during this time.

Behaviour addendum

Please find below the behaviour addendum that has been approved by the LGB and trustees. This is to support the safety of all of the children and staff as we require children to follow the new rules to support the social distancing requirements. Obviously the age of the children is taken into account in our expectations.

Thank you for your continued support of High Down – your kind words really make a difference to us during this difficult time. We are really pleased to be inviting more of the children back to school and look forward to a time when we all can be together.

Best Wishes

Andreyia Cowan