

### Returning to school

Dear Parent/Carer

Over the past 8 weeks Pike Fold has been open for the children of Key Workers and those classed as vulnerable. The Government has asked that schools begin to accept more children from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. Due to the design of our building, an immediate decision was made **NOT** to invite Nursery children on the grounds of health and safety. As your child is in Reception, Year 1 or year 6, we will be contacting you to ask if you wish to send your child back to school, allowing us time to prepare our building.

Increasing the number of children attending school is a very challenging thing to do under current circumstances. It is going to be impossible to guarantee that Pike Fold stays a Coronavirus free environment. We are implementing a vast number of changes to our daily routines and to the way that school works in order to make our environment as safe as possible. This letter sets out some information that will help you understand what Pike Fold will be like as we start to have more children attending.

All children returning to school will join a "Colour Bubbles". Bubbles will have no more than 15 children and will be supported by a Teacher and or TA. Bubbles will remain separated during the school day and will not interact with each other. They will have their lessons, break and lunchtimes together and will not mix with others. As already stated it is impossible to guarantee that Pike Fold remains a Coronavirus free environment, but working in small bubbles will ensure that if Coronavirus does occur in school it will only have limited opportunities to spread.

In order for staff to work with Bubbles in this way, school will be open to children at various starting and finishing times.

For children not attending, work will continue to be set as previously notified.

We are introducing a number of new arrangements for the start and end of the school day. Please observe sensible social distancing while picking up and dropping off at school.

Your child will start school at either 8.50am 9:00am or 9.30am

Your child will finish school at either 3.00pm or 3.30pm

There will be no Breakfast club. We will be reviewing the after school club provision, initially for key workers only.

Your child will have one specific gate to enter and exit the school grounds. The gate will be one of the following:

The car park gate

The community entrance

Old Market street entrance

Your child will enter the school building through one door and use one staircase. This will be the entrance/staircase to the classrooms that their bubbles are based in. Children will be escorted along the corridors and will use specific allocated toilet facilities

**\*\*The information contained within this letter is solely for the intended recipient and you do not have permission to share any of its contents on social media\*\***

Please ensure that your child is collected from school promptly. Unfortunately, late pupils may not be admitted.

Your child's specific details will be sent to you when we have a start date. These details will include what bubble they are in, when they start and finish school, what gate they enter and leave the school grounds through and what door they enter and leave the school building through. You must confirm and agree to the behaviour principles documentation (*to follow*) and return the form to school before a place will be allocated to you. We are hoping that we will phase children back. This is my intention but please note this may change:

Week beginning: 8<sup>th</sup> June phased Year 1 intake

Week beginning: 22<sup>nd</sup> June phased Reception Intake & Year 1

Week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> June phased Year 6, Reception and Year 1

Unfortunately parents will not be allowed inside the school building.

We have introduced this rule to try and ensure as much social distancing in school as we can, hopefully keeping you and our staff as safe as possible. If you want to pass a simple message to a teacher you will be able to do so via class dojo or email before the start and end of the day. If the message is confidential please send an e-mail to the teacher and we will arrange for someone to contact you, either with a reply to your e-mail or with a phone call.

If your child qualifies for a Free School Meal then this will be provided. Under the current circumstances, meals will be a cold packed lunch for Reception pupils. Y1 will initially receive a cold packed lunch for health and safety purposes but this may change to a hot meal option at a later date. A hot meal option will be available for Y6. Meals MUST be recorded on the Aspens system to be ordered. If this changes, we will inform you. If your child does not qualify for a Free School Meal and you would like to pay please do so by again ordering and paying on the Aspens system.

We have introduced stringent Coronavirus specific cleaning systems at Pike Fold in order to reduce the risk of transmission. All staff will be cleaning surfaces throughout the day and the site team will be cleaning targeted areas in the mornings and at lunchtimes. At the end of the day all areas of school that have been in use will be cleaned thoroughly. Children will be given plenty of opportunities to wash their hands throughout the day and will be taught about the importance of good hygiene. I ask all parents to continue to share this message with children at home.

The safety and well-being of the whole of our Pike Fold community is hugely important to me. I am very excited at the thought of more children being able to return to school, but this must be done as safely as we can. I cannot guarantee to any child, parent or staff member that there will be no Coronavirus at Pike Fold. I can guarantee, though, that I will do everything I can to make sure that Pike Fold is as safe as it can possibly be. I will not be able to do this alone, though. At a time like this we all need to work together. Following these new arrangements will help us to keep our school as safe as it can be.

Kind regards,

Mrs Farnell-Hill

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[www.pikefold.manchester.sch.uk](http://www.pikefold.manchester.sch.uk)

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