

Andover Way  
Middlesbrough  
TS8 9HL

**Tel:** 01642 591053

**Email:** [office@viewleyhill.org.uk](mailto:office@viewleyhill.org.uk)

**www.viewleyhillacademy.co.uk**

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Helen Malbon



Dear Parents

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

### FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING WIDER OPENING OF SCHOOL

Thank you for your patience over this last week as we have worked on plans for the wider reopening of school. All plans are subject to final approval by the Governing Body and are also subject to change based on the Government announcement due on 28<sup>th</sup> May regarding whether the five tests have been met in order to move forward with easing restrictions.

I am able to share a draft timetable of arrangements in order to give you some idea of how we plan to welcome more children back to Viewley Hill. We are so sad that we can't just open our doors and have everyone back as usual but this is clearly impossible in the current circumstances.

Unfortunately, Middlesbrough is still recording higher infection rates and active cases than many areas of the UK and it is with this in mind that we are taking a staged approach to our reopening. We understand that we need a higher level of confidence in the virus reducing as well as in the safety measures we can put in place in school in order for you to feel comfortable sending your children back.

School has remained open to a Priority Group of children since the lockdown began. These are children whose parent is classed as a 'key worker' or children who receive additional support from a social worker. This group will continue to be offered a place when we open to more children even if they are not in the specified year groups of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. However, provision will move from the halls to the classroom block from 2<sup>nd</sup> June. All school provision will be a recovery curriculum prioritising reading, writing, maths and well-being.

The timetable below shows how we are planning to introduce more children to school:

|      | Monday                                     | Tuesday                                   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   |
|------|--|---|--|--|--|
| May  | 25<br>CLOSED – BANK<br>HOLIDAY             | 26<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP          | 27<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP                     | 28<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP                               | 29<br>CLOSED – DEEP<br>CLEAN OF HALLS                |
| June | 1<br>CLOSED<br>STAFF TRAINING -<br>GROUP 1 | 2<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP           | 3<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP                      | 4<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>STAFF TRAINING –<br>GROUP 2 | 5<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP                      |
| June | 8<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6  | 9<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6 | 10<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1 | 11<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1           | 12<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1 |

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|      |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| June | 15<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 16<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 17<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 18<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 19<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY |
| June | 22<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 23<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 24<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 25<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY | 26<br>OPEN TO:<br>PRIORITY GROUP<br>YEAR 6<br>YEAR 1<br>RECEPTION<br>NURSERY |

As explained in my previous letter, all groups will have a **strict arrival and departure time** which must be adhered to in order to support social distancing and reduce the risk of too many people on site at any one time.

#### Session times:

| Class                   | Location     | Staff   | Toilets   | Arrival & Departure Time  |
|-------------------------|--------------|---|-----------|---|
| Nursery - 1 Pod         | Nursery      | Mrs Dowson<br>Mrs Brown<br>Miss Hewison                                   | Nursery   | 8:30am-11:00am  |
| Reception - 2 Pods      | RS<br>RJ     | Mr Jukes<br>Mrs Woodhouse<br>Mrs Smith<br>Mrs Tate                        | Reception | 9:00am-1:00pm<br>Lunch- 11:15am-11:45pm<br>9:15am-1:15pm<br>Lunch- 11:30am-12:00pm<br>Mrs Smith/ Miss Hewison - Lunch   |
| Year 1 – 2 Pods         | Y1S<br>Y1/2G | Miss Sheard<br>Miss Wynn<br>Miss Shadforth<br>Miss Clark                  | Year 1/2  | 9:30am-2:00pm<br>Lunch- 12:00pm-12:30pm<br>9:45am-2:15pm<br>Lunch- 12:15pm-12:45pm<br>Mrs Battle/ Mrs Willet – Lunch    |
| Year 6 – 2 Pods         | Y6G<br>Y5C   | Miss Glindon<br>Mrs Stitchell<br>Mrs Clayton<br>Mrs Atkinson              | Year 5/ 6 | 10:00am-3:00pm<br>Lunch- 12:30pm-1:00pm<br>10:15am-3:15pm<br>Lunch- 12:45pm-1:15pm<br>Mrs Higgins/ Mrs Harrison - Lunch |
| Priority Group - 2 Pods | Y4<br>Y3     | Miss McCabe<br>Mrs Dodsworth<br>Mrs Lockey<br>Mr Hutchinson<br>Miss Hobbs | Year 3/ 4 | 8:15am-2:45pm<br>Lunch 11:45am-12:15pm<br>Mrs Pittam/ Mrs Thompson - Lunch  |

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There are some things I need you to do to keep us all as safe as possible:

### Stay Alert

- Please do not come to school if your child or a member of your household is displaying symptoms of Coronavirus.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

### Coming to school

- Children **must** arrive and leave in their time slots to ensure they are staying within their class 'pods'.
- Children who usually walk home alone, may do so as long as verbal consent is given to a member of staff. Please contact the school office if you wish to do this : 01642 591 053
- Children must only be brought to school and collected by **ONE** parent. If you must bring a younger sibling, they must stay close to you and not mix with anyone else.

### Do your part by keeping 2 metres apart

- Use the spots on pathways around the entrance and playground, 2 metres apart, to social distance.
- There is a strict one way entry and exit system through the KS1 pedestrian gate and playground which is the **ONLY** area parents are allowed to access.
- No parents may enter the school offices without an appointment. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please telephone the office.

### Keeping clean and safe

- Children are to wear school uniform which should be washed regularly.
- Children must not bring any equipment including PE kits or personal belongings from home.
- Children will be provided with an individual pack of resources including pens, pencils, rubbers etc for their sole use.
- Disposable paper cups will be provided for drinking water throughout the day.
- Children must bring a packed lunch or may order one from school. This is the only item that should come from home.

Finally, I would just like to repeat that everything we are doing is with the safety of your child, you and our staff as the priority. We are following government guidance and expectations and making these fit our school building and organisation as best we can. No two schools will be doing this the same but we are all doing it with the same aims of safety and beginning to bring some routine and structure back to our children. School will not be the same. Classrooms and learning will look very different and it is important that you prepare your children for this.

Parents who choose to send their children back to school do so on the understanding that Viewley Hill staff are following DfE guidance in terms of social distancing and contact with pupils. Please see extract from the documents **Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020** provided to schools:

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*One of the protective measures we can take to reduce transmission is to have smaller group and class sizes. We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account. Schools should therefore work through the hierarchy of measures set out in our guidance:*

- *avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms*
- *frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices*
- *regular cleaning of settings*
- *and minimising contact and mixing*

Finally, much of this letter sets a very sad and downbeat tone. It's hard to talk about the systems we are setting up without many 'Don'ts' and 'Onlys' being used. But I think it is also important that I stress to you how excited we are to see more of our children, how much we have missed them and actually how lovely the atmosphere has been in school these last weeks for those who have been attending. Even if we can't be the old style Viewley, I can promise you that every member of staff will continue to care as much for your child, work as hard for your child and do their best to make your child feel safe, valued and welcomed. The important 'Viewley-ness' will still be very much in action.

I will confirm these arrangements and inform you of any changes following the government announcement and/or any other local or regional updates. In the meantime, please have a lovely bank holiday weekend and half term!

With very best wishes,

Mrs H Malbon  
Headteacher

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