



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following my letter last week, I am now in a position to provide some further information regarding a possible return to school for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from Monday 1st June. It is important to note, however, that the government still have to make a final decision on whether this will go ahead, and we may not be informed of this until the very end of next week.

We have created a comprehensive Risk Assessment which has been discussed at a meeting of the full governing body and has been approved by all. We would like to share this document with you and it is important that you take the time to read this and consider all of the factors. This can be accessed on our school website via the following link:

<https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/covid-19-risk-assessment/>

Schools across England are having to change the way in which they operate rather significantly, and each school will be very different based upon the physical room available and their staffing levels. Some schools are only welcoming back their youngest pupils, as the government have stated that pupils should be prioritised in order of youngest to oldest.

Our current plans would enable us to continue our provision for vulnerable children and those of critical workers, and we would also be open full-time for children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1. For children in Year 6, we will be welcoming back the class in two halves on alternating weeks.

Whilst the government would like to encourage the return to school, we are highly sympathetic to parent's and children's concerns. If you choose to not send your child back to school, attendance will not be looked at negatively and fines will not be issued. We respect the individual decisions that all of our families have to make at this difficult time.

We will ensure all children attending school are looked after to the highest standard and we will continue to provide an engaging educational experience - with wellbeing as a primary focus - despite the challenging circumstances. Home Learning provision will continue for those children not attending for all classes.

As you will see from our [Risk Assessment](#), children will be separated into 'bubbles' of no more than 15, with staggered arrival, break, lunch and departure times. Children may not have their usual class teacher or be with their usual group of friends, and parents will not be able to request which teacher their child is with. We will inform you of which bubble your child is in, and which staff member(s) they will be with, next week. Whilst this will help us maintain a certain level of social distancing, we will not be able to guarantee 2 metres. Government guidance states, "*We know that...primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff.*"

Parents will be informed next week of staggered times for prompt drop-off and collection. For arrival, you will be given a fixed time between 08:30-09:15. For collection, you will be given a fixed time between 15:00 and 15:30. Timings for vulnerable children and those of critical workers will remain unchanged from how they currently are.



We have decided that there will be no requirement to wear school uniform for the rest of this academic year. We appreciate that many of the children will have grown and that you have probably been unable to get new uniform. We also believe that it will be easier for you to provide clean clothes every day if uniform is not a concern. We envisage children being outdoors as much as possible and we do not anticipate children needing to get changed, so activewear/trainers are highly recommended.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> June, we are returning to our usual method of ordering meals. If you have a vulnerable, critical worker or returned year group child, you must order lunches from [The Farm Kitchen](#) in the usual way by 15:00 on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. At this moment in time, they are not providing hot meals but, instead, a choice of packed lunches.

For parents with children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, we will send out another short survey next week that will require completion by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, so that we know which children we are expecting back on Monday.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times. Please spend time reading the Risk Assessment and do not hesitate to contact us with any questions: our phone lines will be open again from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. We will not be publishing home learning activities for half-term and this will resume from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Our Easter Holidays booklet is still available on the website for ideas and activities over half term.

Please note that we do know this does not answer all of your questions: we will provide further detailed information to you next week.

Yours faithfully,

Antonia Brooks  
Headteacher