

Brinsley Primary and Nursery School, Moor Road, Brinsley, Nottinghamshire. NG16 5AZ

[www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk](http://www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk)

## Potential reopening – Covid-19 – 1 June 2020

20 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from the Prime Minister's address to the nation and over the course of the preceding week, we have sought to devise a plan to potentially reopen the school to Nursery (FS1), Reception (FS2), Year 1 and Year 6. As I am sure you can imagine this has not been easy. We have spoken to other schools and considered guidance from the local authority and the Department for Education. We have also listened to you. Unfortunately, we very quickly realised that there was no way we were going to be able to keep everyone happy – for this we apologise in advance.

The government guidance states:

- The younger children have been prioritised first because: *“there is moderately high scientific confidence in evidence suggesting younger children are less likely to become unwell if infected with coronavirus; and secondly because evidence shows the particularly detrimental impact which time spent out of education can have upon them. In addition, older children are more likely to have higher numbers of contacts outside of school so pose a greater transmission risk, and they are typically better able to learn at home.”*<sup>1</sup>
- The government recognise that the expectation for social distancing with young children cannot be the same, but: *“schools and other settings will use a range of protective measures to create safer environments in which the risk of spreading the virus is substantially reduced.”*<sup>2</sup>

As a result we have decided the safest way to bring back all children in Nursery (FS1), Reception (FS2), Year 1 and Year 6 is to have a **phased return**.

### PHASE 1:

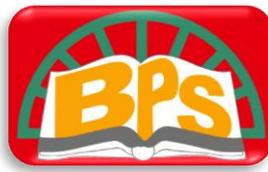
**Assuming the government require schools to reopen on Monday 1 June and we feel that we can bring children back as safely as possible**, Brinsley Primary & Nursery School will reopen to:

- **Nursery (FS1)** children: Nursery will be open from 9.00am – 12.00 noon only. This will allow us to give the Nursery provision a deep clean every afternoon before the next day. If we have too many children for one class, we will divide the children into smaller groups over two classes.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020#year-groups-in-first-phase-of-wider-opening>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>





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- **Vulnerable children and the children of key workers:** These children will continue to attend school from 8.45am to 3.15pm. If we have too many children for one class, we will divide the children into smaller groups over two classrooms.
- **Year 6:** These children will attend school from 8.45am to 3.15pm. If we have too many children for one class, we will divide the children into smaller groups over two classrooms.

In accepting these 3 groups of children initially we can space them out across the school and maintain separation between the groups. This also allows us to ensure that all our safety systems, timings, etc. are at a level we are happy with before moving forward with the next phase.

### **PHASE 2:**

We will review Phase 1 constantly and give parents/carers as much notice as possible before Phase 2, but at this point we are unable to provide a definite date on when this phase will begin. When we are satisfied with how Phase 1 is working (potentially within the week), we will begin the **next phase and accept children in from Reception (FS2)**. As with all groups, if we have too many children for one class, we will divide the children into smaller groups over two classes.

### **PHASE 3:**

We will review Phase 2 constantly and give parents/carers as much notice as possible before Phase 3, but again we are unable to put a definite date on when this phase will begin. When we are satisfied with how Phase 2 is working, we will begin the **next phase and accept children in Year 1**. As with all groups, if we have too many children for one class, we will divide the children into smaller groups over two classrooms.

### **PHASE 4:**

Decisions on the **return of Years 2, 3, 4 and 5** have yet to be made, although the government have expressed a desire for them to return before the end of this academic year.

I know that as parents/carers you have many questions and need more information to enable you to make an informed decision about your child/ren returning to school. We will communicate separately the answers to your questions and specific information for the returning year groups. In addition we will be asking all appropriate parents/carers through a Survey Monkey if you are intending to send your children back in the first and subsequent phases – we need this information to enable us to plan.

Without a doubt this is a difficult time for people and hard to know if you are doing the right thing. Please rest assured that school support you and the decisions you make for your children.

Kind regards,

Jason Osprey  
Head Teacher

