

Friday 26th June

Dear parents and carers,

This is another very long letter but please make sure you read it carefully and keep it for reference as yet again, there is a lot of important information to share with you.

We have loved having our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children in school and have been delighted that very nearly all of them were able to return and have been so happy to be back. We are very much looking forward to seeing our Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 children back in class over the coming weeks.

We continue to be amazed by how well many of the children who have not been able to return to school have managed to maintain their motivation and interest in their home learning. It has been a very long time and we are in awe of parents who have juggled work and home learning with family life. We also understand that this has not been easy for a growing number of families who have faced ever-increasing pressures and stresses as the weeks have gone on.

I continue to be incredibly proud of every member of the staff team here who have all gone over and above and shown great flexibility and resilience, working tirelessly throughout. I know you will join me in thanking them for all they have done.

This letter explains our arrangement for the remaining weeks of term for children who will be in school as well as those who will not be in school. We are still waiting for guidance from the government about September, but at the end of this letter, there is some information about what we think is likely to be the case.

Next Week (wc 29.06.20)

Arrangements will remain the same next week for both children in school and those learning at home. As usual, school will be closed on Wednesday afternoon (1st July). In addition, school will be closed on Friday (3rd July) all day to allow for a deep clean and for a clear 72hrs between classrooms being used by a different group of children. This will also give staff time to prepare for the returning children.

Thursday will therefore be the last day in class for our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children.

The Year 6 team have been working hard on plans to see off our Year 6 children as

Appreciating what we have ... aspiring to greater things.

best we can in the circumstances. They will get their hoodies as usual and there will be an online leavers' assembly which Year 6 parents will be invited to.

We will continue to offer Kedington Care keyworker care for the children who currently use it on Friday 3rd July. However, if parents have the flexibility to keep their children at home, it will help free up staff to help with the changeover.

If you are a keyworker and have a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and need childcare that day, please let me know.

The videos that teachers sent home for the children currently in school which showed what the classrooms look like and the procedures for coming in in the mornings were very successful and teachers will be sending videos home again for the children in Years 2 to 5 on 3rd July.

Last Two Weeks of Term – 6th July – 17th July

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

Rather than sending work home each week, teachers have prepared a sheet of key learning milestones for children to work on over the final two weeks and into the summer. These are the areas of the curriculum that we feel are the really essential skills or concepts for children to grasp which will prepare them for the next year's learning, such as spelling key words and knowing specific number facts. On the back of each sheet are some suggested activities that link to our Kedington 50 (the 50 opportunities that we pledged to offer children in their time here).

We have called these sheets 'Ready for Year 1', 'Ready for Year 2' and 'Ready for High School'. Please use them if you can. A lot of thought has gone into them and I am confident that any work you do towards the milestones will have a very positive impact.

If you would like to maintain a routine of daily lessons, the [Oak Academy](#) has excellent online lessons that you can access, along with the [White Rose](#) maths lessons that you will be familiar with.

I am sure teachers and TAs will enjoy seeing any work that children have done uploaded on Dojo, but they may not be able to give you any feedback.

We will continue phone calls with those children who we have prioritised as really needing them.

We will be providing childcare for keyworker and vulnerable children in these year groups in a new Kedington Care 3 group. We will also start a Kedington Care 4

group in the final week which has some places for other working parents who were expecting school to be able to have their children for the rest of the term. Details about how Kedington Care will operate are below.

Children in Year 2 -5 when they will be returning to school

The children I have spoken to who are returning to school say they are excited and looking forward to it. However, we are aware that there is likely to be a level of anxiety in all children. We found the Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children's anxiety seemed lower than we had anticipated but we appreciate that the returning children will have had an additional five weeks at home.

We will therefore put similar measures in place to support them to re-connect and re-build relationships as well as activities designed to reduce anxiety. Although they will be in school for a short time, we feel it is important for children to get back into a school routine and to continue to learn at school so will be providing a timetable of lessons in maths, English and other subjects each day as well. This will include short maths and English assessments which will help us plan our curriculum for the new school year.

Each class will be taught by their class teacher. By now, they should have informed you which week your child has been invited back to school. Please contact the teacher if you haven't heard.

We will continue to use the term 'bubbles', to remind children about social distancing. This has worked really well and I often hear parents saying it to their children too. I have attached a poster to the end of this letter which is displayed around the school that you might want to talk through with your child. We will continue to encourage social distancing despite the government's loosening of restrictions and '1 metre plus' recommendations.

Risk assessment

Our risk assessment remains in place and is updated regularly. This sets out all the measures that we have put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible, following the guidelines published by the DfE. If you would like to see this, it is available on our school website.

Arrangements for drop off and pick up

To reduce the number of people on site we will be staggering drop off and pick up times:

	Arrival	Pick Up
Y2 - Panthers	8.50 – 9.00	2.50 – 3.00
Y3 - Lions	8.50 – 9.00	2.50 – 3.00
Y4 - Leopards	8.40 – 8.50	3.00 – 3.10
Y5 - Jaguars	8.35 – 8.45	3.05 – 3.15
Kedington Care	8.35 – 8.45	3.05 – 3.15

It would be very helpful if you could share the videos with your child and talk them through the routine their teacher has planned so they are confident with what to do when they arrive.

Please be aware that staffing is stretched with just one teacher in most classes to bring the children in one at a time, support them to wash their hand and put their things away and supervise children already in the classroom.

As part of our school's risk assessment, drop off and pick up needs to be done as quickly as possible. Teachers will not be able to chat with you as usual and any messages will need to be sent by Dojo or by emailing or phoning the office.

We would encourage you to say good bye to your child at the gate and let them walk to their classroom independently if possible, especially after the first day. When they arrive, they will need to wait in the marked spaces outside the classroom for the teacher to welcome them into their classroom. All classes will be in their normal classrooms and will come through the main gate.

When you collect your child at the end of the day, please go to the classroom and stand in line on the markers. Children will be dismissed to the adult collecting them one at a time to the person who is at the front of the queue. Please try to stagger the time you arrive across the 10 minutes.

You MUST arrive within the 10 minute window for your child's class. Please do not come on site before the allotted time and we may have to turn you away if you arrive after the window has ended.

Year 5 children will be able to walk home independently if we have had your consent for them to do this.

Please leave the school site promptly and don't stop to chat or wait around on site, including in the car park.

Kedington Care

We will continue to support vulnerable children and the children of critical workers who are in Y2, 3, 4 and 5 in Kedington Care 1 and 2 for the first week. They will remain in the rooms they are currently in and will all be going into class in the second week.

Children in YR, 1 and 6 who have been offered childcare will be in Kedington Care 3 in the Year 1 classroom for both weeks.

Once the Kedington Care 1 and 2 children return to class, we will be able to start Kedington Care 4 for non-keyworker children who require childcare. This will be in the Sunshine Room, entrance next to Kittens classroom.

Please note all Kedington Care groups will enter the school through the gate by the bike shed (to the left of the school entrance).

Drop off will be between 8.35 and 8.45 and pick up between 3.05 – 3.15. We are able to provide this all day Monday to Thursday. If you will need childcare on Fridays, please let me know.

Children in Kedington Care will be doing holiday club type activities, rather than school work.

Clothing

As one of the measures to reduce risk, we are asking that children's clothes are washed after each day in school and clean clothes worn each day. To support this, children will not be asked to wear school uniform.

Please make sure their footwear is suitable for running around in, preferably not sandals and definitely not sliders, flip flops or other slip-ons.

The usual rules remain about make-up, jewellery etc. and hair should also be tied up off the face as usual.

School Lunches

Children will be able to order a school packed lunch on a day to day basis. Please be aware that these are not the usual 'pick and mix' that children get in school as they are centrally made at the high school and delivered to us. This means that

children do not get a choice of sandwich filling, which can be tuna, cheese or ham. Alternatively, they can bring their own packed lunch from home.

Sending things home

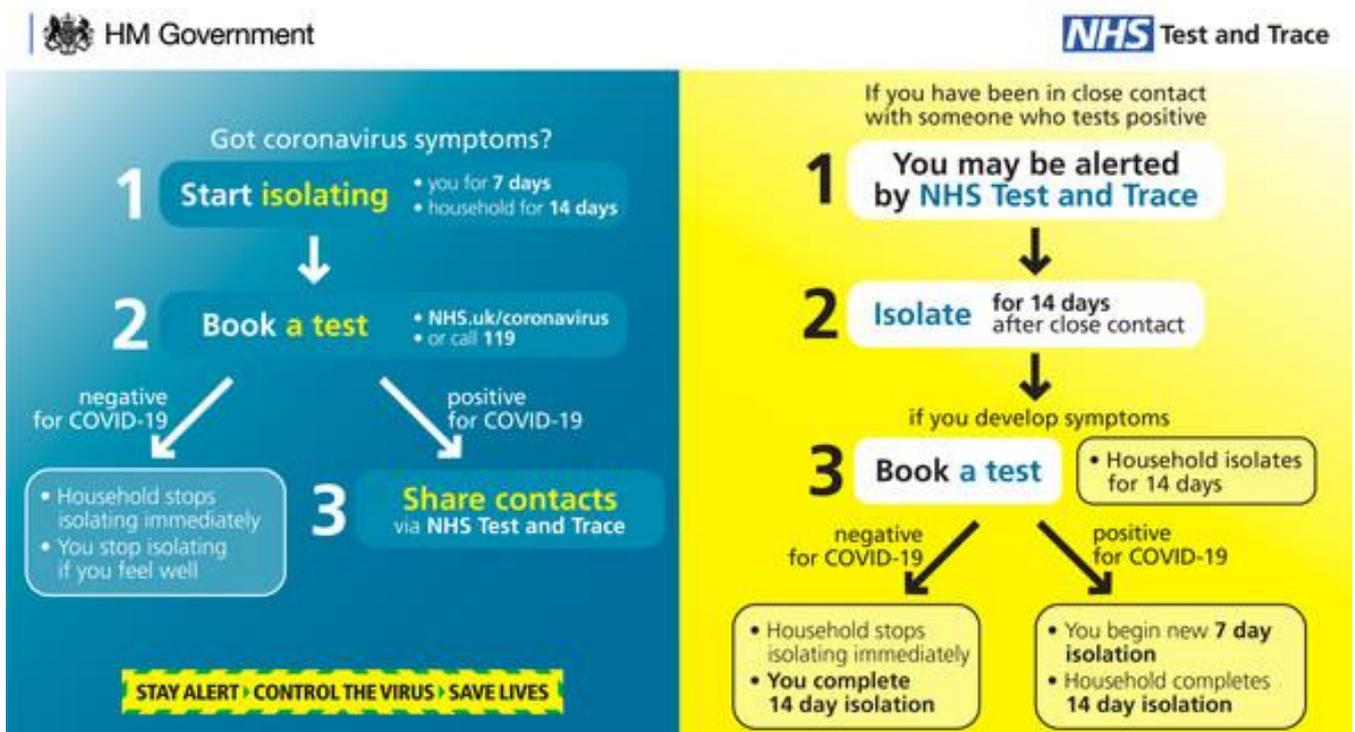
We feel that having a physical reading book to read is really important for children so will aim to send books home. For Year 2 children, we will change books once so they have some new books to take home. Key stage 2 children will be able to choose from a limited selection in the classroom or supervised by an adult in the library so books are not touched by different children. Books will be cleaned and left for a week when they are returned.

If children make things at school, we will send them home and it will be at the parents' discretion as to what they do with them!

Illness

Your child **MUST** stay at home if they are unwell at all and particularly if they have any Covid symptoms. If we believe they have symptoms, we will isolate them within school and contact you to collect them. You **MUST** do this promptly.

The NHS Track and Trace guidelines below will need to be followed if someone in your household develops symptoms or has been in close contact with someone who tests positive. Please keep the school informed. We will follow the advice of Public Health England if we are informed of any positive tests in the school community.



If a member of staff is unwell and unable to be in school, we will let you know and do our best to cover the class. However, we will not be using supply teachers as we do not feel it is appropriate to bring different adults at short notice into the school. We will try to avoid it, but I need to make you aware of the possibility that we may have to close classes at short notice.

What your child needs to bring

Please make sure your child has:

- a sun hat (we will be spending a lot of time outside)
- water bottle(s) – please note, they will not be able to refill their water bottle due to possible cross-contamination so will need to bring plenty, especially on hot days
- a waterproof coat with hood (they will be going out in the rain unless it is a downpour)
- a packed lunch (if a school one has not been ordered)
 - Try to use packaging that your child can open independently as much as possible.
- one piece of fruit for snack (optional)
- their reading book

Please do **not** send in:

- sun cream
- personal hand sanitiser (we have plenty in school)
- anything from home that is not necessary (toys, show and tell items etc.)
- PE Kit
- pencil case etc

If your child forgets something, you will not be able to bring it to the school. If necessary, we will provide a school packed lunch and a bottle of water.

Attendance

Please let us know if your child will not be coming in if we are expecting them. We are still under an obligation to follow up any absences as part of our safeguarding arrangements so need to have this information. This includes children we are expecting in Kedington Care

If we have not heard from you or are expecting your child in school and they don't turn up, we will contact you as part of our safeguarding protocols.

I have updated and attached the FAQs sent home several weeks ago which contain more information about the arrangements in school.

Children in Year 2 -5 - Arrangements for the week they will not be in school and for children who will not be returning to school either week

To allow teachers to focus on teaching, assessing and supporting children in school, specific home learning will not be provided for the week children are not in school and for the very few children who will not be in school either week.

As with children in YR, 1 and 6, children will be able to continue home learning by tapping into the Oak Academy and White Rose resources and practising the skills outlined in the 'Get ready for Year X' sheets that will be sent home (as described at the bottom of p.2).

I am sure teachers and TAs will enjoy seeing any work that has been done uploaded on Dojo, but they may not be able to give you any feedback.

We will continue phone calls with those children who we have prioritised as really needing them.

End of Year Reports

Teachers have been working hard over the last few weeks, writing reports for each child. These are slightly shorter than usual both to reflect the changes to the schooling that children have experienced and to support teachers' workload when they have been working so hard in school and on remote learning. The government has also removed the requirement to provide parents with end of key stage assessment information and attendance.

We aim to get the Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 reports out on their last day next week. Year 2-5 reports will go out on Thursday 9th July. They will go by hand to those children in school and will be posted to the children not in school.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's report, please contact the office make an appointment with your child's teacher.

Staff Gifts

A few parents have asked if they are allowed to bring thank you gifts into school for staff with the current restrictions. This is quite alright!

New School Year

We are still awaiting final guidance about what school will look like in September, but this is what we anticipate will happen:

- All children in all year groups are back at school from the beginning of term in September
- This will include those who have been shielding. We understand that parents with any particular anxieties will probably want to discuss these with us and we will be very happy to do so
- We expect the government guidance that is promised shortly will make clear that we will be back to the usual position of school being compulsory
- We are not clear yet about what arrangements by the end of August for foreign travel will be, but we would expect all children to be available for school when term starts, i.e. not to have gone abroad and be in quarantine when school starts
- You will have seen the news that families whose children are entitled to receive free school meals will continue to receive vouchers through the summer holiday
- The additional opening of schools for children of key workers and vulnerable children will end at the end of this term, i.e. schools will not be open during the summer holiday as during the Easter holiday and half-term break
- We do not yet know the detail of the arrangements that we will be putting in place in September, but expect strict hygiene to continue, and will be letting you and your children know in good time before term starts
- We have revised our start of term dates to ensure our staff are fully briefed and trained for the new arrangements expected, the adaptations needed to curriculum and assessment arrangements following the disruption to this school year – **term will start on Friday 4th September 2020.**

Finally...

Please feel free to contact me to ask any questions or for further clarification.

Thank you again for all your support over the last term. We really appreciate all your words of encouragement and I appreciate the shortened term for YR, 1 and 6 was a shock to some and has caused some disappointment and inconvenience.

Best wishes,

Vicky Doherty
Headteacher

Summary of Dates

Wednesday 01.07.20	School closed pm Kedington Care for keyworker children (if really needed)
Thursday 02.07.20	Last day for YR,1 and 6 Reports out for YR, 1 & 6
Friday 03.07.20	School closed Kedington Care for keyworker children (if really needed)
Monday – Thursday 06.07.20 – 09.07.20	School open for half Y2-5 children Kedington Care 1 & 2 for Y2-5 Kedington Care 3 for YR,1 & 6 keyworker children
Friday 10.07.20	School closed Kedington Care for keyworker children (if really needed)
Monday – Thursday 13.07.20 – 16.07.20	School open for half Y2-5 children Kedington Care 1 & 2 children in class Kedington Care 3 for YR,1 & 6 keyworker children Kedington Care 4 for Yr,1 & 6 other working parents
Thursday 16.07.20	Reports out for Y2-5 – by hand for those in school, posted to those at home
Friday 17.07.20	Last day of term School closed Kedington Care for keyworker children (if really needed)
20.07.20 – 07.08.20	Summer Holiday Club for any children (Dellar Sports Coaching)
Tuesday – Thursday 01.09.20 – 03.09.20	Staff training days
Friday 04.09.20	New school year starts for children

Remember your...

Bubble!

Imagine you have a big bubble around you and you cannot get closer than 2 metres to anyone else. This is what we do now to help keep everyone safe.



Drop off and Collection

Remember

- One adult only
- Drop off and collect as quickly as you can
- Drop off and collect **ONLY** within the class's allotted time. You must be on time
- Stagger drop off and pick up within the 10 minute window
- Try to drop off at the gate so your child walks to their class independently.
- Use another way of giving messages to the teacher (e.g. email the office)
- Forgotten items cannot be brought to school later
- Maintain social distancing at all times
- Do not stop to chat with other parents on the school site, including the car park