



Kingsmills Primary School

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Principal: Mrs G Harrison

Education Authority Southern Region

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Dear Parent,

As you know the Department of Education have recently published some high level guidance detailing plans for a safe return to school. Whilst the guidance may yet change, the teachers and Governors are keen to ensure we maintain open communication with you. I have therefore detailed below, some key points that have been highlighted in this preliminary information. My intention is to write to you again, if and when the guidance changes and I will provide you with a finalised plan, closer to the time.

Key information:

- Start date: We expect school will restart for some children on 24 August 2020. This will prioritise certain groups for example P7 and vulnerable children. (This may change) All other children will return as normal on the 31st August 2020.
- Start/finish time: School will start and end at the same time. We do not expect to have to stagger times at present. Advice regarding social distancing at school premises will be issued in accordance with general guidance relevant that time.
- Breakfast club, after school clubs and other extra curricular activities will be reviewed closer to the time. It is possible that these clubs will not be available at the beginning of term.
- Safe environment: Children will be socially distanced in line with guidance applicable at that time. Based on current guidelines, we will be working to ensure pupils can work in an environment which allows at least 1m social distancing from each other, with staff staying at a distance of 2m. In addition staff will be creating a work environment which reduces pupil-pupil contact e.g. 'pupil bubbles', rotating breaks, dispersment of groups. Hygiene will be strictly en-

forced through regular hand washing, cleaning and use of hand sanitiser. Pupils will be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser to school.

- Lunch and break: It is unclear as to whether school meals will be provided. Packed lunches can be brought from home. Further detail will be confirmed nearer the time.
- Uniform and equipment: The school's ordinary school uniform policy is unlikely to be affected. However in order to reduce the volume of equipment and material being transported from school to home (and vice versa), it is likely that school work/materials (workbooks and stationery etc) will be provided by and kept in school. Children will have their own equipment not to be used by others. We expect the children to travel 'lite', only bringing their essentials (lunch, medical aids etc).
- Homework: As above, in order to streamline the volume of material being handled and the possibility of contamination, it is likely that homework will be delivered using Google Classroom. Materials may need to be printed, so a working printer would be advisable.

Over the next few weeks we expect to receive further guidance and the teachers and staff will continue working hard to ensure our school setting and facilities are safe for all pupils to return in August/September time.

We hope you enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing you in the new school year.

G Harrison