

Headteacher: Andrew Denham

office.3127@standlake.oxon.sch.uk

19 June 2020

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, the government pulled back on its decision insisting that all year groups return to school before the end of the academic year and have left it to the leadership of academies and schools to be flexible in their approach and do what they can.

On Monday, the EPA leadership (Heads, Director of Education and CEO) met to discuss our response and unanimously wanted to work towards getting the Year 5 children in for as much time as possible and do whatever we can for the other year groups. This proposal was taken to the Trustees and Directors of the EPA that evening and it received their agreement, with the acknowledgement that this will look different in each school depending on their own unique circumstances.

The focus on the Year 5's is because they only have 1 year left of primary school and there is a pressing need to 'get them ready' for Secondary school. There is even less time to prepare for the crucial SATs tests. They are also the next oldest year group most likely to be able to conform to social distancing rules.

This is not to say that the other year groups are any less important, but we have between 2 and 4 years to help redress the loss of learning time the school closure has had for these children. We have already started the planning for the Autumn term and the type of curriculum we will be delivering and the 'catch-up' support and programmes we need to consider, including the additional staffing that may be required.

Careful thought was given to the idea of rotating Year's 2-5 each day of the week around the one remaining learning space available in the school (the hall) or even using another space away from school.

Unfortunately, the complexities of the timetabling, staffing availability and needs, health and safety and impact on the consistency for continued virtual home learning convinced us that our agreed approach was going to be the best (but not perfect) one to take. And we kept coming back to the 'time lost and left' for our current Year 5's.

I know that this plan may be disappointing for the children and families in Year 2-4 but ask for your continued understanding and support. We are never afraid of doing or trying something different at Standlake and if we could have all of the children in for some time of the week we would.

The teachers and I are proud of the constantly evolving, adapting and developing provision we are trying our best to deliver and the teamwork, collaboration and unanimity we have in our approach. We are aware that there are very few 'like-for-like' schools that are offering the quantity and quality of the work we are doing. That said, if you are not happy with the work being delivered please speak to the class teacher in the first instance.

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Below is an outline of the provision we will be delivering from next week.

Due to the pressure on staffing availability and timetabling, if a member of staff is unable to come into work, we will have to close their bubble until such times as they are able to return. This may mean a last-minute call (by 7.30am) on the day. There will not be any alternative arrangements.

Nursery

Arrive at 8.55am and leave at 3.00pm. Finish at 1.00pm on Friday.

Use the same entrance/exit as this week (field back gate)

Reception

Arrive at 8.45am and leave at 3.10pm. Finish at 1.10pm on Friday.

Use the field back gate.

Year 1:

Arrive at 8.45am and leave at 3pm. Finish at 1.00pm on Friday.

Use the front playground large gate. Parents to leave the children at the gate.

Year 2

Continued virtual online learning/Home Learning Packs and Google Meets

School social contact time. Ms Farrell will email parents about the groupings, that will stay the same each week.

Group 1: Monday 1.15-1.45 on the school field

Group 2: Monday 2.00-2.30 on the school field

Arrive & leave via the large front gates of the school. Children met and returned by adult. Parents to remain off-site.

If it is raining, we will have to cancel the social meet and will set up a Google Meet instead

If your child is in the Key Worker Bubble, they will be brought out for the social contact time.

Year 3 & 4

Continued virtual online learning/Home Learning Packs and Google Meets

School social contact time (same time for both year groups but different entrances/exits)

Year 3: Wednesday 1.30-2.00 on the school field, arrive and leave via the field back gate

Year 4: Wednesday 1.30-2.00 on the school field, arrive and leave via the large front gates of the school.

Children met and returned by adult. Parents to remain off-site.

If it is raining, we will have to cancel the social meet and will set up a Google Meet instead

If your child is in the Key Worker Bubble, they will be brought out for the social contact time.

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Year 5

Arrive at 8.55am and leave at 3.05pm. Finish at 1.05pm on Friday.

Use the large gate on the front playground. Parents to leave the children at the gate.

If your child is in the Key Worker Group, they will move across to the Y5 Bubble, permanently.

Mr Brown will be in touch with parents about the groupings before the end of the week.

Year 6:

Arrive at 8.45am and leave at 3.10pm. Finish at 1.10pm on a Friday.

Use the same entrance/exit as this week.

Key Worker children:

Arrive at 8.45am and leave at 3pm. Finish at 1.00pm on Friday.

Use the front playground large gate. Parents to leave the children at the gate.

Everyone:

In light of these changes for next week, and in order to provide some additional Google Meet support for some children who are not in school, we will be ending all of the Google Meets that are taking place for any child that is in school, even if it is for one day. We will also be ending the Google Meets for children who have consistently failed to attend their allotted time over the last couple of weeks. Ms Farrell, Mrs Towersey and Mrs Gurga will contact parents to let them know of the new timings, by the end of this week.

If you wish your child to return to school the following week you must let us know by midday on Friday.

As always, we will be reviewing this provision at the end of next week.

Kind regards,

Andrew Denham