

WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL
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13th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly and most importantly, I hope you and all your family and friends are keeping well. All the staff at school are keeping well.

The new Government guidance for schools opening was sent out on 2nd July:

Link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing. Long term time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development and emotional wellbeing, particularly for disadvantaged children. Therefore, we need to ensure all pupils can return to school as soon as possible. Children benefit hugely from being at school.

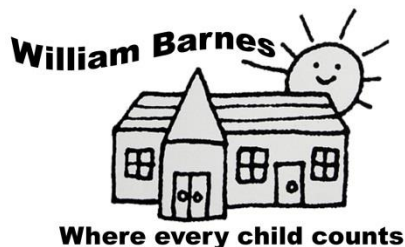
Context

- The prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased. In Dorset and surrounding areas cases and infection rates have been very low.
- NHS Test and Trace system is running.
- Public Health England is clear about the measures that need to be in place to create safer environments within schools.
- Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing -we know that school is a vital point of contact for public health and safeguarding services that are critical to the wellbeing of children and families.
- The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus is low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school.
- Lower academic achievement also translates into long-term economic costs due to having a less well-qualified workforce. This affects the standard of living that today's pupils will have over the course of their entire life. For many households, school closures have also affected their ability to work. As the economy begins to recover, we need to remove this barrier so parents and carers can return to work.



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I have now completed my risk assessment with all the staff and governors. I have also discussed plans with the schools in our pyramid and the Local Authority. Each school will have different buildings and staffing but we are working closely together. This has been based on the government guidance. I have attached a copy of the Risk assessment.

The aim of the risk assessment is to minimise the risks, whilst acknowledging that we can't negate them entirely.

System of controls

This is the set of actions schools must take. They are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection'

Prevention:

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, **do not attend school**
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

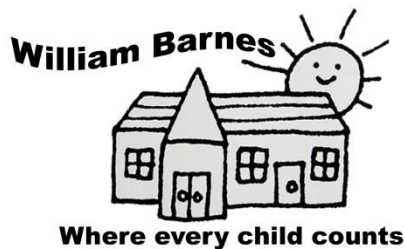
Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time.

Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.



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Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection:

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- 8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- 9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

Numbers 7-9 above may require school to share pupil/parent contact information with public health officials. This sharing of information is permissible under current law and is in line with data protection guidance covering schools.

These are our plans at present. If this should change we will contact you via text or email in the summer and put any changes on our website.

This is a summary of the procedures.

From 7th September all children will return to school. Please check if you are planning to travel abroad that you will be able to return before 7th September. Attendance is now a legal requirement once more. School uniform will now be worn again. Please can I also remind you that we would like long hair to be tied up and no extreme hair styles or dyed hair.

From 8.30 children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, can come through the gate and straight into their classes. Years 5 & 6 8.30, 3&4 8.35, 2&3 8.40, 1 8.45. Siblings can come in together. Parents will need to leave their child at the school gate. Please could only one parent accompany a child and please still respect social distancing.

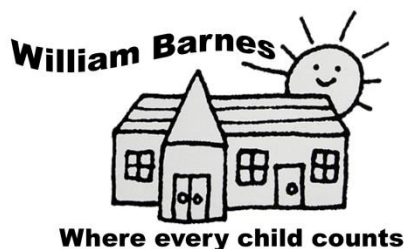
Our new Reception will come in at 9.00am. Staff will be there to greet them at the gate so they can say goodbye to their parents and head straight into class.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club will run. There will be a bell at the gate to press so that a member of staff can come out of the hall and welcome the children in and to see them out at the end of the session. Children will



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sit in Year group tables.

Please can I remind you that the school car park is for staff only and parents who have permission to park there.

At the end of the day R, 1, ,2 will leave at 3.00pm and 3,4,5, 6 at 3.15pm. Older children cannot come out earlier and so younger children with older siblings could wait until 3.15 with the teacher if necessary.

Please could all children bring in a packed lunch, unless you have asked for a school packed lunch, and a water bottle. Children will not be able to share bottles and we would prefer them to have their own rather than use a cup. (If it is hot please can children bring in a hat and sun cream as necessary) Please do not bring in large bags or large pencil cases. Please try to ensure your child has everything with them when they arrive so that we don't have parents coming back in the day to drop off things. For years 5 and 6 on PE days they will come in their PE kit and school jumper, tracksuit as necessary so that they do not need to change in separate areas.

Our wonderful cleaners Mrs Fran Ridout and Mrs Jo Dyke have been doing a wonderful job of thoroughly cleaning all the classrooms. They will continue to ensure all key points are thoroughly cleaned every day, along with staff who will also be regularly cleaning key points.

Please can you read through the Risk assessment and talk to your child about any changes and behaviour expectations for September.

If there had to be a class or a school lockdown next year it is unlikely we would be able to give out learning packs. We would therefore advise online learning, via emails and Teams. Please can you let us know if your email has changed or if you have difficulty receiving emails. We will send out more information about this in September.

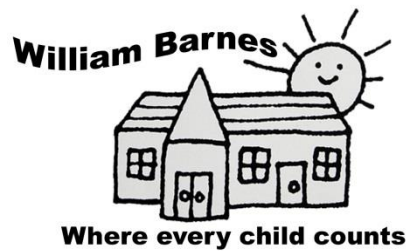
Please have a lovely summer holiday, stay safe and well. Thank you for all your support and kind words. We are all so looking forward to seeing all our children again in September.

Best wishes
Karen Wrixon



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