



Mesne Lea Primary School

Working together for individual excellence

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Re: Re-opening of School

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you to provide you with an update on the school's response to the directive from the government regarding re-opening Mesne Lea Primary School to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils. We have been busy drafting a detailed plan on how this will be implemented, in order to further facilitate our planning process, we need to establish the numbers of pupils who will be accessing a place, as we are unable to accommodate **all** of our pupils whilst maintaining their safety and social distancing protocols. The following precautions will need to be undertaken to ensure that social distancing and infection control standards are maintained:

- **Limiting the number of children in a room** – this means your child will be allocated a classroom with less than 15 children and a teacher (they may not be with their friends, they may not be with their teacher, but this ensures limited contact).
- **Staggering break times** – your child will be kept in their small group and so will not be able to play out with all of their friends (this is to try to maintain social distancing which is difficult with children).
- **Staggering dropping off and collecting** – This will mean that the school day is not the usual 9.00 am to 3.30pm, with parents being allocated a specific drop off and collection time. This also has implications for any child who is late and misses their drop off time. For Year 6 pupils, we would encourage those who live locally to allow their child to walk to and from school.
- **The organisation of the school day** – **For pupils in EYFS**, the day will consist of a short literacy session, then specific activities set up in the classroom that will be safe for the children to access individually. There will be a short phonics lesson before lunch, which will consist of a sandwich, piece of fruit and a biscuit, which will be provided by school and eaten in the classroom. In the afternoon, there will be a short maths session, then specific activities set up within the classroom. Children will have some access to outdoor provision on a rota basis. **For Year 6 pupils**, the day will consist of a maths and a literacy lesson, lunch will consist of a sandwich, piece of fruit and a biscuit, which will be provided by school and eaten in the classroom. The afternoon session will be followed by a topic/project based lesson in the afternoon.
- **Use of resources** - in order to reduce the risk of infection, all soft furnishings, books and small resources that will be difficult to clean will be removed from the classroom. Children will be unable to bring in their PE kits, school bags, pencil cases or water bottles from home. This will mean that each child will be given their own set of equipment to use in the classroom. Please click on the link below to see video clips of the classrooms set-up once all of the resources that could break hygiene protocols have been removed.

Nursery Classroom: <https://www.mesnelea.salford.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/nursery-mlps.mp4>

KS1 Classroom: <https://www.mesnelea.salford.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/ks1-mlps.mp4>



- **Staff wearing PPE** – The staff working in The Cherry Tree Room and in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 may be wearing PPE – protective, personal equipment, which may make your child feel anxious. This decision has been taken due to staff concerns regarding the difficulties in social distancing with young children.

Please see a photograph of a member of staff wearing PPE:



- **Keeping pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home** – we would need a current phone number and would need you to collect your child immediately if they display even mild symptoms.

In order to aid us with our planning and staffing, we are asking if you could let us know if your child will be returning to school. Before making your decision, please consider the following:

- **Every child that can be safely cared for at home should be**
- You will **not be fined** for none attendance
- School is **not compulsory** at this stage
- A large number of children will not be with their usual teacher
- Lots of the children will not be in their usual classroom
- Places will be full days
- The content of learning in school will be the same as what is posted on the home learning hub

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable, or living with someone who is in this group, they should not come back to school and should continue home learning. If your child is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), you should follow medical advice to decide if they should come back to school. Please refer to [government guidance](#) for further details of these groups.

The decision you make will be final until the next announcement by the government.

Please complete the following questionnaire separately for each pupil in the family:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1BqVjIMehTJVLVCWMMWFSV5tIBqXgUEyeXMao6_ODYZA

The closing date for the return of the survey is **Wednesday, 20 May by 4.00 pm.**

I want to reassure you that we are not going to be pressuring anyone to send their children to school, you must make the right decision for you and your family.

Thank you for your understanding in this very difficult time.

Best wishes

A. Nelson

Ms A Nelson
Headteacher