Phased re-opening of Rowley Park Academy.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your unwavering support, it has made these very uncertain times a little easier knowing we have your full support. Following the recent government guidance and evidence presented in the SAGE report, we have taken the decision to re-open Rowley Park in a phased manner from the week commencing 15th June – this reduces the risk of infection for your children. Coronavirus will remain in our communities for a while yet and so we will continue to study evidence presented and will go ahead with the re-opening if local/regional scientific data and evidence presented by the government deems it safe to do so. We will only be able to accommodate children in school part time to be able to adhere to social distancing guidelines and ensure each group has adequate space and supervision.

**Who can attend and when?**

We will continue to open to the keyworker group fulltime, as we have been since closure - 8.45am until 3.15pm – space for new children must be agreed by the Head of School.

**Phase 1 – W/C 15.6.2020**

* Year 1 will return to school on Thursday 18th June and continue 2 days a week. (Thursday and Friday)
* School will be closed on Wednesday for deep cleaning.
* Arrival Window – 8.45am – 9.00am and collection window 2.45pm -3.00pm

**Phase 2 – W/C 29.6.2020**

* Reception will return to school on Monday 29th June and continue 2 days a week. (Monday and Tuesday)
* School will be closed on Wednesday for deep cleaning.
* Arrival Window – 8.45am – 9.00am and collection window 2.45pm -3.00pm

**Phase 3 – W/C 6.7.2020**

* We will evaluate phase 1 and 2, based on our evaluation, we will decide whether to enter phase 3 which will be to bring Year 6 back safely into school on a part time basis. In the meantime, we will be communicating a transition package and ideas to help the children process their move to high school.

**What will drop off and collection look like?**

* Please adhere to government guidelines and avoid public transport to get to school and walk where possible and of coming in a car, please do not car share and children must be bought to school by 1 adult.
* Each ‘bubble’ (group) will be given an arrival and collection window to adhere to. For safety of children, parents and teachers, it is important that you stick to these times. Social distancing markers will be put out on the school fence for parents and children to use.
* A member of SLT will open the gate and welcome the children into school and direct them to where they need to go.
* Parents will not be able to enter the school site, you must say goodbye at the gate. Parents will not be able to have lengthy interaction with staff, if you need to discuss an issue with a staff member, you must call the school and you will get a phone call back.
* As stated in government guidelines, children do not need to wear PPE in school, if they wear it on the way, this must be removed. Children will be asked to sanitise and wash their hands on entry to the school.

**What will the children’s classroom look like?**

The classroom environment, routine and social aspect of school will look very different to what the children are used to:

* Children will be in a ‘bubble’ of a maximum of 10 children and 2 staff members – these will remain the same at all times and they will not mix with any other ‘bubbles’. (This may not be your child’s class teacher or Teaching assistant but you will be informed prior to opening).
* Each child will have a labelled work station to sit at to complete work and activities– desk, chair and stationary pack.
* Desks will be positioned 2 metres apart to adhere to social distancing and children cannot move around the room freely.
* Children will have access to a classroom, outdoor space and the toilets.

**What will break times and lunchtimes look like?**

* Children will remain with their ‘bubble’ of staff and children at break times and lunchtime using their allocated room and outdoor space.
* Children will receive a meal under the universal free school meals offer. We will not be offering hot meals at this time. The school kitchen will be providing a packed lunch bag consisting of sandwiches, cake, drink, fruit etc…If your child would like to bring their own packed lunch then we ask that it comes in disposable packaging – not fabric or plastic lunchboxes.
* We will be offering a fruit snack at playtime. Your child is welcome to bring a snack themselves but again please in disposable packaging.
* We will provide drinks throughout the day for your children therefore a water bottle is not needed.

**What should my child wear/bring to school?**

* Your child is able to wear a mixture of home clothes or school uniform inclusive of suitable footwear for light exercise activities, to enable you to ensure the children are wearing clean clothes every day and give parents adequate time to wash.
* Please do not allow your child to bring in anything from home – toys, books, stationary. Everything they need will be provided by the school.
* Following government guidelines Children will not be required to wear PPE. Under these guidelines staff are also not required to wear PPE unless welcoming children in, administering first aid or caring for vulnerable people.
* Please provide your children with a labelled hat and sun cream.

The government have been very clear that parents/carers who feel that they do not wish to send their pupils into school at present will not face fines or other sanctions. We will follow and support the decision that you have previously made. If this changes and you feel you would like to keep your child at home or allow them back to school, then please get in contact on the below email address. Pupils will not be allowed to turn up at school without prior confirmation.

Of course, we would love to see all the children back and would not be choosing to organise the school in this way however we have to follow government guidelines and our risk assessment in order to keep the children, our families and our staff as safe as we possibly can. This is our priority and we thank you for your support. If your child is ill please do not send them to school.

We will continue to support children through home schooling, phone calls and free school meals packages for those on our list. A video will be put on the website to show you and the children what their classrooms will look like so please watch this together.

If you have any further questions, please email headteacher@rowleyparkacademy.org.uk or call the school office and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Beaumont,

Head of School