

Cumberworth C.E. (A) First School

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Head Teacher: Mrs M. S. Walker - Business Manager: Marina Davis

21st May 2020

Dear Parents/carers

School provision for children of key workers, vulnerable children and those with an EHCP from week beginning 1st June

Who can attend?

All children of key workers where their child cannot be kept safely at home and children classed as vulnerable or who have an EHCP.

If your child is 'extremely clinically vulnerable' (i.e. in the shielded group) or someone in your household falls into that category then they **should not return to school at this time.**

If your child is 'clinically vulnerable', including those with asthma then I would advise you to consult your G.P for advice as to whether or not it is safe for your child to return to school. If you decide to send them back then we will need to carry out a risk assessment with you beforehand.

What will our provision look like?

School will look very different to what we are used to as we are a long way from providing 'normal' schooling and due to the increased numbers of children in school it will look very different to the child-care we have been providing so far.

Government guidelines recognise that young children will not be able to socially distance themselves so we are required to put them into smaller groups and where possible groups of children should not mix. The maximum group size stipulated in the guidance is 15 children.

Children (except those in Reception and Year One) will be based in the gym with Mrs Barrett and some of our support staff. It will not be possible to share resources between groups of children. This means that the children will not have access to the wide range of resources that they would normally do. The children will have an allocated table to sit at and will have their own resources on their table.

To enable us to keep groups of children apart we will be having staggered break times and lunchtimes to the rest of school. Our mid- day supervisors will continue to look after your children during the lunch break. Children will eat lunch in their group base which will be a packed lunch provided by school (you may send in your own if you prefer but please let us know if this is your intention when you confirm that you require a place).

We will be staggering school start and finish times and children will enter their group base through the back gym doors. You will not be able to come into school with your child. I know that this will be incredibly difficult during the first few days but we have to abide by these rules. We will be asking parents to observe social distancing rules when dropping off and picking up children and follow the one-way system for coming on to and leaving the school site, which will be shared with you nearer the time.

Children must not bring any toys or items from home including their book bag. They will need to bring their water bottle – ready filled – and this will be taken home at the end of each day for washing and refilling. If you are providing a packed lunch for your child they will, of course, need to bring this with them.

Upholding Christian values, together we ENJOY our learning, ENRICH our lives and EXCEL by making the most of our talents and gifts

Staff will not be expected to wear routinely wear PPE but will be required to do so in administering some types of 1st aid, dealing with a toileting accident or if they are looking after a child who is showing symptoms of Covid-19.

If a child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 than we will have to keep them apart from the other children until you can collect them. Children and staff attending school are now eligible for a test. If there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school, then the whole of that group, including staff, will be required to self-isolate for 14 days.

We will of course be carrying out extra cleaning throughout the day, particularly on surfaces that easily become contaminated, and will follow guidelines on frequent handwashing, encouraging children not to touch their faces, to use and bin tissues if coughing etc.

We will be continuing to provide wrap-around care exclusively for children of key workers. However assuming we reopen to some year groups we will no longer have the facility to offer breakfast or after school snacks. Your child is welcome to bring a snack for after school which can kept on their table during the day. This is not Sunshine Club but a provision to support our key workers and no fees will be charged for the wrap-around care provided.

Key worker families: to enable us to ensure we have safe group numbers, adequate staffing etc it is important for us to know what provision you will need in advance. We therefore request that you let us know no later than each Wednesday of your requirements for the following week. When requesting places please let us know your approximate drop off and pick up times. These can be between 7:30 – 6:00 but please do pick up as soon as you can to enable the space to be thoroughly cleaned before the following day. Therefore any key workers needing a place during the w/c 1st June should contact Marina at office@cumberworthfirstschool.co.uk by Wednesday 27th May if they have not already done so. If you already know that you need provision for subsequent weeks please let us have that as soon as possible to assist our planning. Any parents expecting to use the key worker provision during the next half term MUST contact us by Wednesday 27th May so that we know the maximum possible numbers and can include your child / children in the register. For example if your child might need a key worker place during the w/c 29th June you need to let us know by Wed 27th May that you would like your child to be added to the key worker register, then no later than Wed 24th June you advise us of dates / times that your child will attend the following week and for any subsequent sessions that you are aware of.

Parents of vulnerable children or those with an EHCP wishing to have a place for their child should contact Marina by email to confirm this by Wednesday 27th May indicating their proposed start date unless they have already spoken to me.

I know this may all seem very bleak but I wanted to be honest with you about what to expect. We understand that many of the children will be anxious about the return to school having had so many weeks at home with you and we will do our utmost to make the experience for children as positive as we possibly can in the current circumstances. We will not be able to cuddle your child or hold hands but will find other ways of comforting them if necessary.

Once we have final numbers we will be in touch again to let have further details regarding the first day back.

If you have any further questions then please let us know.

With best wishes

Maggie