

# Grasmere Primary School

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Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Wider Opening of Grasmere

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you are well and safely enjoying this amazing spell of weather. I am writing regarding the planned widening of school opening as proposed by the Government. I would like to outline the measures to you that Grasmere will be taking after half term.

I have spoken to some of you about this situation and I have really appreciated how you have understood the challenges that face the school in considering opening more widely. These include staffing [we have a smaller pool of available staff due to a significant number being vulnerable, shielded or living with someone who is shielded] and absorbing the guidelines from the Government and looking at how the school can be adjusted accordingly.

Before setting out our plan, I would like you to understand that this will be done under a strong caveat that it might be subject to change; either by Government changing the date or expectation on schools to open more widely, or by the school's ability to safely open with sufficient staff. I can only assure you that we will communicate with you and give you as much notice as possible if things change. As well as our staff, at the heart of this are your child and family and we want to establish a settled and consistent provision for you, but please understand that this might not always be possible.

Our approach is underpinned by a very detailed risk assessment carried out by our staff and Hackney advisors:

**1<sup>st</sup> June:** Key worker and vulnerable children will continue their provision following the new guidance and risk assessment.

**8<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception class to return in 2 hubs of 15. Until further notice each hub will be on site for 2 full days a week. Hub A will be on Monday and Tuesday, Hub B will be on Thursday and Friday, with a deep clean of the classroom on Wednesday.

**15<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 6 to return in 2 hubs of 15 using the same model as reception.

**22<sup>nd</sup> June:** We evaluate how the hubs have been working with the view to expanding further if safe and possible.

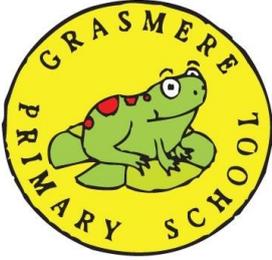


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We will communicate with you ahead of time if we are able to increase the offer within a year group [e.g. offer more days] or to other year groups [specifically Y1 and N] and give more details of what that might look like. We will constantly assess the offer with the safety of children and staff being of paramount importance at all times.

Home learning will continue as it has been, using Seesaw and the Hackney grids. However, if staff are in school as a result of wider opening then it is unreasonable to expect them to carry out the home learning provision as well. That said, those children in N and Y1-Y5 should expect the offer to remain largely unchanged.

By the end of the week, I will send out much more detailed information to Rec and Y6 parents outlining exactly what the offer will look like for when children do return so parents will be able to make an informed choice about sending their child back. This is a personal choice and there will be no judgement or penalty for whatever decision is made.

Finally, to end on a different but really happy note, Emmy our wonderful year 1 teacher, is pregnant and expecting a baby in October! I know you will join me in wishing her all the best in the coming months.

Kind regards,

Nick



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