

# Banwell Primary School

## Reopening Plan for Parents

### September 2020



## **Context**

As you will be aware, the government have asked that all primary aged children return to school from September 2020. This is exciting news and we are really looking forward to welcoming all of the children back. We have missed them!

The government have stated that:

*“Schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Schools should thoroughly review their health and safety risk assessments and draw up plans for the autumn term that address the risks identified using the system of controls set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will be familiar from the summer term. Essential measures include:*

- *a requirement that people who are ill stay at home*
- *robust hand and respiratory hygiene*
- *enhanced cleaning arrangements*
- *active engagement with NHS Test and Trace*
- *formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable*

*How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:*

- *grouping children together*
- *avoiding contact between groups*
- *arranging classrooms with forward facing desks*
- *staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible”*

We have been working the whole time to ensure that we follow the correct safety guidance laid out by the DfE and will ensure we will continue to adapt our provision with the constantly changing parameters. Please keep your eyes out for any further guidance or changes that may occur over the summer as we may have to continue to be flexible and adapt to any current information at the time.

We have detailed our plans for September below. These are based on what we know from the current guidance as of July 2020.

### **When Will Banwell Primary School Reopen?**

**Banwell Primary School will open to all pupils (Y1 – Y6) on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September will be inset days and will enable staff to make final preparations to ensure the school is ready for the return of all pupils. Children who will be starting in reception this year have their own timetable.

### **Will the Children Be in “Pods / Bubbles”?**

Whilst the children will be taught in their usual year group classes we do need to group them in wider “pods” for other parts of the school day. Classes in the same pod can mix with each other during breaktime, lunchtime, breakfast & after school club but they will not be allowed to mix with children in other pods.

Each class will belong to a coloured pod, as detailed below:

<b>Classes</b>	<b>Pod Colour</b>
Reception	Yellow
Year 1	Yellow
Year 2	Yellow
Year 3	Blue
Year 4	Blue
Year 5	Red
Year 6	Red

### **Will the Children Arrive and Leave at the Same Time?**

No. We need to stagger arrival and departure times to minimise the number of people on the school site at the same time.

The even classes (Y2, Y4 and Y6) will share arrival and departure timings as will the odd classes (Y1, Y3 and Y5). Once our new reception children are in school full time they will share timings with the odd classes.

Children will need to arrive at the designated gates at the designated times. This is to minimise contact between groups of people. The children will be met at the gates by a member of staff and taken into class. They will be brought out to the designated gate at their departure time. The gates have been allocated to ensure the children can be taken to their classes without coming into contact with other pods.

Unfortunately as we have to restrict any visitors on site at this time, parents will not be able to come into the school grounds at the moment. Only one parent should accompany a child and where older children are able to walk up the drive

themselves they should do so. Access will continue to only be via the school drive as the other entrances do not allow for the necessary social distancing. Parents and children should keep left on the drive at all times and leave the site as quickly as possible. **No vehicles must come through the school gate on to any part of the drive during these times. This is to ensure the safety of everyone.**

Gates and timings are detailed below:

Classes	Pod Colour	Arrival / Departure	Timings
Reception	Yellow	Playpals Gate (top of playground)	8.55am 3.15pm
Year 1	Yellow	Playpals Gate (top of playground)	8.55am 3.15pm
Year 2	Yellow	Playpals Gate (top of playground)	8.45am 3.05pm
Year 3	Blue	Old Hall Doors	8.55am 3.15pm
Year 4	Blue	Old Hall Doors	8.45am 3.05pm
Year 5	Red	Main Gate	8.55am 3.15pm
Year 6	Red	Main Gate	8.45am 3.05pm

### **Do Children Need to Maintain Social Distancing?**

Children will be encouraged, where possible, to maintain social distancing but there is an acceptance that this will not always be possible. Adults should strive, where possible, to maintain a 2m distance from each other and from the children.

Seating in classrooms should involve the children sitting side by side, facing the front, and not face to face, where possible.

### **What If I Have More Than One Child in School and They Are in Different Pods?**

It is accepted in the DfE guidance that siblings may be in different groups (pods). Logistically it would be impossible to coordinate sibling linked pods so we ask that parents are understanding of this please.

### **What Do the Children Need to Bring to School?**

The only items children should bring to school are a:

- water bottle
- packed lunch, if necessary
- sun hat / coat – as necessary

Children should not bring bags to school with them.

## **What Will the Curriculum Look Like?**

Schools are being asked by the government to:

*“Teach an ambitious & broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term, but make use of existing flexibilities to create time to cover the most important missed content.”*

The curriculum will continue to be broad and balanced and we are able to plan trips and exciting activities for the children to ensure they have the best experiences in school as a class.

There is also recognition that:

*“Substantial modification to the curriculum may be needed at the start of the year, so teaching time should be prioritised to address significant gaps in pupils’ knowledge with the aim of returning to the school’s normal curriculum content by no later than summer term 2021.”*

Unfortunately there will be no assemblies or clubs as we are limiting the chances of bubbles mixing. There will also be no contact sports, singing or peripatetic music lessons allowed in school. On the days that children have PE (and only on these days) children will need to come in wearing their PE kits. Teachers will let parents know which days this will be. Remote learning will cease unless in extreme circumstances and it is necessary for a child to stay at home.

Our primary focus when the children return will be on their mental wellbeing. We will be led by the needs of the children and will pace our learning and school day around what is appropriate. Our provision will be constantly reviewed.

## **What Will the Arrangements be for Lunchtime?**

Lunches will be eaten in the Old Hall and the children will eat in their pod groups. They will be sat side by side, not facing each other. Hot meals can be ordered in the usual way. The area will be cleaned between each pod sitting. The outside play areas (eg, playground and field) will be zoned so that pods of children play separately from each other. Any play equipment will be cleaned after use. The timings for play and lunchtimes may be shortened and be staggered to ensure social distancing.

## **Will Breakfast & After School Club Be Running?**

Yes. This will be run in the Sports Hall and will be zoned into three pods – red, yellow & blue. The children will need to stay within these pod groups when they eat and play. **Please note the new booking system for these clubs which you have received separate information about.**

## **Does My Child have to Attend School From September?**

Yes. It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer term impact of the pandemic on the children’s education, wellbeing and wider

development. From September schools will be required to follow up absence and can issue fines where necessary.

### **Will the Children in School Be Required to Wear School Uniform?**

Yes. The children will need to wear school uniform as this will help to make the school as normal as possible and will promote whole school identity and community. We will however ask you to be very vigilant with washing clothes and have at least two sets of uniforms that can be washed regularly/ daily to prevent infections spreading.

### **Are There Risk Assessments in Place?**

Yes. Thorough risk assessments have been drawn up in line with government guidance, have been signed off by North Somerset and shared with staff. These are published on the school website.

### **What Will Happen if Someone in a Pod Tests Positive for Coronavirus?**

Schools must take swift action when they become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools should contact the local health protection team. The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take.

### **Will Staff Be Wearing PPE?**

Only in exceptional circumstances. DfE guidance states that PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases in schools, including:

- where an individual child or young person becomes ill with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while at schools, and only then if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained
- where a child or young person already has routine intimate care needs that involves the use of PPE, in which case the same PPE should continue to be used