



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School Mousehold Avenue Norwich NR3 4RS
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Friday 12th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arrangements for a wider opening of school for Reception and Year 1 initially.

The dates we are looking at for the wider reopening for some children is **Thursday 18th June onwards and for others Monday 22nd June onwards.**

Initially the wider reopening will be for **Reception and Year 1**, then followed by Nursery. As yet, the Government has not named Year 2 as one of the year groups to return but we will do all we can to provide some sort of transition for your children before they start at the junior school.

To support a smooth and informed transition back to school this letter provides a lot of information to help prepare our families. We have also attached a few photos of the environments to help you prepare your child and to help you in your decision-making. The children we have had in school since May half term have spent their days in year group 'bubbles' of 5-8 children. These have worked well. We have a lengthy risk assessment, agreed by the Trustees, and this has informed our planning and preparation for a wider reopening.

Before we make concrete plans on how many days your child can attend and what is possible we need to know how many of you would like your children to come back to school when we reopen. Please complete the survey sent to you today to let us know. Your decision might have changed since the last survey we sent out. We really appreciated your feedback on the last survey. Once we know numbers we can sort groups of 5-8 children. These groups will be called 'bubbles.'

Here is a child friendly video to reassure you all as a family what being in a 'bubble' means. The only bit that will be different at Mousehold to what it says on the video is that we won't be asking you to leave your children at the school gate. Details will follow on where you would bring your child to.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUXDX0WFyno&feature=youtu.be&safe=active>

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Westall Deputy Headteacher: Mr Ian Tolson
Designated safeguarding leads: Mrs Westall, Mr Tolson, Miss Wood



Your child won't be able to attend school every day as we have too many children and not enough classrooms to have just 5-8 children in a class every day. We also have some teachers who are unable to come into school. The plan will probably be that your child will attend school 2 or 3 days a week initially.

<p><u>What will the day look like?</u></p>	<p>Your child will stay within their bubble (group of 5-8 children) all day and each day they are in. Your child will be with children from their year group as far as possible. Your child will be with a teacher familiar to them from their year group but might not be their own teacher. We have limited classrooms and teachers and want to ensure all children who want to come back get time in school.</p> <p>The focus of the curriculum will mostly be on mental health and wellbeing for all.</p> <p>We have done our best to keep the classrooms feeling and looking bright and welcoming. The wall displays help with this. Much of the furniture and soft furnishings have been taken out of the classrooms. Your child will have their own desk and pot of pens. The desks have been arranged to support social distancing. There will be plenty for them to 'play' with too away from their table and this will be with resources we can wash at the end of each day.</p> <p>Your child can bring their own packed lunch or a cold lunch can be provided by school. At the moment there is no hot dinner option.</p> <p>As you know we have wonderful outdoor areas and your child will spend much of their time outside with children from their bubble so they will need a sun hat and their own water bottle.</p> <p>There will be staggered start and end times to the day and we will let you know the timings when we know how many children we are planning for. It will be important for you to be punctual at the start and end of each day so that the system works safely and effectively.</p>
<p><u>How will strict hygiene be maintained?</u></p>	<p>Regular hand washing time has been built into the daily timetable. Hand washing will be actively encouraged and monitored by staff.</p> <p>Hand sanitiser units are available around the school.</p>

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	<p>Resource sharing has been minimised where possible with washing of equipment, surfaces and door handles taking place regularly throughout the school day.</p> <p>A supply of cleaning materials, tissues and lidded pedal bins available in all classrooms.</p> <p>Soft furnishings have been removed from classrooms.</p> <p>Books used by a 'bubble' will be wiped and left for 72 hours before being used again. No books will be taken home by children or staff.</p> <p>All classroom areas have an internal telephone to contact the school office.</p> <p>There is always a first aider on site. The first aider will wear PPE when administering first aid or providing intimate care.</p> <p>School will be closed to children on a Wednesday for deep cleaning. (Teaching staff will continue to be available to provide childcare for Key Worker children who have been coming into school during the closure period and identified vulnerable children)</p>
<p><u>What do I do if my child is ill?</u></p>	<p>If your child is unwell at home please do not bring them into school.</p> <p>Please take your own child's temperature before school if you feel they may be feeling under the weather. If the temperature is high then please keep them at home. The link below gives you information on how to take your child's temperature.</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/common-health-questions/accidents-first-aid-and-treatments/how-do-i-take-someones-temperature/</p> <p>If your child falls ill at school we will look after them in a separate room to their bubble and call you for you to collect them as soon as you can.</p>

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It is important that you know that we will do our very best to encourage children to social distance and have all of the measures in place for this. However, with such young children it is hard for them to do this at all times and their instinct is to be with others. We pride ourselves on being a school where parents can come in and talk to us daily. Unfortunately parents are now not allowed into the school building, apart from at the office hatch. This is really hard for us all but I know we will work together to overcome any communication barriers.

I hope that the information in this letter reassures you that a lot of time and care has been taken to keep Mousehold's ethos one of positivity, creativity and togetherness. We are such a strong community. We understand that it might be a difficult decision as a parent as to whether to send your child back to school. As a school we will support you either way with no pressure. There will be no fines at this current time. If you choose not to send your child back then we will continue to provide home learning via the VLE and our Facebook page. If you do make the decision to send your child back then we will welcome them and be very pleased to see them back.

If your child is in **Reception or Year 1** then you will receive another survey today via Parent Mail. Please complete this by **Monday 8th June 5pm**. We cannot extend this deadline as we can only make a plan if we know exact numbers. We will use this information to let you know by **Thursday 11th June** what is happening the following week and the days your children can attend school.

A message to our Year 2 children from Mr McConnell – Headteacher from George White Junior School

Hello to everyone who has a child starting with us in Y3 after the summer! I just wanted to write a quick note to say that transition to George White is going to be at the top of my list as soon as Year 6 arrive back safely from the 15th of June.

After that, Mrs Westall and I will be in touch to let you know what we're going to do to make sure that the move from Mousehold to George White is as supportive and happy as possible.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and understanding during this difficult time. Together we can make this work for our staff and children, mitigating risk while supporting everyone's mental well-being and continuing the education for our children.

Stay well and stay safe,

Kind regards

Rebecca Westall
Headteacher

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