

11th June

This is the original letter which was shared on 22nd May. The tables within it have been updated with the addition of the 'Bronze Bubble', a fourth key worker and vulnerable children bubble.

22nd May

Dear Parents and Carers

This letter is about the potential reopening of school to Y6 children on Monday 1st June for key worker children only and Tuesday 2nd June for year 6 and vulnerable groups. This letter contains information for our Year 6 parents and our key worker and vulnerable group parents and carers. It also has information for other parents so you can see how we are gradually opening our school to more children as well as the implications for children who are at home. Please take the time to read it carefully and process everything within it.

Thank You!

Thank you to our Year 6 parents who have responded to our letter asking if you would like your child to return on the 2nd June. This enabled us to begin our planning process. We have now organised a plan that enables us to accept all Year 6 children whose parents have already told us they will be returning if the government confirms it is safe to do so. If as a year 6 parent you would like your child to return to school at a later date, please contact the office so that we can plan for this and agree a start date.

Thank you to our key worker parents who have been able to tell us about the days they need their children to be in school throughout June. I understand that there are some parents who will continue to let Mrs Williamson know on a Monday each week in advance of the following week. I do need to make you aware that, due to staffing constraints, we only have capacity for 39 key worker and vulnerable children each day. If children are not booked in, then it is possible we will not have spaces. Our number of key worker children is increasing as teachers and teaching assistants from our own and other schools now need daily spaces. **Please only book spaces on the days when you, as the key worker parent, are working.**

We will continue to expect our vulnerable children who have been attending school to be in every day or on their specified days.

Risk Assessment

With the increased number of children and staff expected in school from after half term we have updated our risk assessment. I would encourage you to read this carefully and we will be happy to answer any questions that you may have. Please note the cover sheet indicates risk without control measure in place in red and with control measures in place in blue. It can be found by following this link:

<http://www.millrythejunior.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Covid-19-Reopening-Risk-Assessment-MRJS-1.pdf>

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Deputy Headteacher: Miss Rebecca Vousden BSc PGCE

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What is the plan and what are bubbles?

Our plan is to split the three Year 6 classes into five smaller ‘bubbles’ of up to 13 children alongside our three key worker and vulnerable group bubbles. Bubbles is the term used to describe the mini-families that we are creating in school to keep children and staff as safe as possible. Each bubble will only interact with their class teacher and teaching assistant. Your child has been placed in a bubble with other children we know they are friendly with and where possible their siblings. Your child will remain with their teacher and or teaching assistant throughout the whole day. We have one bubble which is being taught by a job share – two teachers – and a teaching assistant.

Your child will remain in their ‘bubble’ all day and will not mix with children from other bubbles. They will remain in their bubble for all lessons and when they play outside at breaktime and lunchtime. They will not come into contact with children in other bubbles.

The bubble system will minimise contact between children and adults. In the classrooms, desks are set up so that children are two metres away from each other. We will encourage social distancing at all times. However, having been open every day for the last eight weeks with up to 30 key worker children, we know this is not physically possible. During playtimes, children are drawn to each other and will be closer than two metres at times. We will model how to social distance and intervene if this distance is not maintained reminding children of our expectations. There will be times in the classroom when adults may be working slightly closer with children but again this will be minimised as much as possible.

Who will my child be working with?

The table below identifies which adults are working with each bubble.

Bubble Colour	Group Type	Classroom	Teacher	Teaching Assistant	Toilets
Red	Year 6	6SB	Mrs Brydon	Mrs Gervasoni	Yr 6
Yellow	Year 6	5MD	Mrs Haldenby	Mrs Bottomley	Library
Green	Year 6	6SG	Mrs Lewis	Mrs Neale	Yr 6
Blue	Year 6	6GR	Miss Gray	Mrs Hodgson* Mrs Jenner	Yr 6
Orange	Year 6	5AF	Miss Furlong	Mrs Jones	Library
Purple	Key worker	3IC	Mrs Chessell Mr Darby *	Mr Timms	Yr 3
Silver	Key worker	4AT	Miss Thorne	Mrs Howard	Library
Gold	Key worker	3SW	Miss Lewis	Mrs Gannon * Mrs Gilmartin	Yr 3
Bronze	Key worker	MAD	Miss Harrison	Mrs Shergold	MAD

Mrs Hodgson will be working on Monday with Mrs Jenner working across the rest of the week.

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Mrs Chessell will be working Monday and Tuesday with Mr Darby working Thursday and Friday. They will be alternating on Wednesday with Mrs Chessell teaching in week 1 and Mr Darby in week 2.

Mrs Gannon will be working on Monday and Tuesday with Mrs Gilmartin working Wednesday to Friday.

How will I know which bubble my child is in?

You will receive a text message on Friday 22nd May sharing which bubble they will be working in.

Behaviour, well-being and learning

We will expect good levels of behaviour from all our children and will support them to meet these expectations after being away from school and other children for so long. We know it has been an intense and strange time for many of them. As each year whole group returns, Miss Ifould has prepared a lovely 'induction' curriculum. Children and staff will have time to focus on their own wellbeing and emotions, considering how they feel about coming back to school and how school is different to what we are used to and why. Through the book, 'Charlie Changes into a Chicken' by Sam Copeland, children will learn about how a little boy turns into a chicken whenever he is anxious and consider their own anxieties. They will explore how his friendships help him and how being empathetic towards others is so important, as well as developing a range of techniques to support us when we are anxious including yoga, breathing techniques and trick box. They will move onto exploring how the world has changed and the positives that have happened as a result of the pandemic.

If we have any children who are not able to meet our expectations within school and as a result are not keeping themselves and others safe then we will speak with parents, put a risk assessment and new plan in place. This may result in children having to work and play away from their bubble. I am sure this will not be necessary.

How will the school day structure be changed?

On 1st June Key worker children will come onto the playground between 8.40am and 8.55am as normal before leaving at 3.25pm.

From 2nd June, the school day is structured very differently to enable us to support our increased numbers of children, staff and families in social distancing. We are closing the school car park and asking families to walk, cycle or scoot to school to encourage social distancing. Cycle helmets must be worn by all children (and adults) who cycle to school and bikes and scooters must be pushed on the school site. Children in years 3 and 4 who cycle, must be accompanied by an adult. The bike shed will not be open so children will bring their bikes and scooters onto the playground and leave them against the fences. We are asking that only one adult brings their child to school.

When children arrive at school they will enter the school building by their designated entrance and move to their classroom where they will use hand sanitiser before sitting at their own desk. Teachers will then send them to wash their hands with soap and water before they return to class to take the register. Each bubble has a specified toilet to use.

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Once in school, children will remain in their bubbles with their class teacher and teaching assistant. They will spend breaktime with both their class teacher and teaching assistant and will have lunch with their teaching assistant. Break and lunchtimes are split with four bubbles being outside at one time. When they are outside, each bubble will have their own zone to play in with their own play equipment. This is cleaned at the end of each session. Children will not be able to cross from one zone to another and will be encouraged to remain two metres apart at all times.

After the year 6 bubbles have completed their ‘induction’ curriculum, they will be taught maths and English in the morning with the foundation subjects in the afternoon. We are really looking forward to working with them again and making sure they are well prepared for the start of year 7.

Key worker and vulnerable groups of children in years 3 – 5 will be continuing to work on the home learning for their year group within school.

Each bubble has a slightly different start and end time to their school day. All bubbles will arrive via the main blue gate. If accompanied by an adult, the adult will leave via the bus gate. The table below sets out the timings for each bubble and these must be adhered to by all families to keep everyone safe. There is a ten minute window for each bubble to arrive within. If you arrive and there are children/adults waiting to enter the playground, please be mindful and maintain a 2 metre distance between you.

Group	Entry	Classroom	Arrival time	Leave time
Red	Main year 6 door	6SB	8:15 – 8:25	2:45
Bronze	MAD studio door	MAD	8.15 – 8.25pm	2:45
Green	Main year 6 door	6SG	8:35 – 8:45	3:00
Purple	3IC classroom door	3IC	8:35 – 8:45	3:00
Silver	4AT classroom door	4AT	8:25 – 8:35	2:55
Yellow	5MD classroom door	5MD	8:55 – 9:05	3:25
Blue	Year 6 main door	6GR	9:15 – 9:20	3:45
Orange	Year 5 link corridor	5AF	9:15 – 9:20	3:45
Gold	3SW classroom door	3SW	8:45 – 8:55	3:15

At the end of the school day children will be released using the current collection arrangements. If you wish to change these, please email Mrs Williamson using k.williamson@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk or message the office team on 07786 207779 so that these can be adjusted accordingly. If you are coming onto the school site to collect your child, we are asking for only one adult from each family to attend and for all adults to stand well away from classroom doors and at least 2 metres away from other adults.

Year 6 Half Day on Friday

Year 6 bubbles will need to be collected after lunch each Friday starting on Friday 12th June. This will enable us to provide teaching staff with their statutory planning, preparation and assessment time. This time would normally be covered by staff who work with children across the school but this will not be safe to do so at the present time as it compromises the safety of children and staff in each bubble.

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On Friday, year 6 bubbles can be collected from the playground or will be released at the following times:

Bubble	Collection Time	Bubble	Collection Time
Red – Mrs Brydon	1pm	Blue – Miss Gray	1.50pm
Green – Mrs Lewis	1.10pm	Orange – Miss Furlong	1.40pm
Yellow – Mrs Haldenby	1.30pm		

If you have a younger child in a key worker classroom, please let me know if you wish to collect them at the same time.

What does my child need?

Your child needs a named water bottle as we will not be supplying cups in school. We will not ask parents to drop in water bottles to the school office. They also need their packed lunch if they are having one. Please pay for school packed lunches online. Do not send cash in with your child. If you do not have online payment set up, please email k.williamson@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk and she will be really happy to help you. Accounts must be in credit for us to be able to provide meals. Hot school dinners are not available at this time. The snack trolley will not be available at break time. Children can bring a fresh or dried fruit snack for break times.

On one day each week, children will come to school wearing their school PE kit. They will wear it throughout the day and have a PE lesson in the afternoon when they will be doing tennis, athletics, rounders or football rounders. PE days are indicated below:

Bubble Colour	Teacher	Teaching Assistant	Day for wearing PE kit
Red	Mrs Brydon	Mrs Gervasoni	Tuesday
Yellow	Mrs Haldenby	Mrs Bottomley	Tuesday
Green	Mrs Lewis	Mrs Neale	Thursday
Blue	Miss Gray	Mrs Jenner	Wednesday
Orange	Miss Furlong	Mrs Jones	Wednesday
Purple	Mrs Chessell Mr Darby	Mr Timms	Monday
Bronze	Miss Harrison	Mrs Shergold	Friday
Silver	Miss Thorne	Mrs Howard	Monday
Gold	Miss Lewis	Mrs Gannon Mrs Gilmartin	Thursday

Home learning and sending year 6 work home?

If your child is not returning to school after half term then home learning will continue to be made available via the school website. If your child has a paper copy of home learning then this will continue to be available from the school office on a Monday morning. **Please do not collect this before 10am to reduce the number of people on site.**

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If your child is in year 6 but not returning to school then we will not be sending home the work being completed in school. This would not be appropriate as they will not have access to a teacher to deliver the learning.

Will parents be allowed on site?

With the exception of drop off and collection arrangements, no adults will be allowed on the school site. Please do not come into reception unless you have a pre-arranged appointment or it is an emergency. You can email us using mrjclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk if you have any questions and we will be happy to help.

Does my child have to attend full time?

Yes, if they are a year 6 pupil. The teaching team are delivering a curriculum that focuses on supporting children's well-being as well as preparing them for the start of year 7. The government have asked us to open to year 6 children and we have made plans for those returning to do so on a full time basis.

Key worker parents will continue to bring their children to school on the days they are working.

Children in our vulnerable groups will be in school every day.

How will classrooms be organised?

Every child will have their own desk, chair and resources including all stationary and none of this will be shared. Children will not be using lockers and will keep their packed lunches under their desks. Children will have two reading books which will remain on their desks at all times.

How will toileting work?

Each bubble has a designated set of toilets to use. There are a maximum of three bubbles to each set of toilets to reduce cross contamination. Only one child will leave a bubble at one time to use the toilets. All children will be asked to use the toilets before going to break and lunchtime. The toilets that are to be used are marked and children have crosses on the floor in the corridors outside to stand on so that they remain at least 2 metres apart whilst waiting to use them or to wash their hands.

How will cleaning be increased?

All classrooms have had a thorough clean since school was closed to all children except key workers. When we reopen to Year 6 children, toilets and door handles will continue to be cleaned throughout the day. Doors are left open to enable movement around the school without the need to touch them. Tables will be cleaned at lunchtime if children are not able to eat outside.

We have an isolation room within school if we need to use it for children or staff who are displaying symptoms of Covid-19.

How will handwashing be encouraged?

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All children will wash their hands when they first arrive at school, before going to break, after break, before going to lunch and after lunch. Hand sanitisers have been placed outside every classroom and children will be instructed to use this when they enter the classroom in the morning, at key points during the day and whenever else they feel they need to.

Does my child need to wear school uniform? What about caps and sun cream?

Yes, we are in school and learning as normal. Wearing uniform is part of being in school and we will look forward to seeing our children looking just as smart as always. On the day when children have their PE session, they will wear their school PE kit for the whole day to avoid the need for changing. Please ensure that children have caps and come to school wearing sun cream.

What if my child becomes unwell at school?

If your child becomes unwell at school, then we will ask for your child to be collected. We won't send them home if they just cough once but if this becomes a persistent cough or they are clearly unwell, we will call you. We have a digital forehead thermometer and we will use this if any child presents as unwell in order to protect the health of the rest of the children and staff. In the event of having to send a child home with potential Covid-19 symptoms, we will notify all parents in the bubble. We will not notify you if a child goes home with different symptoms. In the event of your child going home with Covid-19 symptoms, we would then ask you to book a Covid-19 test using the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Following the test, please let us know the result. If a test is positive, the whole bubble including staff have to self-isolate for 14 days. Other members of the household group, who members of this bubble live with, do not need to self-isolate unless the child they live with starts to show symptoms; at this point they should be tested. We will inform all families in the bubble asap of the outcome of any tests.

What if my child's class teacher becomes unwell?

If a class teacher or teaching assistant becomes unwell with Covid-19 symptoms the same process as described for children will be followed. Parents will be informed in the same way. If a teacher is unwell with non-covid-19 symptoms then we will have to make a decision as to whether the bubble can be in school. We are not going to move staff from other bubbles to cover classes in these circumstances and it may be that the teaching assistant with the bubble is unable to lead the teaching and learning. We will aim to notify parents and carers as soon as possible if bubbles are not going to be in school.

How will my child be supervised at break and lunchtime?

At break time, each bubble will be supervised by the class teacher and then the teaching assistant. At lunchtime, the bubble will be supervised by their teaching assistant. This is to minimise the number of adults coming into contact with each bubble.

Will teachers continue to phone children at home?

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Communication with children and families who are not in school will continue on a fortnightly basis for most children. Mr Darby will be sending an email to children in year 5. Mrs Ginn and Mrs Hodgson will continue to have their weekly contact with a number of children and families.

3SW	Miss Ifould	4SH	Miss Harrison	4AT	Miss Thorne	Yr 6	Miss Gilchrist
3CW	Mrs Salter-Vaile	4MC	Miss Cull	Yr 5	Mr Darby email		

Children and staff wearing PPE

The government do not advise children or staff to wear PPE as they are unable to wear it effectively. The most effective thing that we can all do is to social distance effectively, wash our hands regularly with soap and water for at least twenty seconds and to not touch our faces. Staff who are supporting children who are unwell or who need help with any injuries will wear face masks, aprons and gloves to keep the children and themselves safe.

Mobile phones

I would prefer mobile phones to not be in school. If your child needs to have a phone in school, they will need to give it to myself or Miss Vousden on the gate when they arrive in a named sandwich bag. It can be collected from us when they leave. Please do consider whether this is necessary at this time.

Inhalers

If your child has asthma and they took their inhaler home when school was closed to most children, please ensure they bring it with them when they return to school. If your child has asthma we would encourage you to talk to us before they return to school as they are classified clinically vulnerable.

Households

During the last 9 weeks we have been able to keep children and staff safe in school due to the diligence of the families that we have been working with. To enable us to keep our children, different families and staff safe during the phased re-opening, it is really important that every member of your family stringently follows the government guidance on social distancing. I have been alarmed at the large groups of teenagers I have seen socialising together in the last two days when coming onto and leaving Hayling Island. Please tell us if anyone in your household has been symptomatic or had a positive test in the last 14 days. Please do not send your child to school if they or someone in your household is displaying symptoms.

Summary

I know this is a lot of information to process but I hope it makes it really clear that although we have put strong measures in place based on guidance that has been given to schools in the last two weeks, our school will still be a friendly, welcoming and organised place for your child to come to.



We are looking forward to having your child in school and are excited to hear about all the activities they have been enjoying. If you have any questions about this letter or the risk assessment, please contact myself or Miss Vousden via mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk and we will be very happy to help.

I have made a short FAQ sheet for children which is attached and would ask you to talk this through with them alongside the details within this letter. Please reinforce that we are excited about them coming back to school but that we need to work together to keep each other safe.

I would just like to add a thank you to the whole staff who have been incredible every day over the last eight weeks that we have been open during the lockdown. They have been unwaveringly positive and supportive whilst working incredibly hard in so many different ways to support our children who have been both in school and at home.

And finally thank you to you, our parents and carers who have helped us throughout this challenging time.

Have a good half term.

David Bessant

Headteacher

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