



# QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

My goodness that has been a hot week. The children in school have only been going outside for short bursts to keep safe from the midday sun. I hope families have managed to enjoy paddling pools and water fights galore.

Attendance in school is just under 50% with some bubbles now closed with a waiting list. Once we have clarification around moving to a 1 metre social distancing approach, it could potentially allow a few more children into each bubble. We will be in contact with families on the waiting list once we have news to share.

We were delighted to hear that all children will be back in September. In fact, I have already used the discretion that Head Teachers have been given to welcome back three Year 5 bubbles from Monday. These bubbles are already full based on initial sign ups from parents. We will not be taking any more Year 5 children unless someone leaves the bubble or doesn't attend consistently. As always there are lots of questions that need working through ahead of September and I will of course communicate further once we have firmer plans.

### **Current capacity in groups/bubbles:**

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Name of teacher leading group/bubble</b>	<b>No. of spaces available</b>
Nursery (9:15am-2:30pm)	Mrs Marsh	FULL
Reception (9am-2:30pm)	Mrs Guntrip	4
Reception (9am-2:30pm)	Miss Hollidge	1
Reception (9am-2:30pm)	Mrs Tyler/Mrs Thorpe	3
Year 1 (8:45am-2:45pm)	Mrs Bibi	FULL
Year 1 (8:45am-2:45pm)	Miss Robinson	FULL
Year 5 (9am-12pm)	Mrs Newman	FULL
Year 5 (9am-12pm)	Miss Hoffman	FULL
Year 5 (9am-12pm)	Miss Ross	FULL
Year 6 (8:30-3pm)	Mrs Bridges	FULL
Year 6 (8:30am-3pm)	Miss Jeffries	1
Year 6 (8:30-3pm)	Miss Fowler	3
Key Worker A (previously known as Years 2/3 group), 8:30am-3pm		FULL
Key Worker B (previously known as Years 4/5 group) now years 2-4, 8:30am-3pm		

We have closed Mrs Thomas' group from Monday due to low numbers and have reassigned the children a new group in the other Year 6 bubbles instead, closely following Government guidelines allowing a 48 hour gap in between moving groups.

If you would like a space in any of the groups listed above please email the office. Requests received after 4pm on Thursdays won't be guaranteed to be allocated for a Monday start the following week.

**Staggered start and finish times:** I just wanted to remind parents of children who are in school not to abuse the staggered start and finish times. The only exception to these times is if you have two children in school with different allotted times, we are allowing parents to drop off and collect choosing one of the times to make life easier for families. Everyone else is expected to arrive at the stated time. Please support us with this in order to stop over crowding around the narrow pathways and gates in and out of school. Everyone's safety is important to us.

**Returning to work:** Following this week's announcements more of our families will be returning to work from July 4<sup>th</sup>. Can I remind families that places in the Key Worker groups (now often referred to as Critical Workers) are *only* for families fulfilling the Government criteria of jobs which are listed as 'Critical Worker' in the following link..... It is not for general childcare for all parents returning to work. I am also urging parents who are

critical workers - please do not take up a place if you don't need essential childcare, i.e. if you are off on maternity leave or one parent is at home.

Starting Mon 29<sup>th</sup> June we are making a slight tweak to the Key Worker bubbles; the existing Year 2/3 bubble is now full and is therefore closed to new children however we have space in our Year 4/5 bubble as all the year 5s are leaving it today ready to join their Year 5 class bubbles on Monday. So any new requests from Key Workers will be placed in the current Year 4 bubble regardless if they are in Year 2, 3 or 4. To reassure families, for the first 10 weeks of lockdown we had nursery to Year 6 children altogether in a group in the hall and they had a wonderful time.

We also have a set criteria for allowing others to access this provision, as it is also for *vulnerable children*. The Government have defined this as children with social workers or an Education Health Care Plan. At Queensway, we have added families who have another sibling who attends a special school in recognition that family life is potentially even harder at home and children who have mental health needs with other agencies involved or in the process of being referred to other agencies.

**Information for Key Workers and vulnerable families using Queensway childcare:** Please ensure you email the office every Thursday by 4pm your childcare requirements for the following week in order to secure a place. This also includes children in Year 5 who will be moving to a Year 5 class bubble, (we have spoken directly to these families).

**Home learning:** We have noticed a real drop off in children looking at the You Tube clips teachers are posting, so the office are resending, via a text, the link you need to access these clips in case families have deleted the previous text.

Teachers will be posting on the blogs the weekly home learning tasks by today at noon for next week: Class blogs can be found via the class pages on the school website:

<http://www.queensway.oxon.sch.uk/page/?title=Class+Pages&pid=32>

**Old books:** A massive thank you to all the families who have donated books to us this week. Debbie is in the process of sorting through them and distributing them to families. It is not too late if you would still like to donate. Your generosity is much appreciated.

**Gazebo:** We are so excited to see our finished gazebo. We are looking forward to Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July when we can hopefully start using it - obviously we will prioritise Year 6 using it first as they will only have a few weeks before moving on to secondary school. In the meantime, please can you ensure your child is not in it whilst under your supervision before and after school.

**Summer holiday opening:** There are no updates regarding summer holiday opening for Key Workers, although in all honesty this will be very unlikely due to the complexities of the staffing structure that is required to open a school at any given time, i.e. cleaners, administrators, safeguarding leaders, first aiders, key holders etc all of which are not contracted to work during the holidays. But once we have a definite answer I will let you know.

Keep well and stay safe,

Mrs Sarah Horbury-Jakeman  
Head Teacher