



Coronavirus (COVID-19): Information about School Opening

Dear Scientia families

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our latest request for information regarding their key worker status. We now have a very clear idea of how many of you will need to access key worker childcare. Everyone who has already told us that they will need a space for their child can access one, we will be sending out a weekly survey to key worker families so that we are aware of who will be attending the following week.

Please contact the school office if at some point you need to access the childcare and have not previously requested a place. There are a limited number of places left, these will be allocated on a case by case basis depending on which year group has spaces and staff availability.

The government has stated that whilst it is encouraging pupils to return to school that this is a matter of parental choice at this time. This decision is entirely yours and I would just like to say again, that this decision will be wholly supported by the school.

Following my previous letters to you, I can confirm that we **will** be able to open for the following year group on the following dates only at this time:

- **Year 1 from 15th June 2020**

Unfortunately, we are **not** yet in a position to open the school to these year groups:

- Nursery, Reception and Year 6 (unless already accessing, or indicated that you will be, the key worker childcare)

As always, the safety of our children and school community is our main priority. We will continue to make every effort to open our school to other year groups, but only when it is completely safe to do so. We will be sure to inform parents as carers as soon as this situation changes.

The decision to re-open to only the year group stated above has been made following a full risk assessment. This enables us to ensure we are able to follow all of the guidelines for schools that were published by the government. At this time, our risk assessment shows that:

- We have a significant number of families who need to access the key worker and vulnerable children childcare which will take up most of our available staff.

We will be reviewing our risk assessment each week and will continue to keep the situation under review. This may mean that we need to make further changes to current arrangements in the future. If this is the case, we will let parents know as soon as possible.

If our risk assessments show that it is possible to open the school up to additional year groups, we will do so as soon as possible and be sure to let you know at the earliest opportunity.

Childcare Provision:

- For pupils in all other year groups attending the childcare provision, they will continue to come to school as they are currently doing, any new children to the childcare can start from 8th June. No further action is required.

Year 1 pupils (not key worker children) from Monday 15th June

We understand that, for parents of children in this year group, the decision about whether to return your child to school is a difficult one. In order for us to maintain the safety of all our children and staff, we can only re-admit children to school from Year 1 on a Monday, having received notification on the previous Wednesday that a parent wishes their child to return to school.

This notification period is to give us the necessary time to review all risk documentation, staff rotas, in-school organisation and health and safety requirements to safely cater for additional pupil numbers.

To support with this process, enclosed below is a table indicating the dates by which we expect to receive notification from parents about their child's attendance:

Notification by:	Starting Date:
Wednesday 10 th June	Monday 15 th June
Wednesday 17 th June	Monday 22 nd June
Wednesday 24 th June	Monday 29 th June
Wednesday 1 st July	Monday 6 th July
Wednesday 8 th July	Monday 13 th July

If you decide you wish for your child to attend school, please notify the school through the survey that will be sent out every week. We will respond to you as soon as we can to confirm that we can accommodate your child. Please do not bring your child to the school unannounced at any time, as we will unfortunately have to turn you and your child away.

Reminder of procedures for drop-off and pick-up.

We will be operating a soft drop off system, the pedestrian gates will be opened from **8.15am to 9.00am** to avoid parents congregating outside school.

- There will be **NO** access to the car park. Disabled access **only** will be available where required, please talk to the school office if this applies to you.
- Parents must maintain social distancing whilst waiting, there are markings outside school to support this.
- It is recommended that only one parent brings their child and that public transport is not used.
- Children will be directed to the correct classroom by school staff, this routine will be the same every day, so they will soon know where to go:
 - Early Years – pupils will be met by staff
 - Year 1 – straight to classroom from playground or front of school dependant on group, this will be communicated separately via Marvellous me
 - Year 2 – straight to classroom from playground
 - Year 3- straight to classroom from playground
 - Year 4 – straight to classrooms from front of school
 - Year 5 straight to classrooms from front of school

- Year 6 – straight to classrooms from front of school

Afternoon Pick Up

- This will be staggered to reduce parents having to congregate outside the school.
- Staff will bring out the children and dismiss them to you at the allocated gate (these will be labelled).
- Siblings will come out at the time of the **youngest** member of the family. They will be escorted by a member of staff.

Year Group	Gate	Time
Early Years	A	2.45pm to 3.00pm
Year 1	A	3.00pm to 3.15pm
Year 2	B	3.00pm to 3.15pm
Year 3	B	3.00pm to 3.15pm
Year 4	A	3.15pm to 3.30pm
Year 5	B	3.15pm to 3.30pm
Year 6	A	3.30pm

I would like to thank you all again for your support for the school in recent times. Working together we will be able to gradually begin to get the children back into classrooms and spend time with their friends in a safe way.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Helen Bye

Headteacher