



The Horsell Village School
Church Hill, Horsell
WOKING, Surrey
GU21 4QQ
Tel: 01483 714804
Fax: 01483 769670

Headteacher: Jane Reeve

Wednesday 24th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Wider reopening for July 2020

As you may know by now, last week the Secretary of State for Education clarified the Government's position regarding the full opening of all Infant and Primary Schools for a month before the end of term. He had accepted that most schools do not have the capacity, in terms of both physical space and teaching staff, to welcome back all children, but went on to say that if schools do have the capacity, then the government would like them to accommodate the return of more children before the end of the Summer Term, if possible.

As a result of this statement, we have been considering what this means for us here at The Horsell Village School. We are now able to share our plans with you. Over the past few months, we have been asked to respond, usually at very short public notice, to circumstances we could never have imagined. Over recent weeks, we have been tasked with the job of ensuring the safe return of our Reception children (as per guidance for Infant Schools) as well as accommodating a sharp increase in the number of children attending under the Key Worker criteria.

In order for this to happen we have had to:

- Redesign and reorganise our classrooms and other learning spaces, in school, removing furniture in classrooms to enable social distancing to occur.
- Create social bubbles for children to work in, sectioning off the playground so each bubble has a specified outside area and timetable movement around school.
- Create plans to provide children at home with the same learning opportunities as those at school, videoing phonics lessons to support those at home.
- Maintain our high safeguarding practices in school and 'keeping in touch' phone calls just to mention a few.

All of this has been done whilst not running at full staff capacity due to shielding. We are, as always, committed to doing all of this, whilst keeping the safety of children and staff as the key principle.

At present, we have to be honest with you and state that we do not have the capacity to welcome back the whole school before the Summer holidays whilst current government guidance for social distancing, bubble capacities and a full time offer (no rotas) remains in place.

email: reception@horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk

The Horsell Village School is part of The SWAN Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 08622047. The registered office is Church Hill, Horsell, Woking Surrey GU21 4QQ





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The announcement of the reduction to social distancing guidelines is unlikely to impact upon the number of children we can accommodate at school. However, we are considering the possibility of inviting Year 1 and 2 children back to school for two days towards the end of term.

This time in school would be used to:

- Enhance children's mental well-being.
- Celebrate the learning that has been happening at home.
- Bring some closure to their school year with their existing class teacher - even if it is from a distance.
- Have the opportunity to spend some time with their new class teacher - even if it is from a distance.
- Have some social interaction with peers.

In order to make this possible, we would be asking those Reception children who are currently attending school to finish the Summer Term a week earlier - on **Tuesday 14th July 2020.**

If we did close early for Reception children, we would of course continue to provide care for the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children as well as continue to provide our home learning offer for the final week of term.

I am sure if you are a parent of a Reception children attending school, you can understand why we may be asking you to do this. However, if any family would find this early closing difficult, please contact the school before midday on **Monday 29th June 2020** so that we can evaluate demand and feasibility.

Of course, if we continue to receive an increase in applications from Key Workers, we may find this difficult to accommodate. When considering whether your child meets the criteria for a Key Worker / Critical Worker place, please use the following flow chart as a guide:

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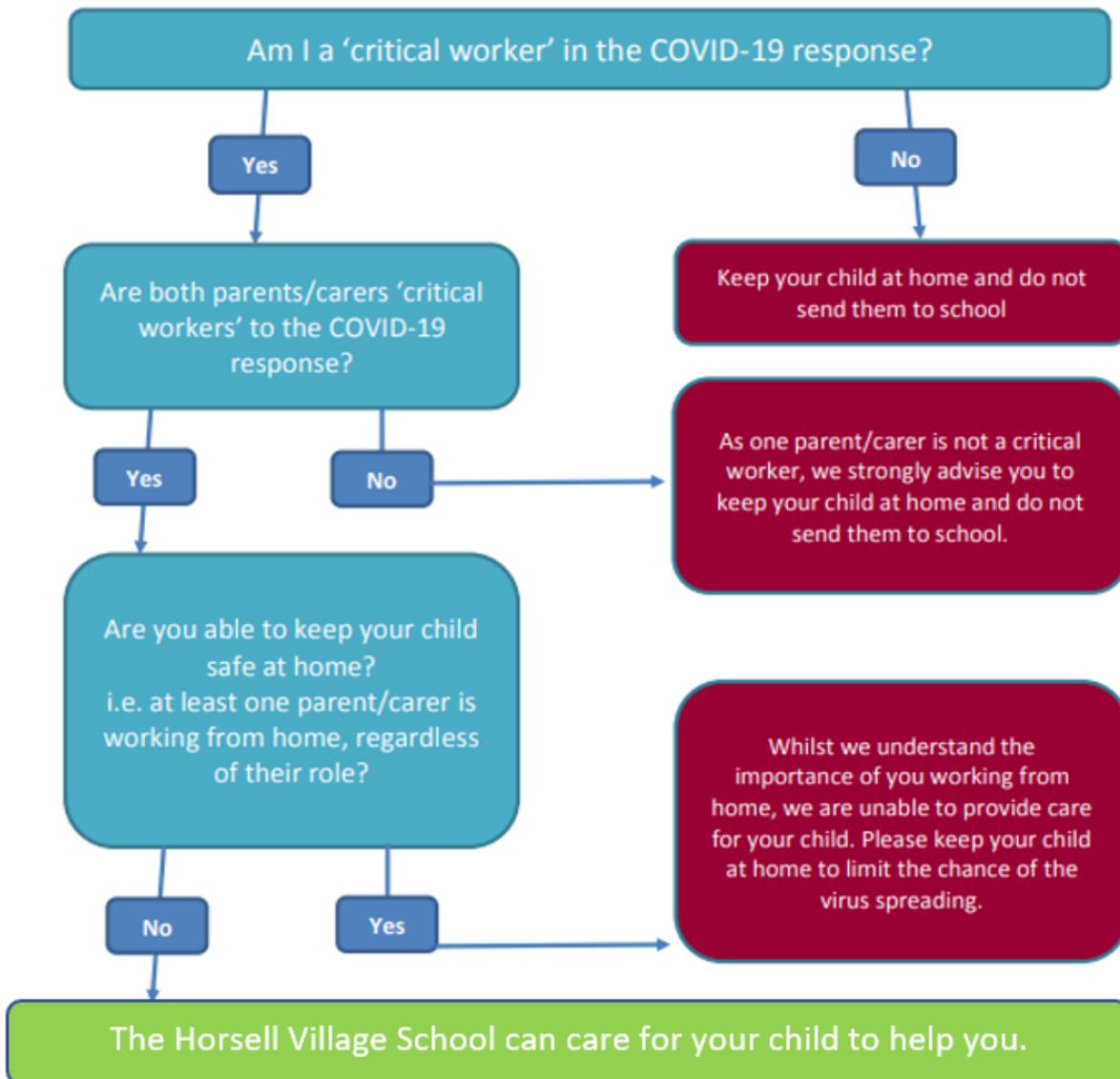
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Under this new plan we would be asking:

- Current Reception children in school to finish the term at the end of **Tuesday 14th July 2020**.
- Inviting Year 1 in for two full days on **Thursday 16th July and Friday 17th July 2020** (A deep clean of classrooms and equipment will take place before their return)
- Inviting Year 2 in for two full days on **Monday 20th July and Tuesday 21st July 2020** (A deep clean of classrooms and equipment will take place before their return)

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We are therefore asking all parents to respond to a survey for their year group, using the link below. **If your child is in Reception and already attending school, please only complete the survey should you require Key Worker place until Tuesday 21st July 2020.**

If you have children in different year groups, please complete the survey for each of your children.

Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KB6ZH87>

Please complete the survey by **Tuesday 30th June 2020 - 12.00 noon** so that we can evaluate demand and feasibility. After this date, we will not be able to add your child to the list of children who would like to return for Year 1 and Year 2 or who require a Key Worker place for Reception for the final week.

Please note that we are currently at capacity, as all of our bubbles are full, and we are not able to welcome back any further children, at the present time.

We are awaiting guidance from the government on September 2020 re-opening to all year groups and will of course update you as soon as we can.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Reeve
Headteacher

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