Sulby Primary School

‘learning is a great adventure’

**Returning to school**

We have been advised that we can open our school on Monday 15th June and plan for the return of children from Wednesday 17th June. At the time of writing children of key workers will be the first group invited back. The health and safety and happiness of all our children has been the focus for our planning and we have had to make some changes to our routines to keep everyone safe and well. We are also aware that children will have had many different experiences over the last three months and we want to ensure they all return to their familiar Sulby School environment of fun, friendship and learning. We will be using our website to share information and will also send text reminders for parents to highlight significant developments.

**Risk Assessments**

We have been working closely with both the DESC and our Health and Safety Officers to ensure that school is as safe as possible as more children return to learning in school.
Our school environment is a flexible, collaborative and energetic place and whilst we have put in place detailed risk assessments and measures to maintain social distancing, regular cleaning and frequent hand washing, we can never totally guarantee that your child will remain at a 2m distance from all others at all times. We will respond as best we can to any guidance that is shared by Public Health but only you as a parent can make the decision whether school is the right place for your child at this moment in time.

**Classroom Organisation**

Although we want to try and ensure some normality for children we have had to change our classroom layout to accommodate the number of children that can be seated, whilst adhering to 2m physical distancing or even 1m should the guidance change. This allows between 12 and 14 children to be taught in each classroom. Children will be asked to keep their coat and their own belongs with them whilst at their desk, including lunch boxes. We will be avoiding face to face seating or children sitting directly side by side. Corridors and outside areas will be monitored to help support the children with physical distancing.

General movement around the school by children will be far less and will be supervised by the teacher. Children will be asked to wash their hands when they arrive in school and then periodically throughout the day. This remains a key strategy.

Playtimes and lunchtimes have been staggered between Key Stages and will be under constant review, depending upon the increase in pupil numbers. Children will be eating their lunches in classrooms under supervision from teachers and ancillaries.

Play toys and equipment will be available during playtimes and lunchtimes but these will be cleaned before and after the sessions. Classroom resources will be available for individual children to use and will be cleaned regularly. We have cancelled assemblies, visitors, events and most school visits although we will be looking for outdoor opportunities and adventures as circumstances allow.

**Registering Places**

As we need to consider distancing issues and resource hygiene issues in school we will appreciate parents letting us know in advance if your child is returning to school. It is unlikely we will be able to accept children turning up on the day under current guidance. Children who will be attending from Wednesday 17th June need to be registered by the 15th June and returning Year 2 and Year 6 children need to register by 19th June. The SulbyEnquiries@sch.im email address is monitored continually.

**Home Learning**

The DESC has recognised that not all parents will want their child to return before September and their choice will be supported by DESC without sanction. We will try and maintain our current home learning approach for all year groups until the end of this term.

**Illness**

For the safety of everyone at this time any children coming to school must be well and not displaying symptoms of any type of illness. If your child is attending school you must not send them in if they have any symptoms of any illnesses. Any child that does come into school and does not feel well or has signs of feeling unwell will be sent home. We do need to be very careful on this issue and parents will be expected to come to school immediately to collect their child. If there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 in your family and your child has been attending school you must advise school immediately and take advice from Public Health, Isle of Man.

**Lunch**

The school kitchen will be open and can provide a packed lunch for children instead of the usual hot meal. Please advise the office if you would to order. However, we are suggesting children bring their own lunch, snack and drink from home which they can keep beside them during the day. Children on free school meals will continue to receive a voucher but may also order a packed lunch.

**Clothing and belongings**

We are not requiring children to wear school uniform for the rest of this term but are recommending children choose suitable clothing. Parents may want to wash clothes daily and wearing home clothes may make this an easier option. Although we have plenty of exercise and outdoor activities planned we will not need P.E. kits in school this term. Trainers are fine for school this term as they can be used outside as well as indoors.

**Classes and teachers**

We expect to have all our teachers in school but we will need to operate smaller teaching groups initially. We will try and ensure class teachers are with their usual class but we may have to be flexible in supporting classes. We will try and ensure that groups of children within classes remain together.

**Arriving in school**

We need to try and ensure there are no large gatherings of adults or children and make sure our car park is accessible and distanced for everyone. Please can parents help us by following these guidelines and advising us if there any improvements we could make.

On Wednesday 17th June we are opening for key worker children at 8.45am. Children should follow the guidance of playground staff and head to their designated entry door. We will be using the fire doors of each classroom to enter and exit the school, which should ease congestion.

On Monday 22nd June we expect Year 2 and Year 6 children to join us using staggered start times. Year 6 should arrive at 9.00am with the Year 2 children arriving at 9.15am. all other key worker children should continue to arrive at 8.45am. If however, parents have a child in both Year 2 and Year 6 they may both be dropped off at 9.00am from June 22nd or 8.45am in the case of key workers.

Please arrive with your child on time for school, try not to arrive too early or late. You will be asked to drop children off and leave by the nearest school exit, rather than remaining on school grounds. Teachers will meet the children in the playground and also at the entrance doors.

**Home time**

We are planning to operate staggered home times to help ease congestion throughout the school. From the 17th June key worker children will leave at 3.30pm. From the 22nd June the Year 2 children will leave at 3.10pm and Year 6 at 3.20pm with all other children leaving at 3.30pm. At the end of the school day, teachers will dismiss the children from their morning entrance door or lead them out onto the playground where they can be handed back to their parents.

We do ask you to arrive on time so that children can be released safely. Whilst you are waiting physical distancing needs to be followed on the school site and we are asking everyone to leave the premises as soon as possible. The office will be inaccessible over the next few weeks and teachers also need to maintain distancing. Please call the office for any help or questions.

**What you need to bring to school:**

Every child will need to bring their own named water bottle, a snack, a packed lunch and a coat. Please don’t send any big bags as PE Kits will not be needed. We will provide each child with a zipped folder on the first day for any school things. Children in Year 5 and Year 6 may like to bring their own pencil case into school.