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Headteacher Mr M Bell



Wider reopening of SBPS from June 15th

WITH CORRECT FORMS LINK

Thursday June 4th 2020

Dear parents/carers

Please follow the links below to read the two govt. documents, updated on June 1st and 2nd, regarding the changes to schools from providing a 'childcare' offer to an 'education provision' offer and regarding widening the offer of places to YR, Y1, Y6 children.

I have selected key points from these documents for your information.

In light of this, from the 15th June, SBPS will no longer be offering govt required 'childcare' to those who attend. We are now required to offer 'education provision.'

We are also required, from 15th June, to 'make best endeavours, to widen our offer to those children stipulated in the two govt. documents. Vulnerable children and children of critical workers (from any year group) with the addition of children of non-critical workers from YR, Y1 and Y6. In order to ascertain how many such children we can accommodate I now need confirmed numbers. Depending on capacity issues I may have to prioritise within these groups. Of course, vulnerable children and children of critical workers will continue to take priority over any other group.

At present, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 children who are not children of critical workers will not be offered a place at SBPS. Even if they are the siblings of YR, Y1, Y6 children of non-critical workers with an offer of a place. We may be directed to change this by the govt. in the coming weeks and if so, we will endeavour to facilitate this depending on capacity.

Changes to our current offer will include:

In SBPS the start of the day will move from 8:00 to 8:30.

Different year-group siblings will not be in bubbles together.

We will no longer be able to offer times and days to match parents' shift patterns.

We will require those children attending to attend full time from June 15th. (This way we can plan effectively for an increase in numbers and teaching staff can provide continuity for children across days and weeks. Children attending will have greater stability than at present and be able to form relationships with peers in their bubble who they will see each day from June 15th. At present, teachers cannot provide progressive provision due to the nature of children attending sporadically, however, schools have only been required to provide 'childcare', not 'education provision'.)

Parents/carers who have accessed SBPS for childcare up until now and who do not wish to attend full time can now utilise child carers and friends/family members as per the June 1st, 2nd govt. guidance.

Information re social distancing in my letter to parents 14th May has not changed:

The planned 'education provision' at SBPS from June 15th, until further notice, unless it has to change due to govt. advice, will still not be our pre-Covid provision.

Children will be in bubbles of no more than 8 with 2 permanent members of staff taking turns to care for/educate them.

Each bubble will have no contact with other bubbles.

If there are reports of infection of children or family members connected to bubbles then bubble members will self-isolate for 14 days.

Children may be with SBPS staff who are not their usual staff.

Children may not be in their usual room/building.

Children may be in a bubble with children from years below and above, depending on numbers and capacity.

Children may not be with friends. (We will, of course, where possible, try to have children with familiar staff, in a familiar room, with familiar peers.)

Children will remain 2 metres from any child and adult at all times.

Children who attend from June 15th will receive more than childcare (they always have in SBPS) Since Lockdown, SBPS staff have always attempted to give the same offer to those on and off-site. Children who do not attend the school buildings will continue to be provided for as they are currently.

Sadly, as we are now all too aware, these plans may have to change/be delayed depending on govt. and Local Authority advice, at any given time.

In order for staff to now prepare for this changed offer, please follow this link and answer the questions within. Please submit a separate form for each of your SBPS children.

The link will close at 8:00am on Monday 8th June for staff to prioritise and organise groups. I will contact you as soon as possible following this.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Uv_fRWSDc02_Oo-YvfENh2PBBp_-0yhMkLtBVn5EVmJURFM0NU9XMVRJWIFXVzgzVExIOVdDWUhMQi4u

Yours sincerely

Mr Bell

Key information from Govt. Document 1.

Guidance: Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June: guidance for parents and carers

Updated 2 June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

Updates: this guidance has been updated to reflect the announcement by the Prime Minister that the government's 5 tests have been met and the decision, based on all the evidence, to move forward with wider opening of education and childcare settings.

Why can more children now attend school and childcare settings?

We want to get all children back into education as soon as the scientific advice allows because it is the best place for them to learn, and because we know it is good for children's mental wellbeing to have social interactions with other children, carers and teachers.

As a result of the huge efforts everyone has made to adhere to strict social distancing measures, the government's 5 tests have been met...

Can my child return to school?

From the week commencing 1 June, we (the govt.) are asking:

- nurseries and other early year providers, **including childminders**, to begin welcoming back all children
- primary schools and alternative provision to welcome back children in nursery (where they have them), reception, year 1 and year 6

What if my child is eligible but has siblings who are not?

We are asking that only these year groups return to childcare providers, schools and colleges from 1 June or 15 June. This does not include siblings in different year groups unless those siblings are in a priority group, for example, the children of critical workers.

We hope that all primary school children can come back to school before the summer holidays, for a month if feasible, although this will be kept under review. Reducing the risks for children and staff is our utmost priority.

If my child is eligible, is it compulsory for them to attend school?

We strongly encourage children and young people in the **eligible year groups and priority groups** (such as children of critical workers) to attend, **as requested by their school or** college, unless they are self-isolating or there are other reasons for absence (such as shielding due to health conditions).

[Parents who require CHILDCARE instead of school can now utilise: childcare providers, grandparents, friends and family members who have no underlying health conditions/are not advised by govt to shield.]

Will education be provided as normal to children and young people who are attending?

Education settings still have the flexibility to provide support and education to children and young people attending school in the way they see fit during this time.

Schools and colleges should use their best endeavours to support pupils attending as well as those remaining at home, making use of the available remote education support.

Will childcare, schools and colleges keep their usual opening hours?

It is possible that some settings will make changes to their start and finish times or introduce processes for drop-off and collection times to keep children and families safe.

Start and finish times will be clearly communicated to parents and carers alongside any other new arrangements.

Key information from Govt. Document 2.

Guidance: Critical workers who can access schools or educational settings

Updated 1 June 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to look after their child at home, **but attendance is strongly encouraged**. Please, therefore, also follow these key principles:

If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.

Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

[NB Parents who require CHILDCARE instead of school can now utilise: childcare providers, grandparents, friends and family members who have no underlying health conditions/are not advised by govt to shield. Further govt guidance states that parents should send their children to childcare or school, not both.]

Parents must do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially outside of school. They must observe the same social distancing principles as adults, as far as possible.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, then your children will be prioritised for **education provision** and **are strongly encouraged to attend**