

Dear parents/guardians,

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatu

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

Following the announcements from The Prime Minister outlining his plans for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to return to schools, alongside the children of critical workers and vulnerable groups, Tarbiyyah Primary School will be opening for these year groups from week beginning 1st June insha'Allah. You will have many questions about the school's approach to reopening and what that will mean for you and your family. The government has released guidance for schools and parents as well as a brief guideline from London Borough of Hounslow. This letter is to explain to you the school's initial 'Road Map' to reopening as it stands at present. It is fairly lengthy, for which I apologise, but I consider it essential we are clear and transparent with our parental community. My primary responsibility as Head Teacher is to ensure safety; safety for our children, safety for our staff and safety for all our families. This is at the core of our plans for reopening. I cannot guarantee no exposure to the virus in school, but we will do our utmost to mitigate the risks. I have a duty to explain to you what provision will look like for your child when they come back to school, as it will not be in the form that they are used to. It is important that you as parents have a full picture in order to aid the children's understanding of new procedures.

Below are a few questions which may be helpful:

What will school be like if I return my child?

Although social distancing simply cannot be observed in school at all times, wherever possible we will be implementing the 2m social distancing rule. Children will be in 'bubbles' of around 8 per classroom. The teachers will be grouping the children and will, of course, consider friendships. We will aim for each group to be led by their class teacher. If your child's class teacher is unwell or shielding, as in usual circumstances, the procedure for supply staff will be applied,

DfE guidance advises to remove all soft furnishings, and any toys that cannot be easily cleaned. Children in Early Years will not be able to have access to all resources; however, we have plenty of options available and will make good use of what resources we are able to use safely. All classrooms will be sparse and will mainly consist of socially distanced tables. Any resources used at school must remain at school. Children will be introduced to new rules regarding sharing, greeting, lining up and personal hygiene.

Parents will not be permitted into the school building at any time apart from Nursery parents who wish to drop their child to their classroom. This will have to be carried out with one parent

entering the building at any one time. It may mean you have to wait outside for a few minutes while another parent is dropping their child inside.

Only one parent may accompany their child to school and social distancing outside school must be observed at all times. Stringent cleaning and hygiene practices will remain in place for all adults and children. Children will be asked to wash their hands several times a day and will use hand sanitiser on entry into the school. All tables, chairs, door handles and toilets will be deep cleaned according to the guidance by World Health Organisation. As much as possible, we will make use of the outdoor space available and organise activities where the children are able to interact in a spacious environment, whilst maintaining a safe distance. Staff will be permitted to wear PPE, although it is not a requirement in the government guidelines. Children may also be allowed but they must know how to wear correctly. Children may be asked to remove their masks if these are a distraction or they are not wearing them properly. Children may bring their own hand sanitisers if they wish to.

In addition to a phased return, teachers will still provide home learning and continue with the distance learning timetable. However, there will no live online teaching during the session the teacher is in school. For children not attending school, I suggest this time is used for continuing with independent learning packs, reading and Quran revision.

Please note this phased return is not to be used on an ad-hoc basis. If you choose for your child to come in, they will be expected to attend school every week. Please be rest assured we will do our best to provide the children with fun learning and ensure they are as happy and settled as they can be. If your child or any member of the household starts to display symptoms of the Coronavirus, please do not enter the school building, in accordance with [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#))

Does my child need to bring anything?

In Phase 1 of our re-opening the children will not need a snack or lunch. They will only be required to bring with them basic stationery, a water bottle and sun cream.

Children must wear clean clothes each day and shoes which they can fasten themselves. If your child cannot tie their own laces, they must wear shoes which do not have laces. Finger nails should be cut short and long hair tied back.

For Phase 1, children are expected to come into school in their PE uniform, which consists of:

- White T-shirt/Polo shirt
- Black/Grey Tracksuit bottoms

In order for the amount of assistance required in the toilet to be minimised, we are limiting the use of long garments such as thobes and abayas. Year 6 girls may wear their uniform abaya if they wish.

What will happen if my child or someone in my child's group becomes unwell?

Guidance is that all children showing symptoms should be sent home immediately and self-isolate for 7 days, while their household self-isolates for 14 days. This includes showing a temperature, or presenting with a persistent cough while they are at school. If a temperature is recorded at school, and a child is subsequently sent home, the decision of the school is final and non-negotiable. We will strongly advise a test for COVID-19. If a child tests negative, they can return to school. If a child tests positive, all children and adults from their group will have to self-isolate for 14 days.

Please note: if anyone in your household tests positive for Covid 19 or is presenting symptoms, please do not bring your child to school. The whole household must remain in quarantine for 14 days.

Why is the school opening on a part time basis?

Our recent parent survey revealed how the majority of parents are yet reluctant to send their children back to school in the week commencing 1st June. If we offered full time return to those few children returning, it would mean the discontinuation of remote learning for the rest of the class, which is the majority. Therefore, in order to keep a balance of in school learning as well as remote learning, we have decided not to open the school on a full-time basis just yet. As numbers in school increase and parents gain further confidence, the school plans to increase the provision in school.

I have another child in Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5 and I need to go back to work. Can I send my child to school?

No, not at present. School will only be reopening to Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6, children of critical workers and those in vulnerable groups only.

How do I communicate with the school/class teacher?

Teachers will be at the door at collection and pick up times. Parents can communicate with them while maintaining two meters distancing at all times. The school phone and email will continue as normal. The office will also be open for parents to pay fees or communicate with admin and business manager. In order for any adult to enter the school building, we will have to maintain an appointment system to make sure there are limited number of adults in the office at one time. Please contact the admin manager prior to coming in.

What will happen next?

The next step is for all parents to who wish their child to attend from next week to complete our survey so we can make an informed estimate of the number of children who maybe attending school. The school will not start at the usual time of 8:15am in order to allow parents and staff to travel to school during off-peak times. Please read the guidance below for further information. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer travel guidance for passengers](#)

The school will open for the named year groups on Wednesday 3rd June. The timings will be as follows:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 6: 9am – 11am

Nursery: 12:30pm – 2:30pm (children may start to arrive at 12:15pm)

Nursery parents please make sure your child has had their lunch before they arrive at school.

Please note, in order to minimise adult to adult contact we will be using the side entrance for pick and drop of Year 1 and Year 6 classes.

Reception and Nursery will access the school building through the main door.

It is vital that parents do not gather at the entrance, car park or doors, or enter the site (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment).

There will be no penalties for non-attendance, should you decide to keep your child at home; we will support your decision. If you choose to return your child, please be assured that we will take every precaution we can for their safety and provide as much fun and quality education as possible. Until then, please try not to worry or compare us to other schools, every

school's situation and solutions will be unique, and we will do what is right for us. It really has been a privilege to work alongside our dedicated staff, and to feel such warm support from our parents and community. I extend that support back to you all, as always, please remember we are still here if you need us. Stay safe and well

Yours sincerely
Umm Yusuf