



# **PRIMARY 7 RE-OPENING** **PLANS**

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
ISSUE UPDATED GUIDANCE.*

**Guidance correct at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Given the most recent guidance from the Department, we will **be unable to open school at full capacity in the new school year.** The current restriction of distancing children 1m from each other and 2m from the class teacher means that we will only be able to return most of our classes on a part-time basis for face-to-face teaching, with home/remote learning taking place for the rest of the week.

This is not ideal! All staff at VPS want the children back in school full time, however, we must work within the guidance given to us from the Department of Education.

The following pages gives you more details about how we will operate a return.

### **INFORMATION FOR PUPILS GOING INTO PRIMARY 7**

- School will start for **all** P7 pupils on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August.
- Children will enter via the MAIN SCHOOL ENTRANCE (Mrs Ritchie's office) at 9am. Please remind your children about the importance of staying 1m apart from each other.
- P7 pupils will be in school, all week, during the week beginning Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August, from 9am – 3pm.
- Children should wear their full school uniform when they return to school and they should try to come to school in a clean uniform each day. (As per advice from the department)
- There will be **no** hot school lunches served. All children will be required to bring a packed lunch to school, in a plastic / paper bag that can be disposed of each day. Please **do not** bring lunch boxes into school. The advice from the Department is that schools should limit the amount of items coming into school, from home, on a daily basis. Children eligible for free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch from the school meals service. Parents may also pay for a packed lunch, £2.60 per day, if required. Orders must be placed on and paid for on a Monday.
- Children should bring a full water bottle with them each day. This can be taken between home and school on a daily basis. There will be no facilities for refilling water bottles throughout the school day. Please refill at home each morning and send it into school with your child.
- On their first day, children should only bring into school the items they had been asked to provide – this list was enclosed in your child's school

report. All of these items will be left in school and will not travel home with the child on a daily basis. **Please do not buy large pencil cases. Please only send your child into school with a plain plastic pencil case that can be easily wiped clean.**

- No school bags should be brought into school, **except for the first day.** We are unable to use school cloakrooms, as we cannot keep children 1m apart, there will be no space in the classrooms to store coats, lunches and school bags. Children will not be transporting items from school to home so a school bag will not be required, except for the first day. We will send home homework books etc on the first day. These homework books will remain at home.
- Children should bring in their PE kit on the first day of school and this will remain in school.
- From the week beginning **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August**, Primary 7 children will attend school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. School will be closed on a Wednesday to ensure a deeper clean can take place.
- In order to keep children 1m apart, our P7 pupils will be split between at least 3 teachers. The school Governors have committed to employing a 3<sup>rd</sup> Primary 7 teacher to support P7 pupils in the run up to the AQE. By employing a 3<sup>rd</sup> teacher, on a temporary basis, this will allow Primary 7 pupils to attend school on an almost full time basis (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday), split between at least 3 classes, in order to stay 1m apart. This is a significant financial investment on the school's part as we are aware that children entering Primary 7 have not had the 'normal' preparations for AQE and we want to try and support them as best we can.
- From the week beginning **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August** Primary 7 pupils, and their siblings, will come into school at 9am, via the main school entrance. Primary 7 pupils will leave school at 2.50pm each day, including a Friday.

**I'm really sorry for bombarding you with so much information. I wanted to make sure that you had as much information as possible before the start of the Summer break.**

**If you have any questions about our restart, please continue to use SLIDO and the event code VictoriaFAQ during the summer holiday period and I will get back to you as soon as I can.**