

## **Information for parents/carers regarding schools opening to more pupils from 15 June 2020**

### **Will I be fined for non-attendance of my child?**

No. Parents/carers will not be fined.

### **What if I am concerned about my child's safety at school?**

Please speak to your child's school about measures that will be in place to ensure the safety of children.

Schools should be following the [COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#)

### **Will my child continue to receive online learning if I don't send him/her to school?**

Yes, but as schools open more widely larger numbers of staff will be needed to provide face-to-face teaching at school. This means it may be harder for schools to maintain the same level or type of remote education for all pupils once pupils start to return to school. If this is the case schools may need to prioritise any remote learning offer and focus it on this year groups that have not yet resumed education in school and those pupils who are unable to return because they live in a household with a clinically extremely vulnerable person.

### **What if my child is feeling anxious about returning to school?**

It's natural for children to feel some anxiety during times of change, and some may feel very nervous about the return to school. Encourage your child to ask any questions they may have and be honest in your answers. What may seem trivial to us may be huge to a child, so take their concerns seriously and try not to avoid discussing things that can feel scary or uncomfortable – this can make them seem even worse. Clear, honest information can be very reassuring and if you don't know something, it's okay to say so. We have enclosed some information leaflets that may help.

Ask your child's school for information on what the school day will look like so your child is prepared for the changes, and reassure them that their teachers will make sure they are safe and happy when they go back. You can find much more information at the Anna Freud Centre's coronavirus pages

<https://www.annafreud.org/coronavirus-support/coronavirus/> or Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Your child's school will also be connected to an educational psychologist who will be able to offer further advice. Older children may want to talk to an adult outside the family, and can contact the virtual TalkBus on 07592 037823, Monday to Friday from 1 pm to 4 pm until further notice.

### **How many children will be in a class?**

The government is recommending class group size should not exceed 15 pupils but please speak to your school as this will be dependent on the age of pupils, availability of teachers and the size of classrooms.

### **Will children attending school receive school meals?**

Schools should provide meal options for all children who are in school, and meals should be available free of charge where pupils meet the free school meal eligibility criteria. This includes pupils eligible for benefit-related free school meals and pupils in reception, year 1 or year 2 who would ordinarily receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

### **Further information / guidance from Department for Education**

Please click the links below for further information:

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

[Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#)

[What parents and carers need to know about schools and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak](#)