

Mugginton Church of England Primary School



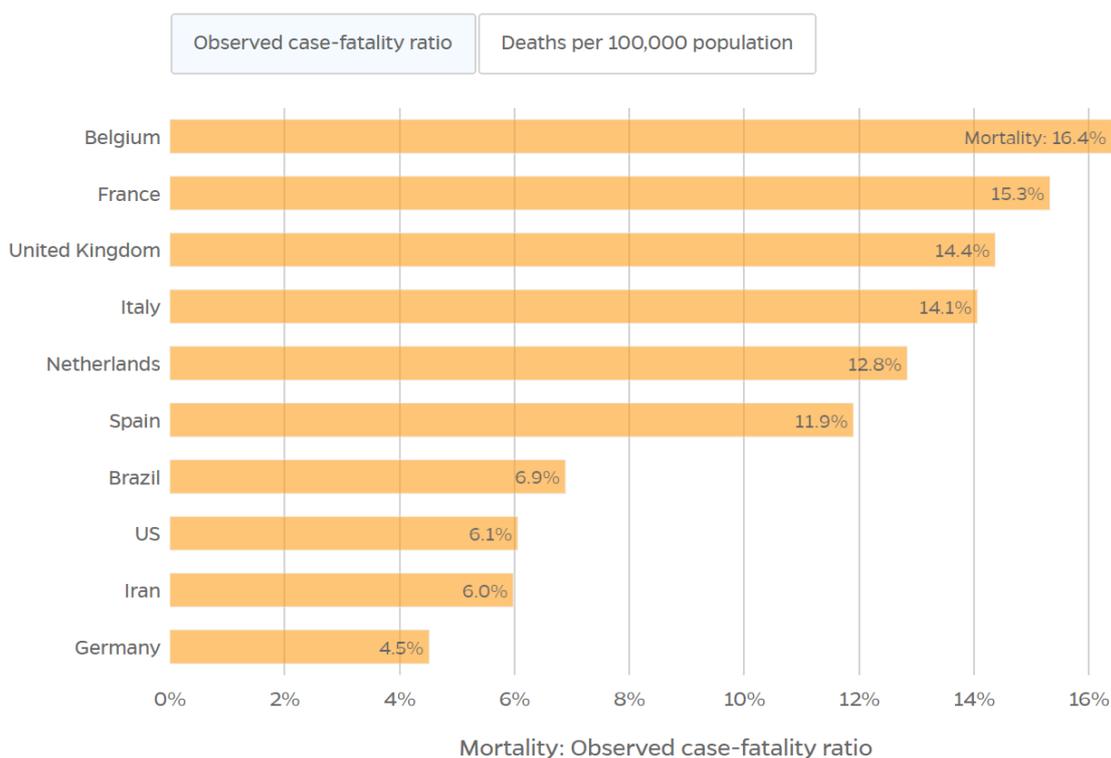
Re-opening Mugginton CE Primary following Covid-19 Lockdown

Updated, 29th May 2020

Introduction

The current COVID-19 pandemic is caused by a coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2. Coronaviruses (CoVs) are a large family of viruses, several of which cause respiratory diseases in humans, from the common cold to more rare and serious diseases such as the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), both of which have high mortality rates and were detected for the first time in 2003 and 2012, respectively. It is suspected to be a zoonotic virus (a virus transmitted from animals to humans) and, whilst the zoonotic source of SARS-CoV-2 is unknown, the first cases were reported in Wuhan City, China in December 2019 (see WHO 'Origin of SARS-CoV-2', 26 March, 2020).

Coronavirus is significantly more dangerous than more common diseases such as the common cold or flu in England. John Hopkins University recorded an 'observed case – fatality ratio' of 14.4% in the United Kingdom – the third highest in the world.



NHS UK describes the main symptoms of coronavirus to be a high temperature and a new, continuous cough. Individuals who experience symptoms are told to not leave their home (self-isolate) for seven days and members of their household must self-isolate for 14 days.

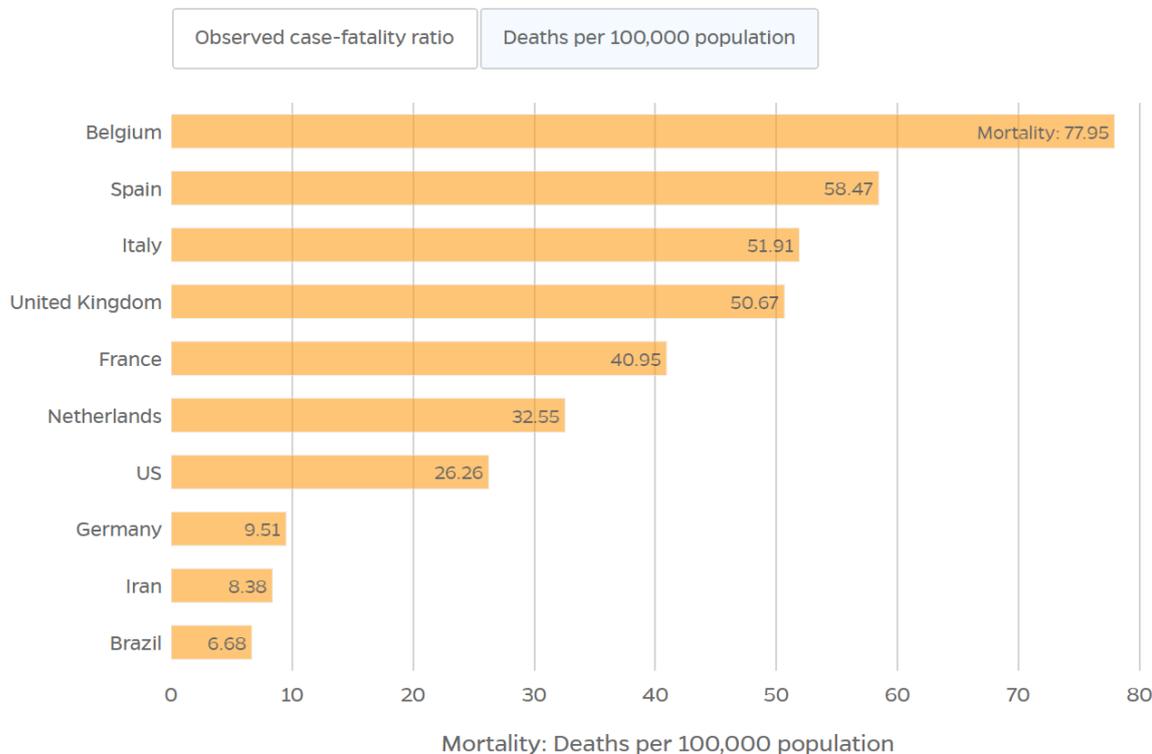
The UK government advises that ‘Social Distancing’ between people is important to prevent transmission of the virus. It recommends a distance of two-metres. Advice for effective social distancing varies by country and by institution – for example, the World Health Organisation recommend a distance of one metre. In short, there is no scientific consensus on what constitutes effective social distancing to prevent transmission of the coronavirus. A recent paper concluded that the transmission distance ‘might be 4 metres’ (Guo et al, 2020).

Mugginton CE Primary closed to children at the end of school on Thursday 19th March. The school has been deep-cleaned and the children’s learning has continued via the new Mighty Mugginton Blog (www.mightymugginton.wordpress.com).

Current Situation, May 2020

By 5pm on May 14th, 236,711 people had tested positive for Coronavirus in the UK and 33,998 people who tested positive had died. The second largest death toll in the world, after the United States.

According to the Office for National Statistics, by May 1st, 2020, 88% of recorded deaths involving Covid-19 were individuals over 65 years old. Males are at greater risk, making up 57% of all deaths involving the disease. The United Kingdom has been affected significantly by coronavirus. Whilst there remains great debate about the statistics recorded (for example, using the metric of ‘excess deaths’, the UK performs worst in the world) all statistical reports indicate that the United Kingdom is one of the four most badly affected countries in the world.



Following the national lockdown, transmission rate of coronavirus has decreased and the government suggests we may be able to allow children in Reception, Year One and Year Six back to school from the week commencing 1st June 2020. Mugginton have 5 Reception children, 6 Year One children and 12 Year Six children on roll.

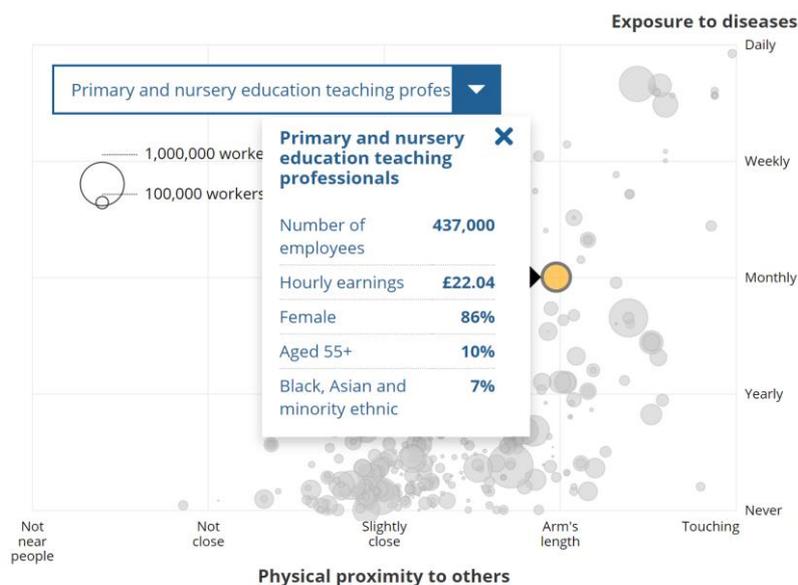
Why school leaders are concerned

Schools leader have expressed a number of concerns about the intention to reopen schools in this manner. Selected examples include:

- 1) The timing of the announcement and complete lack of accompanying detail. Four days after the Prime Minister's address, guidance continued to be published by the DfE. There are currently 11 documents for school leaders on the DfE website, the most recent was uploaded on Saturday May 16th, almost one week after the announcement was made to reopen schools.
- 2) School attendance of key worker children during lockdown was approximately 1%, according to analysis by the DfE. To increase this to up to 50% of capacity is a significant jump.
- 3) Many were surprised that the government identified a date to open schools rather than a safe point based on infection and death rates.
- 4) Beginning the return to school with the youngest, most vulnerable children.
- 5) The ambiguity over 'social distancing', which it is now agreed is impossible to establish meaningfully with young children.
- 6) The lack of consideration of the fact that schools are not homogeneous entities – we have infant schools, junior schools and middle schools.
- 7) The British Medical Association published a letter in support of the National Education Union which concluded 'until we have got cases much lower, we should not consider reopening schools.' If the medical profession express such unequivocal opposition to the reopening of schools, is it right to pursue the current policy?

My concerns, particular to Mugginton

- 1) The lack of scientific consensus regarding a June reopening of primary schools. Devolved governments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have decided it is too early to re-open primary schools, despite England being most severely affected by coronavirus. Why?
- 2) A Japanese study examining 110 cases of coronavirus concluded that the odds of a primary case transmitted Covid-19 in a closed environment (such as a school) was 18.7 times greater compared to an open air environment (Nishiura et al, 2020).
- 3) The ONS cites US research which demonstrated that primary education professionals are exposed to disease and to close proximity with others more frequently than many other occupations



Source: ONET - US Department of Labor, Annual Population Survey and Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - Office for National Statistics

- 4) Belated confirmation from the DfE indicated that staff do not require Personal Protective Equipment to work, except when caring for a child displaying symptoms of the virus. However, no scientific studies were cited to support this assertion.
- 5) It is a blessing that very few children develop severe symptoms if infected with Covid-19, even if they have underlying health conditions. However, the data is limited. Longitudinal studies are underway and early indications are that young people who have recovered from mild cases of coronavirus are still at risk of pulmonary fibrosis (lung tissue scarring) and kidney damage (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-52506669>). Reports concerning an illness similar to Kawasaki Disease developing from coronavirus infection in some children are a concern.
- 6) Assertions such as ‘children do not get it’ are wrong. All research indicates that children are just as likely to contract coronavirus as adults (see ONS, May 14th; Bi et al, 2020; Jones et al, 2020; Mizumoto et al, 2020). There is not consensus regarding transmission rates of different age groups (NCIRS, 26th April, 2020). However, it has been demonstrated that infected children’s ‘viral load’ (the amount of the virus in their body) is no different to an adults (Jones et al, 2020).
- 7) Closing schools lowered the ‘R’ Number in the UK and US (Ferguson et al, 2020). A poorly thought-out reopening of schools could lead to an increased rate of infections, pushing the ‘R’ Number above 1.
- 8) Three members of staff are in moderate-to-high risk groups, at least one of whom will have to be in school in the event of a reopening.
- 9) Are we to offer education or childcare? If we are offering education, how do we maintain our commitment to the principles of inclusion when over half of our children will not be able to access lessons in school. If we are offering childcare, what is the rationale behind offering to reopen schools for pupils in the selected year group.
- 10) One of our central aims is to maintain a sense of ‘Mugginton-ness’ to our children – they need to recognise the school they are returning to, despite necessary changes we will have to introduce. How do we protect the children’s (and staff) mental health; is this easier to do at school or at home until it is safe for every child and staff member to return to school?
- 11) There is no antibody test available to teachers and regular testing for Covid will require staff to make a 42-mile round trip to the nearest test centre in Beeston, Nottingham if home testing kits are unavailable.

Finally, there is evidence the public is more susceptible to infection if schools are open. Sweden’s decision to keep all primary schools open is in contrast to their Scandinavian counterparts with whom they share many demographic similarities. The table below demonstrates countries’ differing experiences of coronavirus

Country	Population	Confirmed	Deaths	Case-Fatality	Deaths/100k pop.
United Kingdom	66.6	234,440	33,693	14.4%	50.67
Sweden	10.2	28,582	3,529	12.3%	34.66
Denmark	5.8	10,911	537	4.9%	9.26
Finland	5.5	6,145	287	4.7%	5.20
Norway	5.4	8,196	232	2.8%	4.37

Source, John Hopkins University - <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/mortality>

Parental Response

Parents were invited to complete a two-question '30 second' questionnaire. The results of the first questions are recorded below – they demonstrate that parents are split over whether it is right for schools to reopen or not.

If my child were eligible to return to school on June 1st

[More Details](#)

- I would be happy to send the... 14
- I am unsure whether I would s... 16
- I would not send them to sch... 13



The 38 expanded responses (5 parents did not complete) to the second question are available in appendix 1. All issues they raise are intended to be covered in the Risk Assessment.

The reality

Mugginton is a small school with 62 children on roll. Since the building work in the infant classroom was completed, we have two classrooms, one 51m² and one 68m², giving the children 119m² of classroom space. DfE guidance recommends adjusting seating arrangements to ensure distance between children (2.3 metres squared for Reception children). If it is assumed that each child or staff member in the classroom required a metre either side of themselves to work with some form of distancing, this would allow for 29 individuals to be in the classrooms. However, a minimum of four adults will be on site (including bursar and cleaner) so the reality is that approximately 24 children will be able to return to school and work according to government guidelines in our school.

My staff and I believe that effective social distancing with primary school children, particularly the very youngest, is unrealistic. For example, what happens when a child falls over and scrapes their knee? How does a staff member help the child whilst maintaining social distancing? We are unwilling to make unrealistic proposals and, therefore, social distancing at Mugginton will mean appropriate seating, limited numbers in toilets/basins and controlled playtimes with certain team games banned. Parents will not be allowed into the building and delivery drivers will leave parcels outside. There will be no 'one way corridors' and no staggered playtimes. In addition, we believe that staggering morning drop off and afternoon collections will not be necessary because of the small number of pupils involved.

By reopening to the youngest children first, the hygiene demands are increased significantly. Younger children are more tactile and their respiratory hygiene is often under-developed. To learn appropriately, Reception children require a rich, interactive environment which requires physical interaction with a range of materials. Studies conducted on three cruise ships which experienced large scale infection of Covid-19, reported that Coronavirus RNA was found on surfaces aboard ships up to 17 days after passengers disembarked (Moriarty et al, 2020). Other studies indicate that coronavirus can survive for up to nine days on plastics, glass and metal if they are not disinfected (Kampf et al, 2020).

Our Plan to Reopen Mugginton (Monday 1st June until Friday 19th June)

Aims

- 1) To minimise the risk to our children and staff's health, safety and wellbeing.
- 2) To offer children a safe, fun and enriching environment to learn, exercise and interact with their teachers and peers, whilst including children who cannot be in school.
- 3) To project a sense of normality (our 'Mugginton-ness') to children

We intend to re-open to 24 vulnerable children, children of critical key workers, children in Reception, Year One and Year Six in principle on June 1st. Any return will be done in partnership with our parents. Nobody will be 'strongly encouraged' to bring their children to school. The DfE state that they expect attendance to be recorded but have not announced exactly how non-attendance will be recorded and have given no additional guidance on this (although there is still the weekend remaining which gives them ample time!).

The school day will run from 9am - 3.15pm. There will be no before- or after- school clubs. In week one, arrival and departure times will not be staggered because of the low number of families arriving and departing. This will be kept under daily review. **School will be closed to children on Fridays.** This allows staff their legal entitlement to PPA non-contact time and every staff member in school time to travel to Nottingham to be tested for coronavirus on a weekly basis, which they are expected to do at least once per fortnight.

Children will be supervised washing their hands at the beginning of the school day, after playtime, before lunchtime, after lunchtime and at the end of the school day. In addition, regular 'top-ups' using an alcohol-based hand sanitiser will be applied. Seating will be arranged so each child has a desk and space from their peers. Only one child or staff member will be able to use the toilets at a time. PPE has been sourced from Derbyshire County Council and aprons, face masks, visors and gloves are available to all staff and are to be worn by the cleaner. Staff may wear PPE when looking after a child with Covid-like symptoms.

There will be no rota systems (i.e., different year groups/children in at different times), in line with DfE recommendations. No adults other than staff will be allowed on site. Deliveries will be left outside and the buzzer will be disabled to minimise risk of transmission of germs from common touch points. A notice will be attached to the door explaining that the buzzer is not in use and to telephone the school office and step back from the door. An 'X' will be fixed to the ground to indicate where to stand.

Staff numbers will be kept to a minimum to limit the risk of spreading the virus. I will be in school with Mr Clarke, Ms Sutton to clean during the day and Mrs Horobin in the office. Mrs Jones will run the school blog for children who cannot come to school and Mrs Wallen will be in school on each Monday to welcome the youngest children and plan age-appropriate activities for them.

There will be no school lunches. All children will be asked to bring sandwiches to school. Children in Reception and Year One are entitled to free lunches; I will ask parents to let me know what sandwiches children like and will buy lunches from a supermarket when required.

A sign will be placed on the playground gate advising the public to not enter the playground at any time.

Children will be able to come to school in PE kit. The aim will be to spend as much time outside as possible - transmission rates are much lower outside. A typical day during this three-week period will be a mathematics and literacy lesson in the morning – the materials/activities used in school with the children will be posted on to the blog each morning so all children can access the same work regardless of where they are learning.

In the event of a confirmed case of Covid-19, the school will close immediately for a minimum of two weeks and the risk assessment reviewed. If school leaders decide that risks cannot be further controlled following a confirmed case of coronavirus in a teacher or child, the school will close until September.

In the event of a child presenting with Covid-like symptoms (lose of taste or smell; temperature of 37.8 or greater, new, dry, continuous cough), the child will be sent home for a minimum of seven days and the parents strongly encouraged to take their child for a Covid test. Families with children in school will be notified that child (or staff member) has gone home as a precaution and to take additional care.

For the reasons set out above, school capacity is limited to 24 children for the week. In line with the government's aim for primary schools to welcome back all children by June 22nd, we will review the situation at the end of each week. It is intended that capacity will rise by a small number (certainly below 10 children) each week during this three-week period. Children will be offered a place in school based on their ranking according to the following criteria.

1. Vulnerable children, children with an Education, Health and Care Plan, Pupil Premium Children
2. Children of NHS Frontline Staff
3. Children in Reception, then Year One and then Year Six with a parent who is a Key Worker
4. Children with a parent who is a Key Worker and has a sibling in Reception, Year One or Year Six
5. Children with a parent who is a Key Worker

If parents reject the offer of a place it will be offered to the person next on the list.

Appendix 1 – Anonymised Parental Responses to Return to School Questionnaire

Detailed responses:

Social distancing will be difficult due to the size and layout of school. Would there be an option of half days if all the children come back? Some attend in the morning/some in the afternoon?

Mine aren't in the scope for the first wave of returns. But even if they were, we don't see that it's appropriate to return yet in lieu of any research to prove otherwise.

As with many others, the issue of social distancing is my concern, as it would be especially difficult for children to do, directly due to the limitations on space and the school being at full capacity at the moment. School can only do what they are instructed and we will have to make it as safe as possible for children and staff.

I would prefer all my children to return together (would be ok with alternative days for year groups to help with health and safety of staff) where a school day would be as near to normal as possible. though they are eager and excited to return, I fear the impact on them, as none of mine will particularly find it easy and may reflect this in their behaviour both at home and in school. For my own reasons, I really need my children to be able to see close family members (those that need our support and grandparents) before returning to school. September or an early start in August, I feel would be more beneficial. Looking at the government charts for easing isolation, I would be more comfortable if the alert system was at 2 or less. and the R rate is much lower than it is currently.

More comfortable sending: not a lot. I feel like we're having to weigh up the risks to our son's and our health as well as the health of teachers, school staff, other children, other parents, etc., as well as the mental wellbeing of our children (enforcing social distancing amongst school kids??) against learning development and, I guess, ALSO their mental wellbeing. Our son is an incredibly social child. He is craving interaction and he needs it. But does that mean we should put EVERYBODY at risk for the sake of him seeing his friends? In terms of learning development, we're not overly concerned. He's ahead in maths, we read with him every day anyway, and luckily he's not in one of the vital school years. It's such a tricky one, because *something* is going to have to be done until there's a vaccine, and that could take a year. Obviously schools can't be closed for a year. But, on balance, I think we'd be much happier if they were closed until September. That way the schools really have time to prepare, and everyone has time to see if those scary numbers go down and stay down, plus put their own plans in place for childcare, pick ups, shielding vulnerable adults, etc. So, if come the beginning of July, the government said the schools could be open for 1 month for all pupils, we probably wouldn't send our son back, unless either of our workplaces demanded we go back to the office, which wouldn't happen. We'd wait until September and hope that every other parent has the ability, capacity, and compassion to do the same.

I would like to ensure that the five tests that the government have outlined are consistently being met before going back to school. I would discuss this with my child to see if he felt comfortable going back to school. If, I was to send them, I would send pack lunch everyday as instructed by Mr Green. I would also be happy to pick up and drop off at staggered times to obey social distance rules. I would prefer to keep children out of schools till September as I feel social distances will be very difficult to do. I would want to feel that they is going back to school as he remembered it and not as a child care setting. I feel very well supported in my child's home schooling and I'm happy to keep this routine. Many thanks

Whilst I am off work and able to care for the children I feel it safer for the children to stay at home. As my child has severe asthma we would prefer to limit contact with people.

I fully support and am totally comfortable with Year 6 returning to school from June 1st. I feel it is important for them to have this last term at primary to help with the mindset prep and transition to secondary. I understand lessons will be outside as well as inside however given the amount of time the children have been away from school I would be keen for lessons to focus on and remind the children of maths and English methodology and knowledge they require going forward to secondary, as well as doing sport and having fun the Mugginton way. In terms of concerns - it's always going to be a risk sending them in to school however I have taken comfort from the science that backs this decision and Chris Whitty's comments. I feel as long as the children are encouraged to wash their hands regularly and can try respect some distance I'd be happy. Perhaps if it came to it the class is split in to two and children do alternate days? Perhaps the split could be based around the SATS ability groups so work could be pitched accordingly? Obviously you guys are best placed for deciding what's best. One thing completely random that is a minor worry is the children are encouraged to keep hydrated if they are to be outside for long periods during the summer term. In short I fully support year 6 going back to school from June 1st.

I have no real concerns about the kids going back to school. If you follow the govt. guidelines as best as you can and everyone is as safe as they can be then I feel this is all we can do. Until we have a vaccine nowhere is truly safe so we all just a e to do our best at normal again.

I would send my child back, if school re-opens, as I believe it's really important that she has an opportunity to say goodbye to a place and people that she has loved. My main concern is about potential virus transmission. Staggered drop off and pick up times would be helpful as well as regular handwashing, particularly on entry and exit and before eating. I don't expect the children to have to socially distance at school though as I think it would be impossible to achieve and devalue the school experience. Many thanks.

I am happy to send my son to school. He is aware of social distancing and hand washing and I am certain that he will continue to abide by this on return to school. So its just a case of keeping up the hygiene element and maybe getting them to spray the toilet each time it is used with some antibacterial spray and making sure their have antibacterial hand wash and gels. I understand the children already sit at the same desk and if they are able to use outdoor while learning (weather permitting) then that is a bonus. Maybe they could bring their own camping chairs to use for outdoor learning saves you from taking out the classroom chairs each time. If the desks could go outside then even better and I would be willing to help with this at drop off and pick up. Or maybe some drop down tables which could be stored outside? I think these would be used going forward in school to facilitate outdoor learning as this virus is not suddenly going to disappear by September. Maybe FOMS could help out with the cost, I know Costco have these?

Depends how many kids are in, will they be temp checked etc, half days. Would be great for them to see friends again and have structure but just depends on how. Maybe a couple of year groups each day? Not full time etc

I completely see it would be impossible to socially distance the children, but maybe a hand wash/sanitizer station to encourage them to use at regular points in the day. (As they arrive, after play time, as they leave...) I would be happy to send my children to school If I am expected to return to work at the same time, I would possibly consider to keep them with me at home until the time I am expected to return, even if school had already started back. Outdoor learning as much as the elements will allow, even in favour over more academic studies. (but this will obviously become an issue later in year when we get the second wave of the virus) I think having wellness and happy children is more important currently. Maybe tight controls over the illness policy, asking parents permission to take temperatures if you suspect one of the pupils are ill. It is a complete mind field, where do you even start! But you can only do and see as to what you think is best for your school.

We feel its too early to send children back to school unless its completely necessary. There is such a great risk of increasing the spread of the virus in schools, particularly with the youngest children and in a setting as small as Mugginton. We feel its unfair to put children, teachers and their families at risk and are concerned that sending them back to school, for the sake of a few weeks until summer holidays begin, would only result in another spike of cases. In our situation they can be kept home and we would prefer to do so.

We are very keen for our children to return to school as soon as possible. We feel that they will benefit from the return to school routine and attention from teachers that they cannot get at home due to both parents working (one of which is a key worker). In particular, our child needs to the remainder of this school year to help her prepare for the transition to secondary school in September. We have resisted asking for the school to provide care for our children prior to this, despite one of us being a key worker, but now we feel it is essential the school is open for our children in line with government guidelines.

I am happy for ??? to return for the last month of the term and fully support this. I am happy for her to return then rather than now and not exercise our key worker status for her to go back now. I'd rather she goes back for the last four weeks to allow those going back on June 1st to bed in and systems in place for all the school to return. Hope that helps

It's is very difficult to get a sense of to what extent the likelihood of our children or us contracting covid-19 increases, should they return to school. We want them to return, they are very eager to return but it still feels risky. We know that school are unable to mitigate that risk and realistically, no one should expect you to. Perhaps the next two and half weeks with a relaxed lockdown will give us more information on which to base our decision. You have our full support with what ever decisions you make.

Having children in years that would and would not be returning would impact our family life and work routine and the children's emotional wellbeing - one being reunited socially and the others not. Also, we are not sure we are prepared to take the risk to health - ours, the children's, the wider family and that of school staff. Finally - we are undecided if the benefits would outweigh the risks, personally and academically - would being back at school in such odd and unnatural circumstances do more harm than good? The children are learning and happy at home, not sure unsettling them and being uncertain of the true risk would be worth it. It's a very tough decision. We are desperate to be back in the school community and embracing all it entails, but not sure it is the right time, unfortunately. It may feel very different in three weeks, who knows!

I am not entirely sure of the reasoning behind selecting the other years returning with year 6 as you have also mentioned. Are you happy you can keep all potential returning students the required distance apart during the whole school day?

I was hoping for a return in September. Hopefully this would have brought the number of virus cases down even further. I know social distancing is hard for little ones but my suggestion would be Juniors in the village hall and infants split in the 2 school class rooms. I like your idea of staggered pick up and drop off times. I feel that going back in June is to early, not to mention very unsettling for the younger year groups. Children are highly perceptive to changes even if they don't show it. I also agree that a month back into school for all would not be that productive and carry a high risk rate. If children were learning Maths and English etc I might be inclined to send them for 1 month but if it's PE then I'm happy to keep them at home until September. This will also pose difficulties for the staff not only in risk rate but also with their own childcare. I was also hoping my children might get to see their grandparents once out of lockdown and before school starts. Once school starts we will self isolate again from older family members as we become a high risk rate again. I think September would be less disruptive to all. I appreciate this is my opinion and will not suit everyone. I appreciate this is a

very difficult situation but I am so grateful we have a very thoughtful, sensible Head and staff at Mugginton. Thank you for including us in decisions.

If it was for normal schooling then happy to return. If for outdoor activities and childcare then no we would prefer her to stay at home doing set schoolwork.

No concerns, don't think this is real danger to our kids or us.

Knowing that the science shows the risk of my child contracting or carrying coronavirus was negligible

No adults including parents other than the 4 you have named being allowed on site while the children are there (wherever possible). Everything else I feel you have covered in your email. Thank you

Sorry for the essay with no paragraphs, I just had a few ideas. I wonder if it's possible to use facemasks on the children in the classrooms long term? I don't know how easy it would be - my little one is happy to wear them. I think staggered start times make sense, set places all children facing forward in the same direction, perhaps too begin with not going in every day to reduce numbers in classrooms. I would like temperature testing every morning on the way into school as this is a clear indicator of possible covid-19. I would research how they manage school in China/Japan and see if you can replicate - perhaps frame it as the new school project seeing as you teach Japanese anyway. I would increase sports and PE. Use the village hall for lessons as well as PE to minimise numbers in the school building. Invest in some desks for the infant's and set them in specific places - one desk per child. If they have to share set up a buddy system where two children alternate to minimise random mixing. Clean down between children. Or you could buddy a junior with an infant - the junior is more likely to clean it down properly. A one way system in/out - in the front door and out the junior door with staggered entry and leaving times. The minute someone goes home with suspected covid-19 send out a text and all mothers on red alert to check temperatures etc. If there are some with vulnerable parents etc/they themselves are at risk allow week off preventative isolation without repercussions. I'm scared of the whole thing but we do need to think of how to move life forward in a controlled manner. The children will likely experience anxiety at all these changes but if we explain things they will probably do as we ask if there is a consistent message. I would also consider delaying the new reception year till January to allow the school enough time to adapt before inviting nervous children and new parents into our family.

Happy to go with the flow!

I would feel more comfortable when all year groups can return along with Teachers. I feel the children have had a major life change in the last few months, sending them back when there is still uncertainty will create anxiety amongst both students and parents. If we can send them when there is some sort of normality surrounding school I think this will ensure a smoother transition back to a normal school life.

I feel the government have been premature with their relaxation in lock down measures. There is sure to be a second peak between 2-4 weeks from now I suspect. UK have second highest death count in world, they should be following some of more successful countries with regards to Covid and Re-open Schools in September With necessary measures. Some children do have serious outcomes if they contract Covid. I would not wish this to be a pupil at our school. If children for whatever reason 'mingle' at school and became an asymptomatic carrier, they could spread to other family members including grandparents when, households are allowed to mix with extended families / have bubbles / cocoons of people they see. Children will find it difficult to social distance, and touch everything in sight. For example on a run today despite me saying not to my daughter managed to touch a gate, bus shelter, road sign and bridge, and these were while she was running on a rural road and had to deviate to get to. Imagine what could be touched if in closer vicinity. I feel school / teachers have been given little

time to prepare - layouts of classroom, obtain necessary protective wear / hand sanitizers; plan school days etc. Teachers also must be comfortable in returning to school - where there will be In close prolonged contact with children / families at drop offs etc. My understanding of social distancing is 2m distance for maximum of 15 minutes. Can this be achieved?? Difficult. Teachers must feel safe and feel able to return safely to their families after school. Safety of staff and pupils is paramount.

I think that I would like to wait for a few weeks, following the relaxation of lock down, to see whether infections begin to increase again. If they don't I may feel more comfortable sending my child to school. My main concerns are around how practical it is for them to social distance in the space available and how well they will wash their hands if left unsupervised. I would feel better if supervised hand washing was a regular part of the daily routine and that teachers were keeping an eye out for children putting their hands in their mouths and telling them to stop.

I don't really understand what has changed with regard to how serious/contagious the virus is but all of a sudden it's safe to go back to school?? Our school is very small and realistically social distancing cannot be achieved safely and successfully, plus I am classed as a 'vulnerable' person and cannot afford to get the virus from a health point of view. Unfortunately we all need more time to learn more about the current situation and if that means the schools are closed for another 3-6 months so be it. Everybodies Health and safety is paramount.

In principle we have no problem with ??? returning to school if the staff are satisfied they can make it work for the children but crucially for themselves as well. We trust your experience and expertise in what is the best path in terms of the logistics - we would fully support more outdoor activities and realise that asking five year olds to social distance all the time is almost impossible. ??? gets the concept of distancing but we recognise five year olds who haven't seen each other for so long would struggle to maintain it - we believe that if teachers were expected to enforce distancing it wouldn't be healthy for anyone and would outweigh the risk of infection. She does have her own mask which she is happy to wear but we agree it isn't ideal for long periods of time and hampers learning and communicating effectively. We'll provide a packed lunch - with Teddy Faces on a Friday if she is good.
X

??? is in a high risk category and I would not feel comfortable sending her to school until I feel it is completely safe to do so with very little chance of infection. I would therefore not send ??? as she may carry the infection back into the home. That said I fully understand that school would do as much as they possibly could to ensure all children are safe, and both of them are desperate to get back to learning.

We would be happier with a greater reduction in new cases and deaths before sending our children back to school (out of schools control). We feel it will be very hard for year 6's to socially distance but infants will be impossible. Not sure how social distancing will work within the classroom when needing to be inside, given the layout of Mugginton. We feel it is an unnecessary risk to both staff, children and families at this time.

My child would benefit enormously by returning to school but I do have a few concerns. With school opening to reception and year one children (who could not be expected to adhere to any distancing rules), would you put in any social distancing measures for the year 6 group? Would there be interaction between the 2 classes? What would happen if a child showed COVID-19 symptoms at school – would school close and all children & staff be sent home to isolate? Would school be opening as an educational setting with lessons or to fulfil the government objective of opening? Can Mugginton opt to stay closed to pupils? What cleaning regime do you envisage being in place, would Ms Sutton be on site 9-3:15? Would children be asked to wash/sanitise their hands throughout the day. Would this be a regimented routine? Would staff be permitted to bring their child/children into school if numbers allowed?

Children appear to cope well with symptoms of the virus, however, our concern is that they may transfer the virus to others i.e. vulnerable family members or staff. X is diligently doing work from home and will continue to do so. I am more than happy for her to take part in any transitions for secondary school but not for prolonged periods of time.

We feel strongly that schools should open and start establishing some normality for children, as well as some structure. Whilst our child isn't eligible to return on 1 June (though one of us is a keyworker we haven't exercised this right so far) we do feel that the suggestion by government that schools should open for all children prior to the summer holidays is the right one. If this wasn't to happen then there would have been no structured schooling for nearly 6 months which we feel is detrimental to a child's development. The ability of parents at home to home school will have varied drastically over the last few weeks and whilst our child is bright, we feel compromised that we haven't been able to dedicate as much as time as we feel we should have done to supporting them as we have both continued working long hours throughout the lockdown. Inevitably we would want to understand how school would approach whatever social distancing the DoFE expects schools to comply with and we would want to understand what was happening with PPE and cleanliness. We assume there would be plans established that parents didn't enter school physically and children were collected from them and brought out to them etc. As far as a 1 June start goes we feel this should be reception, year 1,2 and 6 - we understand that keyworker children should be in school then but would query the offer of additional siblings from families being in school then, unless their parents are both keyworkers - surely a test period from 1 June should be for children who have to be at school, not additional. Clearly you are being governed by government but we are surprised that year 2 haven't been included by them as they will be transitioning from infant to junior in September and should have done SATs this month. Finally, we do feel strongly that this is Mugginton's opportunity to set an example to others in terms of best practice and the way that this is approached and handled. As a small school with small physical space we realise that this ability is a little compromised but lower school numbers play into this and your ability to think about what this looks like. Can you talk to the Village Hall about using their space for instance?

Wearing mask, keeping distance is the best way, but it is difficult for kids in classroom. What can be done in classroom is very limited. However, cleaning common touch points is possible. For example, door knob, tablet screen etc should be cleaned with alcohol or Avoid sitting directly on carpet to level up hygiene. Scientist investigated the cabins of Princess cruise. Corona virus was mainly found on floor, pillow, desk, remote controller. So avoid common touch points and sitting on floor is very important. It is difficult to clean carpet completely. The surface of desk chair is easier to clean up. Still, I would like to avoid rainy days or very cold days. Many kids spend time mainly in class room. When weather is good, they can spend time outside though.

We have a good routine going at the moment. I have all my children at home, We work in the morning around the table then spend the afternoon outdoors! We can now play tennis and sport at the park which is a real bonus so we are all very content and enjoying the time together. I'm very pleased that you have kept things relaxed and manageable. The blog is great for making sure we are on track and it's been fun getting my teaching resources out again! I am in no hurry to send them back to school if it would help keep numbers down for those who need it more, It sounds like it's going to be very tricky!