



# The Parkside School

Supported by Parkside Community Trust

Head Teacher: Mr R Holderness  
Chair of Governors: Mr S Hobbs

College Road • NORWICH • Norfolk • NR2 3JA  
Telephone: 01603 441126  
Email: office@parkside.norfolk.sch.uk

Ref CEG/KE

26 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## THE PARKSIDE SCHOOL'S RETURN TO SCHOOL AND RECOVERY CURRICULUM STATEMENT

The Parkside School is looking forward to the return of its pupils in September. Whilst the school has remained open to up to 45 pupils and staff have been busy setting work and doing welfare calls with all other pupils, the school has missed seeing its pupils every day and cannot wait to see those smiles back at Parkside.

However, we also understand that the experiences we have all had under lockdown have been varied and in many instances, difficult. Therefore, it would be inadvisable to presume that we can simply pick up where we all left off. With up to 170 pupils returning back to school, each with their own complex special needs, most having had six months away from school and twelve new staff members, we will need to have a clearly-planned transition back into school. In addition to this we need to have a recovery curriculum in place to support our pupils' social and emotional needs.

### Transition Plan Back into Full-Time School

- Term dates: school starts **Monday, 7 September 2020**
- For the first **3 weeks in September** all pupils will have a **part-time place in school**. This will be either all day **Monday and Tuesday or all day Thursday and Friday**. (Letters will come out to you explaining which days and which teachers/Teaching Assistants by the 14 July).
- Wednesdays will be a day where staff from school come out to the community and offer activities in local parks for pupils that may need a very gradual return.
- The school will be deep cleaned on a Wednesday to limit the chance of cross infection.
- All staff will be in full-time, which will give all pupils opportunity to form relationships and get to know their new class staff and give staff the opportunity to plan for the individual needs of pupils.
- All new pupils to the school will start with half days, twice a week and build this up.
- Initially the **curriculum will be limited**, with pupils staying in class rather than moving around the school for PE, Food Technology, Swimming etc.
- The Stay & Play after school club will **not** be starting in the first three weeks, this will then be reviewed.
- A risk assessment and clear transition action plan have been created and are available for all stakeholders.



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- A letter will be sent out about community visits on Wednesdays nearer the time.
- This plan will be **reviewed after three weeks** when we hope to increase days and develop our curriculum.

## What is a Recovery Curriculum and why do we need one?

- A recovery curriculum is not a separate curriculum at Parkside; it is a set of principles that underpin the work we do with pupils in school in order to support them in re-establishing routines, expectations and relationships in school whilst supporting them with any trauma they may have experienced during lockdown
- Underlying principles are: re-connecting and re-building relationships, re-establishing structure and routine, personalised, therapeutic, play-based and outdoor learning, compassionate and holistic, inclusive of the whole school community
- The main focus at this time should be to embark on a long, sometimes challenging, journey with each child, through a process of re-engagement, reconnection, which guides and supports them back to being ready to learn, able to settle to learn and fully engaged with learning.
- If you wish to know more about this please see our website where there is a PowerPoint and some research about the recovery curriculum.

We hope that this gives you an understanding of our plans for September and why we believe a planned transition will benefit the pupils much more than putting them all back into school at once, with new teachers and some new pupils. This way we can plan for all pupils properly and support them with routines and expectations coming back into school full time.

I understand this part-time arrangement may be difficult for some working parents and we would like to support you wherever possible. So, if you are a family where all caregivers are working and leave cannot be taken, please complete the below form to indicate a preference of Mondays and Tuesdays **OR** Thursdays and Fridays. We will try to give you the preferred days but this will depend on the responses we have for each class and so cannot be guaranteed.

If you are a critical worker and no-one else is able to support you with child care please complete the second form below.



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Name of child \_\_\_\_\_

1. Due to work commitments I would prefer (please place an **x** against preferred choice) :

Mondays and Tuesdays .....

Thursdays and Fridays .....

2. All adults in the household work as critical workers and are unable to take leave so please consider my child for a 4 day a week place .....

We will presume you do not mind which days your child is in school, unless you let us know by Wednesday, 1 July 2020.

Yours faithfully

Carolyn Ellis-Gage  
Head Teacher Designate

Bob Holderness and  
Head Teacher

Steve Hobbs  
Chair of Governors



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