



# Ark Conway Primary Academy

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## Head's Message

The thrilling news this week is that, yet again, more children have returned to school, even if only for a short space of time.

Last week we asked if Year 3 would like to return for a short session at school and the response was overwhelmingly positive. As a result, today saw the return of some Y3 children for a story-time session with Mr Elliott. The children loved their session and I think Mr Elliott was also thrilled (he's been excited all week)!



I know that some children missed out on this session, and this is again down to the limits we have to impose to make sure we are all kept safe.

The good news is that we will be inviting all those in Year 3 that missed out to join a session next week. We will also start to invite children in Years 2 and 4 for similar sessions over the coming weeks.

So far, the expansion of our on-site provision has been brilliant. Our children have returned sensibly and are starting to get used to life back in school.

The systems we have implemented to keep everyone safe are working really well, in part because all parents and children have been so good at following the new instructions. With this in mind, next Tuesday we will see the return of some of our Y5 children for the first time since lockdown started. Separate details will be sent to all those who have responded to confirm their attendance.

Please remember that our community classroom is still open for children of key-workers, or those who are deemed vulnerable and not in years Reception, 1, 5 or 6. If you would like a place then please contact the office or email [info@arkconwayprimary.org](mailto:info@arkconwayprimary.org) Booking is essential as you will not be allowed to join the class otherwise.

I'd like to finish off my message this week by thanking all of the school staff. The community of Ark Conway is fortunate to have such a dedicated team of professionals looking after the children.

Without exception, every single member of the team has returned to work to play their part – providing excellent meals, ensuring the site is safe and clean, teaching the new class bubbles, keeping lines of communication open, providing home-learning and making phone-calls home to children unable to return.

The way they have adapted, and continue to adapt in the face of frequent change, is nothing short of inspirational. Just look at the picture of our Hall being turned into a classroom – amazing, (special thanks to Mr Okocha and Ms Walster for the Hall – they've done a great job)



## Important Changes – Reception, Year 1, Year 6

I am thrilled to say that, due to popular demand, we are opening a second Reception class bubble on Monday to accommodate the extra children.

Because government guidelines have not changed, we are still limited to a maximum of 15 children in any one class.

From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June there will be two Reception classes open, with Miss Sira and Ms Walster leading the second class. Reception will now remain like this for the remainder of the academic year, which enables us to have all of our reception children back if they choose to return. It also means they will have one of their two regular teachers in their individual bubble. I will write to all Reception parents separately with more detail.

To accommodate the extra year 5 children in the school, drop-off and collection times will need to change slightly. I will be sending a text to all reception, Year 1 and year 6 parents today to confirm the new times.

It is essential for the safety of everyone that you arrive at the right time – not early and not late. This helps minimise congestion at the gate and reduce the number of people on-site at any one time. Thank you all for your understanding.

## Guidance

During these unusual times, it is essential that we are all sticking to the guidance. I have included the link for what to do in the case of suspected or confirmed cases of Covid-19 [here](#).

It is also essential that parents let the school know if their children are classed as [Clinically Extremely Vulnerable](#) or [Clinically Vulnerable](#). Guidance can be found by clicking on each category.

## Facebook and Twitter



Please look at our Facebook page 'Ark Conway Primary Academy'. You can also follow us on Twitter: @ARKConway.

*Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility*  
Our safeguarding policy can be found in the school office