

Leadership Team

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"Shaping Lives, Shaping Futures"

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it" Proverbs 22:6

24th March 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 8th March. We fully appreciate that this will be an anxious time for both yourself and your child, particularly if they have not been in school since December. Please be assured that our dedicated team of staff are taking all steps possible to ensure that it will be a smooth and safe transition for your child.

In line with government guidance, robust procedures and systems that have successfully worked over the past year, will continue to be in place to minimise any risk for pupils and staff.

The following key strategies are already embedded across the school:

- Clean hands thoroughly, more often than usual
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Daily enhanced cleaning
- Minimising contact and maintaining social distancing where possible

The children will continue to work in bubbles within their phases as one of a number of strategies for further minimising risk. Pupils in each bubble will continue to have access to their own toilets and sinks and there will be regular opportunity for hand washing throughout the day. The classroom will be arranged so that seating is carefully managed as advised in government guidance and the rooms will be well ventilated.

Arrival and Collection Procedures

- **Please social distance at all times and wear a face covering** whilst on site unless you have a medical exemption pass, which must be visible. If you need to speak to the school office, please wear a face mask.
- In the interest of safety, we expect that your child is brought to school and collected by **one** member of the household only.
- **Arrival at school:** You will be able to drop off your child between 8:30am and 8:50am where there will be a member of staff waiting to direct them into the classroom via the classroom door.
- **Collection from school:** The children will be released from their classroom door at the following times:
 - Reception and Year 1 – 2:50pm
 - Year 2 – 2:55pm
 - Year 3- 6 – 3:00pm
- When you have collected or dropped off your child, you will need to exit the school grounds via the gate at the bottom of the playground, adjacent to the bungalow.
- The one-way system **must** be upheld at all times for the safety of everyone. **Do not** walk back down the path/driveway. Please note that you will **not** be able to exit via the gate outside the main office; this is only for entering the main site.
- If you are only collecting from years 3 - 6, do not arrive before 3pm to minimise queueing. You will not be permitted on site before this time.

- If queueing down the path, please continue to stand close to the green fencing so that any parents going to the hub or year 2 can easily pass.
- Whilst waiting on the playground for your child, please avoid standing near the shed as this can block parents trying to pass through. There is plenty of space on the playground to socially distance and it also makes it easier for staff to see you when handing over.
- As soon as you have collected your child, please make your way promptly to the gate to maintain the movement of people around the site.
- Please bear in mind that staff will be unavailable for parental conversations at this time but you are more than welcome to email the class teacher or email/telephone the school office. Your child's teacher will respond to you when they have finished teaching.

Handwashing and hygiene

- Children will wash their hands when they enter school and at regular intervals throughout the school day. Where appropriate, additional hand washing will take place.
- Every classroom has a tub of hand gel and access to tissues to catch any sneezes or runny noses. These can be accessed whenever it is required. If you want to send your child in with hand gel or tissues, they can store this in their pencil case or bag.
- We appreciate that younger children will find it hard to socially distance and so regular handwashing will help to reduce risk.
- Routines will be structured in a way that further promotes social distancing as well as daily education by staff.
- Any face masks that may be worn on the way to school, can be safely removed when they arrive in school in line with government guidance.

Additional Cleaning throughout the day

Additional cleaning will continue to take place throughout the day and enhanced cleaning at the end of every day.

Break time and lunchtimes

Break times and lunchtimes will be organised so that each bubble has a designated area in which to play/staggered start and finish times. Children will eat lunch within their classrooms so **please provide a packed lunch for your child as hot dinners will not be available until further notice**. If your child receives a free school meal or you wish to order a packed lunch, then please use Parent Pay to do this.

School Uniform

We expect children to return to school in their full uniform and PE kits on well-being days in line with the school policy. As stated in the uniform policy, children must wear plain navy blue tracksuit trousers, plain t-shirt in their house colours, dark trainers and school jumper/cardigan on well-being days. No other variations will be permitted.

Curriculum provision

Your child will continue to access a broad and balanced curriculum. Lessons will be carefully designed to meet your child's needs and address any missed learning.

Equipment for school

Your child can bring a bag to school but we ask that any equipment is kept to a minimum.

Pencil cases - It would be extremely helpful if you could provide your child with a **plastic, wipeable** pencil case so they can use safely their own equipment throughout the school day. Where this is not possible, we can provide a plastic case for your child. All children will be issued with appropriate stationery but if they wish to bring in their own, that is not a problem.

Reading books - We will continue to issue weekly reading books but ask that these are returned on a Friday where they will be stored in a separate box for an appropriate period of time. When your child is issued with a new book, this will be from a different set.

Attendance

As stated in government guidance, attendance is compulsory.

Mental Health and Well-being

As well as the safety measures that are imperative, we are also very much aware of the emotional impact that the pandemic will have had on children, families and staff. To this end staff will implement strategies and activities that will help support your child's transition back into school. Please keep talking to us so we can understand how best to support your child in school or direct you to the relevant external support if this is something that you feel would be helpful. Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance if you have any worries or concerns.

Expectations for behaviour

It is vital that pupils follow our safety procedures. Swift and appropriate action will be taken by staff for any failure to follow the rules in order to ensure your child's safety and the safety of other children and staff in school.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will be able to safely run from Monday 8th March. If you require a place for your child, please contact the school office.

A full Risk Assessment and Safety Plan will be available on the school website.

As always, we value your feedback and if you wish to speak with a member of staff to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to work alongside and support you all as always at this time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lowe
Headteacher