



Tuesday 7th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are keeping well in these strange times. I am writing to give you some information about school from September 2020.

We have received detailed guidance from the government, setting out how we will open our school to all children while continuing to work hard to keep them safe from the Coronavirus infection. As you know, we currently have children in school who are mainly from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. We have kept the risk of infection to a minimum by following rigorous hygiene routines and implementing social distancing appropriate to primary aged children. Many of these routines will continue in September, with the key difference being that we can now have up to 30 children in our social distancing infection 'bubbles'. This is how we will keep your children safe:

- Children will be organised into class bubbles and these bubbles will work, play and eat separately from each other.
- The start and end of the school day, break times and lunchtimes will be staggered so that children and adults who drop them off will never be in dangerously crowded situations.
- Children will always be with the same adults in school and working in the same room.
- Sharing of equipment will be minimal and where it is unavoidable, it will be cleaned with anti-viral wipes. Children will have their own trays under their desks with everything they need. All items will be wiped every evening with anti-viral wipes. Children in Class 1 will not have these trays but their equipment will be managed and cleaned by school staff.
- Children will remain with their bubble at all times. Visits to toilets will be regular and taken together, and social distancing measures will be followed, such as only two children in the toilets at any time and 2 metre apart queueing in the corridor.
- Each room will have hand sanitiser and hand washing or sanitising will be done every hour.
- Lunch will be eaten in classrooms and tables will be disinfected before and after eating.
- Children in classes 2, 3 and 4 will have desks set out so that children will all face the front.
- Children will be encouraged to remain at a distance from each other and from their teachers, where possible. We know that this can't happen all the time and we will never leave a child without physical care or comfort if they need it.
- Staff will not wear PPE unless they are dealing with children who need First Aid, intimate care or who are ill.



- Children and staff who display COVID-19 symptoms will be immediately isolated and sent home with a home testing kit if parents are not able to get to a testing centre. Families will then be required to isolate in line with government guidance if the child subsequently tests positive.
- Our school will comply fully with the NHS Test and Trace system.
- Visitors into school will be minimised and will be required to follow our strict social distancing and hygiene routines.
- An enhanced cleaning routine will be in place, including cleaning all toilets and touch points half way through the day.

Please note: we are unable to run our Breakfast Club in the same way. Before school childcare will be available from 8am for **children whose parents need this because of their work**. We will contact you to ask about this next week.

Here is a link to the full guidance issued by the government to schools. We are using this guidance to carefully plan for September:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Here is a link to important information about the NHS Test and Trace system as we will be engaging with this service very closely:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

Our teachers are entitled to half a day Planning, Preparation and Assessment time every week. This is normally covered by another member of staff in school. However, we do not want to risk placing a member of staff into several different bubbles and so we will continue to **close school every Thursday afternoon**. To compensate for this so that children do not miss out on learning time, we are adding 15 minutes onto the beginning and end of every school day. We will provide childcare on Thursday afternoons if it is needed **by parents who are working** and cannot pick their children up early.

It is vitally important that you bring your child to school on time so that we can ensure that children who are not in the same bubble are not mixing with each other.

The government have said that attendance in school in September is mandatory. Children should not be kept at home through anxiety about COVID. I would like to reassure you that we will take very good care of your children and we can't wait to see them all back in school again!

I will be writing again very soon to inform you about your child's class bubble and teacher.

Thank you for your continuing support, **Mrs J Sones – Head teacher**



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