

Dear Parents/Carers,

From September, the government is asking primary schools to welcome all their pupils back to school. I realise that there may be parents and carers who are worried about seeing their child back in school. This letter is being sent to reassure families by making you aware of a range of approaches that will be undertaken to ensure that your child is safe on their return to school and the risk of transmission of infection is minimal if all the measures are followed by everybody accessing the school building.

Firstly, it is vital that anybody with coronavirus symptoms or anybody that has someone in their household with coronavirus symptoms, does NOT attend school.

From September it will again be compulsory for you to send your child into school in line with our normal attendance procedures. If your child will not be attending school on any day it is vital for safeguarding purposes that you contact the school office and inform us of the absence.

Once the children are in school, to reduce the risk of transmission of infection, the children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day and be given appropriate levels of support to do this. Where appropriate, children will also be reminded to practice good respiratory hygiene by staff promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

Government guidance recommends that as a school we set up distinct bubbles which children will belong to. They will learn with the other children in this 'bubble' and have breaktime with the other children in the 'bubble'. This is to ensure, that in the event of a pupil or member of staff contracting Coronavirus, it will be quick and easy to identify who they have come into contact with. This is also to avoid the whole school having to shut down, but instead just the 'bubble' where cases have been identified. Children from different 'bubbles' will not mix during the school day.

We will be running 5 distinct 'bubbles' in September - Seedlings, Woodlands, Cedar and Elm, Willow and Pine and Ash and Oak. These 'bubbles' will have separate start and end times to the school day in order to avoid too many people being on the school grounds at any one time which could lead to overcrowding and increase the chance of transmission of infection. Although transport will be running in September, this will be considerably reduced meaning that a number of parents will have to bring their child to school and collect them at the end of the day for the foreseeable future.

Your child is in the **Cedar and Elm** class bubble and is being asked to attend school between the hours of **8.50am - 2.50pm**

Parents and carers should plan to arrive at school no earlier than their start time and then leave the school grounds promptly. Parents and carers are asked to adhere to the 2 metre social distancing rule.

Resources that are used regularly will be kept in individual 'bubbles' and they will be thoroughly cleaned in between uses. Surfaces will be regularly cleaned throughout the day also.

On their return home pupils should wash their hands thoroughly.

Headteacher Gail Beaton B.Ed.

The Coronavirus pandemic is a changing situation and plans that have been set out in this letter may need to alter or be changed according to the national situation or any new government guidance. We will seek to inform parents or carers of any changes promptly, so please stay up to date by checking your emails, the school website, and our Facebook page.

I understand that parents and carers will be worried and anxious about sending their children back to school, but please be reassured that we are implementing all recommended guidance to ensure that children and staff can be kept safe whilst school is reopened.

As always please do not hesitate to get in touch with any further questions or concerns. You can contact me through the school office on 01772 792681 or via email, deputy@acorns.lancs.sch.uk

Yours Sincerely



Mrs K Higham

Deputy Head Teacher