

## Wider school reopening (March 2021) – Information sheet for parents and carers

Our wider reopening arrangements have been developed around a clear focus on the safety and wellbeing of children and staff and following advice from the government and our local authority. Here is an outline of the arrangements in place.

### Arrival and collection

We ask all adults to wear face masks while they are on the school site.

- Please arrive at your allocated start or collection time – there should be plenty of space in the car park.

Class	Drop Off	Collection	Location
Wrens	09:05	15:35	Main playground gate
Robins	08:45	15:15	Main playground gate
Owls	08:55	15:25	Field gate
Kingfishers	08:45	15:15	Field gate
Starlings	08:55	15:25	Main playground gate

- Children will enter and leave through their allocated entrance points where they will be met by a member of staff.
- Please remember to socially distance from other families if you are waiting. We understand it will be tempting, but please don't use the school car park for a chat or the chance to catch up with other parents.
- There will be restricted access to the school playground or buildings for parents. Please continue to communicate through the office by e-mail and telephone.

### Uniform and equipment

Children are expected to wear standard school uniform. However, please do let us know if you are having difficulty with this, particularly in the first few weeks. The most important thing is that children are back in school learning and enjoying the company of their friends. Don't forget to provide a jumper or cardigan as well as base layers if it is particularly chilly as we will have windows open to ventilate our classrooms.

What should they bring with them? We will continue to limit personal belongings brought in from outside of school. Children should only bring in the following items:

- A clearly named personal water bottle.
- As required - a waterproof coat or hat and/or suntan lotion.
- PE kit

One named bag or satchel to help carry items is fine. Children will not be allowed to share or lend personal items.

Children will be provided with their own stationery in class – pens, pencils, rulers, etc. - which will contain everything they need to complete learning tasks. This will be kept just for their personal use. Other learning equipment used in class will be cleaned between uses.

### **Groupings**

Children have been placed in class groups. The groups will not have close contact during the day and will have allocated play areas. In the classroom, children will be sat so that they are all facing forward.

### **Staffing**

We have allocated specific staff to each class of children. In line with the most recent government guidance, there will be some adults who are working with more than one group of children. All staff will implement the recommended hygiene practices to reduce any risk of infection. Twice weekly Covid 19 testing is available to all staff.

### **Lunch**

Children will be able to order from the normal Dolce menu options. Packed lunches should be contained in clearly named lunchboxes.

### **PPE**

We are advised that only standard PPE (gloves) are required for staff when dealing with standard first aid incidents. This is our normal practice. Additional PPE may be used by staff looking after a child who begins to show possible symptoms of Covid-19 during their time at school.

Children are not expected to wear face masks. We would also request that children do not bring in their own anti-bacterial hand gel.

### **Suspected cases of Covid-19 and isolation**

If a member of staff or a child on the school site begins to display possible symptoms of infection they will be sent home. Children will be placed in a separate room and supervised while awaiting collection.

Households should then follow the government guidance for responding to a possible case of Covid-19.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If any children need to stay at home due to isolation requirements, they will be able to access work through their class page on the school website. If a whole class bubble is required to isolate, the school will return to providing remote education for that class through our Google Classroom platform.

### **Cleaning**

Our usual cleaners will continue with their daily service which includes floors and shared areas. They will focus on frequent contact points, such as door handles and push plates.

Cleaning materials will be allocated to each class and throughout the school day there will be additional cleaning of hard surfaces and contact points alongside frequent handwashing by adults and children.

### **Visitors**

The school site effectively remains closed to the majority of visitors apart from staff and children. Parent access into the school building and grounds will continue to be restricted for the time being. If you need to make contact with school, please continue to telephone or e-mail the school office.

### **Supporting our children when they return**

We recognise that many children may be feeling anxious and could find some of the changes to normal school life worrying. We will offer lots of support to children and kind reminders of expectations to help them when they make mistakes or forget routines. There will be a focus on children's emotional wellbeing and helping them get back on track with their learning. Our worries and anxieties webpage on the school website contains some useful resources.

### **How can you help?**

Before your child returns to school, please remind your children about the safety measures that will be in place, for example different start and finish times and having playtimes with their own classes rather than mixing more widely. Remind them that adults, in particular, are still required to socially distance at school so may not be able to work with them in the usual way. Revisit good handwashing practice and reassure them that we will be washing our hands at school in the same way throughout the day.

Let us know about any bereavements or particular worries or anxieties your child has suffered during this recent lockdown.

Please be conscientious about ensuring your children are following current government guidance outside of school to help us protect everyone in school. We have the same expectations on this for staff too.

Do not send in your child if they are unwell. We will need to send home any children who become unwell while they are at school. Please ensure we have the most up to date contact details for your family.

Thank you for your support.

