



2nd March 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

I'm sure most of you will have seen or heard about the government announcement for schools to fully reopen on the 8th March. Whilst I'm sure this is welcome news for some, there will be many of you who are anxious about your child returning to school.

The past 12 months have been tough for all of us, however it has also brought out the very best in the Gateway community and I am so proud of the way you, as parents, carers and guardians of children, have risen to the unique challenges you have been faced with.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers and support staff in school for their engaging and supportive teaching. They really have gone over and above every day to ensure children receive the best education they can.

I am presently reviewing the Covid Risk Assessments and ensuring that pupils can remain in bubbles that will now change in KS2 to Years 3 and 4 being in a bubble and years 5 and 6 being in another bubble to allow for the ease of interventions. Staff are being tested twice a week and they will continue to follow public health advice.

It will be very necessary to ensure that social distancing is adhered to on the playground by all adults and we will be reverting back to our rules from September which includes masks on the playground for all please, clear distancing by all regarding queuing for all adults and staff, a reminder about the one-way system and minimal items coming into school daily from home. I ask also that parking on Seymour Road does not take place as this is dangerous and a serious safeguarding issue with traffic wardens visiting regularly. Please park over on Seaside's Way where we have an allowance to park for school drop off/pick up times with no charges on the public car park there. I hope to be able to provide the walk-in bus system from there once again.

Page 1 of 2

In looking forward to 8th March and beyond as regards education, it is very vital your child attends school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing and wider development.

The usual rules on school attendance will apply from the 8th March including:

- Parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school
- The ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and if you require any further help or advice about your child's return, please contact us. There are many things we can do to help support you and your child, so please don't hesitate to contact class teachers and Mrs Riley no matter how small you feel the issues are. It is better we know in order to help.

I look forward to a very successful return to school with everyone's co-operation. Myself and the whole staff team look forward to welcoming everyone back and seeing you all once more.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs Robinson

