

26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to say that all of the children will be returning to school on Monday 8th March. Breakfast Club and Night Owls After School provision will also be open from this date.

This is the first tiny step of the Government's easing of the lockdown and we recognise that the pandemic has not gone away. We will be doing our best to have all of the measures in place to keep the children and staff safe, and ask that parents and carers work with us to ensure we are able to keep the whole school open and do not have to close any bubbles.

We will review this after the Easter break.

The measures will be:

- We will continue to have staggered starts and end of the days for the different year groups, (more details below).
- Children will be in year group bubbles and will not mix.
- Children will be washing their hands when they arrive in school, after playtimes, before and after eating, when changing rooms, after coughing or sneezing.
- Children will be encouraged to 'Catch it! Bin it! Kill it!'
- Increased ventilation in classrooms and throughout the school.
- Additional cleaning will be taking place throughout the school day, including frequently touched surfaces.
- Staff will be wearing masks around the school, although not when teaching. But they will wear clear visors in class to remind themselves and the children to keep a safe distance.
- Parents will not be allowed in the building unless for an emergency meeting that cannot be held remotely.
- Parents are asked to socially distance when waiting outside the school and to wear a mask.
- Staff will be socially distancing and staying within bubbles as much as is possible.
- Staff will be voluntarily testing themselves twice weekly.
- No school trips will be taking place.

A small number of children may be unable to attend in line with public health advice to self-isolate. You should not send your child to school or college if they:

- have symptoms or live in a household with someone who has symptoms
- have tested positive themselves, even if they do not have symptoms
- live in a household with someone who has tested positive, even if that person does not have symptoms
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- are required to self-isolate for travel-related reasons
- your child has a letter to say they should be shielding because they are extremely vulnerable

Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable should still attend school.

From Monday 8th March we are making the planned changes to school lunches. We have found a way to go back to **all** children having hot meals. The children mostly did not enjoy the packed lunch and we have decided that we can manage two bubbles and have two separate serving stations in the hall.

We are also making slight changes to gate collection times for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 as it wasn't taking as long as we thought to exit school. Also we can then fit in an afternoon playtime for all children. The new times are:

Years 5&6	3.15pm
Years 3&4	3.20pm

Staying the same are:

EYFS	3.20PM
Years 1&2	3.30PM

The beginning of the day is the same staggered start. Please be on time as this means the year groups are not mixing, and also that your child is not missing any learning.

Years 4, 5 & 6	8.30am
Year 3, 2 & 1	8.45am
EYFS	8.45am

Please collect your children from the same gates as previously: Years 1,4&6 from Chisenhale Road, Years 2,3&5 from Zealand Road and EYFS from Vivian Road. Children can enter school from either gate. Please note that new access and parking restrictions will be in force at school drop-off and collection times so we would strongly encourage you to come to school by foot, scooter or bike. More details are in the attached school street letter.

Children do not need to wear uniform as before, and should come to school in clothes and footwear in which they can do PE. This means they don't need to change which reduces further contamination risks.

Children all need their own water bottle, which should be labelled, do make sure these are washed every night. Please don't let your child bring any toys or other personal possessions in to school.

We know how well the children can cope with the measures in school, and are so looking forward to seeing and hearing the classrooms bursting with life and buzzing with chatter.

Best regards

Sharon Taylor
Headteacher

Actions you should take

Do not send your child to school if:

- they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- someone in your household is showing symptoms
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms and your child has been in close contact with them since the symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started
- your child or someone in your household has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
- your child is required to [quarantine having recently visited a red list travel ban country](#)

[Book a test](#) if you or your child develop symptoms. Inform your school or college of the results.

If the test is positive, follow guidance for [households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.

Other household members (including any siblings) should self-isolate from the day your child's symptoms started (or the day they took a test if they did not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.

If your child or someone in your household has tested positive while not experiencing symptoms but develops symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10 day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms.

If your child displays symptoms while at school or college, they should not use public transport.

Your child does not need a test if they:

- have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell, but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste
- are advised to self-isolate because they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), for example, another pupil in their class, but are not showing symptoms themselves

Please help school to create the safest possible environment by following this advice and the wider public health advice and guidance.