

Mrs Sarah Moss, Headteacher
BA (Hons)
Tel: 01304 611360
Fax: 01304 621145
Email: headteacher@eastry.kent.sch.uk
www.eastry.kent.sch.uk



EASTRY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
COOKS LEA
EASTRY
SANDWICH
KENT
CT13 0LR

Tuesday 25th August 2020

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you have had a good summer and been able to enjoy the beautiful weather and some aspects of 'normality' returning. We are very excited to be welcoming the children back in a few days time. As I mentioned in my last letter there will be some changes which I have outlined below. Thank you for your understanding as we navigate through these exceptional circumstances, I apologise now for the lengthy letter.

Each year group will be acting as a 'bubble'. The idea is that children remain in their bubbles. Therefore, the following procedures are to aid the protection of each bubble

Below are the drop off and collection times as outlined previously.

Year group	Drop off time	Drop off location	Collection time	Collection location
Fledglings (after half days)	9:00-9:10	Through gun park gate	15:30	Through gun park gate
Year 1 and 2	8:35-8:45	Through the staff carpark and through the field gate	15:00-15:10	Through the staff carpark and through the field gate
Year 3 and 4	8:45-8:55	Through gun park gate	15:15-15:25	Through gun park gate
Year 5 and 6	8:35-8:45	Through gun park gate	15:00-15:10	Through gun park gate

We will be asking you to say good bye in the mornings to your child by the gun park gate (socially distancing in the park). Children in Year 1 and 2 we will be asking that you say goodbye to your children by the field gate. Fledgling parents will be allowed onto the playground to help transition their child into school and will be met at the fledgling's gates. Unfortunately, we will not be able to welcome parents and carers into the school building at this time. If you have children in multiple year groups we

ask that you wait outside of the school until their time slot (This should be no longer than 15mins for any year group).

For collection we will be asking you to queue in socially distanced lines outside your child's classroom door (there will be signs to assist you and videos posted on class dojo nearer the time). Please be patient as children are dismissed and maintain social distancing.

Communication with teachers:

As you know teachers are normally happy and able to chat to you before and after school. Due to the tight turn around, for your children and staff safety please refrain from having long conversations at drop off and collection. Staff will be happy to receive contact via dojo messages or call and leave a message at the office and we will be happy to help. We can arrange a call back if necessary.

Parking:

The main school gates will be shut to ensure the safety of children and families entering this way. Please may I ask that you drive park considerately in the village.

Classrooms:

Videos of each classroom have been uploaded on to class dojo. Please share these with your children. The layouts are in line with government guidelines. Children in Year 2-6 will have designated spaces, trays and resources. Children in Year R and 1 will only share resources with other children in their class. Resources are also cleaned more frequently.

Outdoor Learning:

When possible, learning will occur outside in the bubble's designated outdoor zone. Please make sure you children have hats/ sun cream on in warm weather and coats in cool and wet weather.

Playtimes:

Playtimes are staggered, each bubble has a designated zone outside. They are supervised by the staff in their bubble.

Lunchtimes:

Lunchtimes will also be staggered to reduce crowding and maintain social distancing between the bubbles. Year R, 1 and 2 will eat in the hall. Year 3-6 will eat in the classrooms. Again, they will be supported by the staff from their bubbles. Children in Years 3-6 who have school dinners will have these delivered to the classroom in takeaway style containers.

Sport and P.E

PE activities will be outside activities only until guidance changes. **On PE days, children will wear their PE kits into school so they do not have to be changed. Teachers will notify you of your child's P.E day via the class newsletter which will be sent out on 11th September.**

Resources to and from home.

We are limiting the resources that children bring to and from home. Therefore, please can we ask that toys and games are kept at home as usual please. The children do not need to bring in a pencil case as they will have all their stationary provided. They may bring in a bag, lunchbox, water bottle (containing water only please), snack (fruit only please) and outer clothes dependant on weather.

Reading books:

We will be sending home reading books for you to enjoy with your child. To reduce the contamination each year group bubble has designated books to change from. Books will be changed 3x a week to allow staff to monitor this.

Other Information & Important Guidance:

Class bubbles will remain tightly monitored and mixing of bubbles restricted where possible.

Signs and markings are to aid social distancing in shared areas.

Every class is set up according to observing reviewed social distancing measures, with the addition of a handwashing/sanitising station.

Whole school collective worship will be postponed. We will hold these virtually to maintain our whole school community ethos.

Parent events will be virtual until guidelines change. We will inform you of these.

Everyone in the building will socially distance as much as possible, washing/sanitising facilities are provided in every classroom and time to observe regular washing/sanitising built into structure of the day.

Every room is stocked with several boxes of tissues, sanitising materials and this will be ongoing

No shared use of cups, crockery, fabric resources, musical instruments that are blown, etc. Children will need to bring a named drink bottle daily.

When indoors sufficient ventilation in all rooms will be maintained.

Under the current government guidelines uniform does not need to be changed daily. It does also not need to be washed differently to normal.

Recovery curriculum

At Eastry we put the child's well-being at the centre of our thinking. We acknowledge that the children will have had different experiences during this time. However, the common thread running through all is the loss of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom. These losses can trigger anxiety in any child. We know that an anxious child is not in a place to learn effectively. So, with this in mind, the school community has thought about the most effective way to support each child's ability to learn. This approach will encompass and support the academic expectations for each child.

Professor Barry Carpenter has developed the Recovery Curriculum, as a response to the losses described earlier. It is a way for schools to help children come back into school life, acknowledging the experiences the children have had. We want children to be happy, feel safe and able to be engaged in their learning. We have decided that a way to achieve this for the children is to acknowledge the importance of helping them lever back into school life using the following **5 Levers**.

- **Lever 1: Relationships**
- **Lever 2: Community**
- **Lever 3: Transparent Curriculum**
- **Lever 4: Metacognition**
- **Lever 5: Space – to be, to rediscover self, and to find their voice on learning in this issue.**

Staff have been using these for the basis of their planning for the first two weeks back to school. Giving the children time to adjust to routines, rebuild relationships and reconnect to school. We will be talking about their experience if they want to and talking about how they will be supported in their learning now they are back in school.

Early morning club

Early Morning Club will resume from Wednesday 2nd September 2020 (5th October for Fledglings). Drop off for this will be through the hall doors from 8:00. You should have already let us know if you require this service.

We appreciate parents and carers support in this on going situation. We are amazed with the efforts you have all shown adopting home schooling alongside your day jobs and other responsibilities, well done. We will keep you updated with any changes, and thank you for understanding as we learn how to respond to the ever-changing situation. The messages of gratitude have meant a lot to us. Please do contact the school if you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help. The government have also produced this website for parents to assist you <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

We can't wait to see you all on Wednesday 2nd September and welcome all of the Eastry School family back. Take care.

Kind regards



Sarah Moss
Headteacher