



Monkton Street, Monkton,

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Executive Headteacher: Wendy Stone

Head of School: Karon Wilson

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to confirm that we will be **fully open** to all children from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We appreciate that this year has been an immensely challenging one for everybody. Last Monday's Prime Minister's Briefing and its proposed roadmap offers us all a chance to have some semblance of normality as we approach the summer. We are just so pleased that our children will be back in school and starting to reap all the benefits from this both educationally and socially.

The school will reopen in line with the revised Government Guidelines which were issued this week. These build upon the previous guidelines which we have shared with you. We do not anticipate that our measures will change too much and children should find on returning to school that the procedures and requirements are much the same as September.

There will be:

- Class pods
- Regular handwashing
- Timetabled playtimes and lunchtimes
- Lunches in the classroom (except KS1)
- Staggered drop off and pick up times
- All adult visitors to the site must wear a mask
- No visitors inside the building without a prearranged appointment
- No whole school gatherings including Worship and no class performances

Teachers are currently planning for the return for their classes and are very much considering how to support all children in the return to a whole school attendance. Should you be concerned in any way about how your child feels about returning to school, please do contact their class teacher by email to discuss this.

### Timings

Timings for start and end of day will be staggered as before. They have been altered a little to ensure that pupils do receive their full teaching time.

They are as follows:

Class 1 - 8:55am - 2:55pm

Class 2 - 8:50am - 3pm

Class 3 - 8:45am - 3:05pm

Class 4 - 8:40am - 3:10pm

Please do try to come at the time stated as if we do not stick to these times congestion may occur and the benefits of the stagger may be lost. The white gates will not open before 8:40am, so please try to arrive as near to this time as possible. This avoids congestion across the road and possible mixing of pods.

If your child walks home alone please inform your child's class teacher that you give permission for this to take place.

### **Attendance**

Within the revised *Government Guidance*, the attendance of all children in school from the 8<sup>th</sup> March will be mandatory and non attendance will be monitored, according to our school Attendance Policy.

### **Lunches**

School lunches will be served in the usual way.

### **Face Coverings**

Face Covering rules will remain in place until we are directed otherwise. Parent/Carers, visitors and staff will wear face coverings on site when moving around and outside of the building. (excepting those who are exempt)

Children do not need a face covering

### **Equipment**

Children may bring in coats, lunchboxes, book bags and small bags for their belongings if required.

### **Clubs**

We are liaising with Team Theme to reintroduce clubs after Easter.

### **Breakfast Club**

As you may know we are supported by Warburtons and they enable us to run our Breakfast Club at a very competitive daily rate. I have not heard as yet from Warburton's, but once they contact me to resume our deliveries, Breakfast Club will restart.

### **Fruit**

This will resume after half term at the price of £4 per term or £24 per year. Mrs Webb will send further details.

### **The Office**

The Office is open from 8:30am each day. There is an answerphone on the line before this, please feel free to leave a message and if required we will get back to you. The Office closes again at 4:30pm.

01843 821394    [office@monkton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@monkton.kent.sch.uk)

We look forward to welcoming you into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, it will be lovely to all be back together. Thank you to all parent/carers that have worked with us to support those children learning at home. We do not underestimate just how hard and challenging this time has been for you. A big thank you also to our Key Workers, we all owe you a debt of gratitude for helping to keep us safe and keeping the wheels of our lives going, from NHS to supermarkets, energy to travel and everything else in between. Thank you all.

Finally, on a school note I would like to thank the wonderful staff here at Monkton. Steep learning curve does not even begin to explain how much adjustment and learning the staff have had to complete in a very short amount of time. The online learning platform and live lessons have been a triumph, and hopefully this has made learning at home far easier and bearable for you all.

Please do all take care, we look forward to seeing you all together soon,

Kind regards,



Mrs K A Wilson (Mrs)  
Head of School/Inclusion Manager