

# Parent/Carer Information Booklet for the safe return of pupils to Park Community Academy Week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are providing you with the following information, to reassure you of the measures that have been put into place across PCA in order to support your child's safe return to school.

#### **Class Bubbles:**

Each morning on arrival at school, staff from your child's 'CLASS BUBBLE' will be there on the car park to welcome you back! A 'BUBBLE' refers to the group of pupils and staff your child will spend their day with each time they attend PCA.



We have attached a Social Story to this booklet to support your child with understanding this.

Once we have welcomed the pupils back into school and into their new classroom base, we will begin to look at revised rules, routines and expectations that have been put into place to keep everyone as safe as possible whilst at school. To support the pupils with the idea of 'social distancing' yellow tape has been laid in the corridors and orange paint sprayed along 'walking routes' and in the playgrounds. To help the youngest pupils with this a special walking rope has been made with handles that they can hold, this has been specially measured 2m apart, with plastic handles that can be easily wiped. Please share these pictures with your child.



# Getting your child to and from school



# <u>Parents/carers who are providing transport for their child or walking them to school:</u>

To help to teach the children to understand social distancing, and to support parents, carers and their families to stay safe and healthy, we <u>ask that</u> parents and carers **keep 2 metres apart at all times** when they drop off and collect their child(ren). It is your responsibility to ensure both you and your child adhere to social distancing rules whilst you are waiting for your child to come into school. To help with this, orange lines have been painted at the front of school. Once your child has been handed over to a member of staff, and returned at the end of the



school day, please leave for home immediately to minimise the number of parents/carers gathering around the school gates.

Each morning all pupils will access PCA from the top car park where pupils will be collected by a staff member from their 'BUBBLE'. They will then enter the school via the side gate (this is indicated by a on the aerial view image of the school on page 2). The children will access their classroom base via the external doors (this indicated by a ). No one will need to enter the main reception area with their child.

#### Area for dropping off your child:

Please note you will not need to park your car when dropping off and collecting your child. Our top car park is designed to enable a 'drive in – drop off' facility. Where possible, please drive in along the yellow arrow and drop your child off where the low brick wall is on the car park. A member of staff will be waiting to collect them (indicated by the

If your child attend's WSFC please drop off in their car park (indicated by ...). There will be markers laid in the car park for your child to wait at to support social distance. If your child is an independent traveller, or you are walking them to school they will be met by a member of staff at the school gate (indicated by a ...).



IMPORTANT - If parents/carers are bringing their child to school by car please aim to drop your child off between 8.40am - 8.50am and collect promptly at 3.15pm. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE TOO EARLY TO DROP OFF OR COLLECT YOUR CHILD AS ARRIVALS ARE ALL PHASED TO SUPPORT SOCIAL DISTANCING.

#### If the Local Authority are providing transport for your child:

There will be no more than 3 pupils on your child's vehicle provided by the LA, along with a driver and passenger assistant, both of whom will be wearing PPE (mask and gloves). Please explain this to your child. Please await further information from the Local Authority regarding the time your child will be collected/dropped off.

Blackpool Council have also produced a Social Story to support your child with their journey to school, which we have attached to this booklet along with additional information from Blackpool Council about 'SEND Home to School Transport during Coronavirus'. You can use this to help your child understand some of the necessary changes to their routine on transport.

On arrival at PCA, a member of staff will collect your child from their vehicle along with the other pupils in their 'BUBBLE' at a safe 2m distance and take them to their classroom base. Staff and pupils will be following the orange lines highlighted along the 'walking routes' as seen above.

IMPORTANT – <u>YOU MUST</u> BE AT HOME TO RECEIVE YOUR CHILD AT THE END OF THE DAY TO ENSURE PUPILS ARE NOT ON THE VEHICLE ANY LONGER THAN NECESSARY.

# The School Day and Classrooms



To protect your child's health, safety and well-being, and that of the staff, we have planned 1 way routes around school where possible, utilising the external classroom doors for movement around the outside of the school buildings. There will be staggered timings for break and lunchtimes and each 'BUBBLE' will be allocated a safe area to play on the yard. Clear routines with visual support will be in place to support effective handwashing for 20 seconds using soap and water frequently throughout the day.

All 'CLASS BUBBLES' will be allocated their own toilet area to use within school and pupils will be shown how to access the toilets safely to avoid cross infection. Site staff will be undertaking regular cleaning duties throughout the day.

#### The Classroom Environments:

It is important to note that your child will be with different children and adults in their new 'CLASS BUBBLES' to those in their usual class group. However the children will be of a similar age and your child will still know the staff and pupils as we are one big family at PCA. Further information regarding your child's 'BUBBLE' will be shared with you before their return.

Each 'BUBBLE' will be no more than 8 children and 3 staff. Once pupils have been registered, they will be further separated into 2 smaller groups across 2 classrooms with members of familiar staff wherever possible. It is important for your child to understand that the classrooms will look very different to how they did before lockdown. Classrooms will be free from soft furnishings and surfaces have been cleared as far as possible so that regular cleaning can take place throughout the day. Desks have been spread out with a 2m distance between them and pupils will have their own stationary packs on their desks.









#### **Lunchtime Arrangements:**

At dinner time your child will eat with the staff and pupils in their 'BUBBLE' in their classroom. A school meal will be brought to the classroom door by welfare staff and the room will be cleaned thoroughly after lunch. If your child usually brings a packed lunch into school they may continue to do so, however please could we ask that the packed lunch be placed into a plastic/paper bag so that it can be disposed of after your child has finished.

Classrooms, toilets and equipment will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Bins will be regularly emptied and tissues, soap and hand sanitiser will be readily available in all classrooms.

#### **School Uniform**

We want the children to feel safe and confident when they come back to PCA. Please can pupils come to school in their full school uniform, including school shoes. It is important that your child comes to school in clean, washed uniform each day to limit the chances of cross contamination.

Also, weather permitting, please ensure that your child does not bring non-essential clothing to school. No child should bring objects, or school bags from home and lockers will not be in use for pupils within the secondary department.

# **Public Transport**

Please try not to bring your child to school, and take your child home from school, on public transport unless you have no other alternative. If you have to use public transport as a means of transporting your child to and from school, **from the 15<sup>th</sup> June you will have to wear a face mask**. You will also be expected to follow the social distancing guidelines put in place by Blackpool Transport.

# **Up to Date Details and Medication**



Please ensure that we have your current address, phone numbers and email address so that we can contact you quickly if we have to close your child's bubble or to contact you for any other reason.

Please make sure that any medications we have in school for your child, such as inhalers, rescue medicine for Epilepsy and any other regularly prescribed medicines required during the school day are in date and are returned back to school with your pupil if they were taken home before 'lockdown'. If there has been any change in your child's medical circumstances during the Lockdown period, please make sure we are fully aware and risk assessments/Health Care Plans can be updated accordingly.



#### **Home Learning**

For those children not yet able to return back to PCA, staff will be continuing to provide relevant learning activities and resources, online and in hard copy if you do not have online access, to support your child's learning and development. Online materials will continue to be accessible each week on a Monday morning. As your child is returning to school on a part time basis, they can then access these materials on the days when they are not in attendance.

#### **Free School Meals**

Even though your child is attending school part time, 'Free School Meal' (FSM) parcels will continue as usual where appropriate. Collection is every Tuesday from the top car park between 10.00am-2.00pm. If you are unable to collect your FSM parcel please let us know. Pupils attending school will be given their FSM parcel to bring home.

### Key CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) Messages from Public Health England

What are the symptoms? The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell
- tummy (gastrointestinal) pains



What is the mode of transmission? COVID-19 is passed from person to person mainly by large respiratory droplets and close unprotected contact. These droplets can be directly inhaled by another person, or can land on surfaces, which another person may touch which can lead to infection if they then touch their nose, mouth or eyes.

What is the incubation period? The incubation period (i.e. time between exposure to the virus and developing symptoms) is between 1 and 14 days.

When is a person infectious? A person is thought to be infectious 48 hours before symptoms appear, and up to seven days after they start displaying symptoms.

Are children at risk of infection? Children of all ages can catch the infection but children make up a very small proportion of COVID-19 cases. Children also have a much lower risk of developing symptoms or severe disease.

Can children pass on the infection? There is some uncertainty about how much asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic children can transmit the disease but the evidence so far from a number of studies suggests children are less likely to pass it on and do not appear to play a major role in transmission. Most children with COVID-19 have caught the infection from adults and not the reverse. This is unlike 'flu.

**How can a parent arrange testing?** The parent can arrange for any child to be tested via NHS UK or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access.

Will the school be informed of any test results? The school will be informed if a child or staff member tests positive as part of NHS Test and Trace. The school will not be informed of any negative results.



We are looking forward to seeing you soon! From everyone at PCA!