

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you are aware, the school will be reopening from the 3rd of September for all pupils (although there are staggered start dates for Nursery and Reception children that will have been shared directly with those effected). There are several measures that will be implemented to support the safety of the pupils. Each year group will stay together as a 'bubble' (Years 1 and 2 will be classed as one bubble). They will have the same members of staff the whole time they are in school and each bubble will not be able to mix with any other bubble. They will only take breaks together in their bubble and they will have lunch together as a bubble. The only member of staff they will have contact with beyond their allocated member of the teaching team is the person who supervises their break time or staff that provide cover for PPA and interventions in some cases. The older children in year 5 and 6, and to some extent the children as young as year 1, will be encouraged to socially distance and the furniture in the classroom will be arranged to keep them apart. The ideal distance will be 2 metres but this may not always be possible. We know that the younger children will not be able to effectively socially distance, which the government acknowledge but we will have strict hygiene procedures in place to minimise any potential transmission of the virus.

We will be keeping the group sizes as small as possible in school and the younger children will only mix with their group. We will be providing PPE equipment for the staff to wear when they are changing children or providing first aid. The procedures we are putting in place go beyond the government guidelines but we are also realistic about the ability to socially distance within the small groups. We will have stringent hygiene measures in place with soap and liquid sanitiser in all areas.

Drop off and pick up times will be staggered and each year group of children will have their own allocated entrance into the school building. Only one parent will be permitted to bring their child to and from school. In line with Government's guidelines, parents will not be permitted into the school building without prior arrangements such as an appointment.

Lunches will be available for children and there will be a hot and cold meal choice. Lunchtimes will be staggered across a longer period so that children can receive their lunch as a year group bubble. Lunches are the hardest aspect to arrange but we feel we have a timetable and process in place to ensure all children are able to receive a healthy meal each day with a good choice available. We will be running a meal choice system where children choose their main meal choice from the options for that day whilst in the classroom. They will then be given a sticker to wear on their tops that allow the serving staff to quickly serve each child and reduce the decision making time in the hall. The menu for each week will be shared with you in advance so that you can discuss the choices with the children before they come to school.

Children will be provided with their own equipment to use in school, which will not be shared. This includes some electrical equipment and some play equipment. Play equipment that is shared between groups will be cleaned after every use as will electrical equipment such as ipads.

The procedures that will be in place should a child show symptoms of Covid 19 or be in a family home with someone who has tested positive will be shared with you shortly so that you are clear about the process and any actions you may have to take.

We are expecting to provide a full curriculum for the pupils, which will focus on Maths and English primarily. Early reading skills and phonics will be the focus for the younger pupils. There will be lessons covering the wider curriculum as well and we will also maintain a strong focus on mental wellbeing throughout.

The initial days in school will focus on transition and reintegration in to school. Children will be reminded of the expectations in school and be introduced to any new expectations as a result of Covid-19. They will also get plenty of time to catch up with their classmates whom they may not have seen for several months. Each year group start time and their entry in to school will follow this letter. There will be allocated areas to allow you to wait with your child prior to them coming into school. We will expect that social distancing is maintained during this time.

I am fully aware that there are great anxieties about the children returning. The school is well prepared and the safety procedures are in place. We will continuously review the processes and adapt to the guidance that the government provide. We will also continue to be open about what we do and share whatever we can. If you have any specific concerns, you can also contact the school at any time to discuss them.

Please see the attached reopening FAQ's for additional guidance.

Kind regards,



Mr P Cowley
Head Teacher

School Reopening

<p>How will we socially distance the children?</p>		<p>Year groups will act as a 'bubble' and will not mix with other year groups. Classrooms will be organised to distance children as much as possible and will be set up to prevent any face to face interaction to reduce risks.</p> <p>It will not be possible to socially distance younger children within each group but they will not mix with other groups. Open spaces and increased hygiene will be used to protect them.</p>
<p>What will happen at break time?</p>		<p>Each year group will remain together. They will get regular short breaks outside throughout the day. Older children will be encouraged to play games that allow some level of distancing. Younger children will have lots of space to run around.</p> <p>Play equipment will be shared as little as possible and if it is shared, it will be cleaned between uses.</p>
<p>What other measures are in place in the classroom?</p>		<p>Children from Year 1 and older will be provided with their own equipment including some electrical devices where appropriate. They will not share their equipment with anyone else. There will be access to soap and sanitiser, which will be regularly used. There will be regular cleaning of surfaces. The younger children will be provided with their own whiteboards, whiteboard pens and some additional equipment such as counters.</p>
<p>What will happen at lunchtime?</p>		<p>Children will eat lunch either in the hall at a safe social distance or within their classroom. They will only do so with their year group.</p>
<p>What will happen at the start and end of the school day?</p>		<p>Each group/bubble will be allocated a specific drop off and pick up time. They will also get their own specific entrance into the building. There will be marks to allow safe queues as you drop off or pick up children. Only one parent can accompany the child to school.</p>
<p>What will they learn?</p>		<p>We will provide a proper curriculum focussing on early reading and phonics for the younger children. English and Maths will be the primary focus for the older children. There will also be wider curriculum lessons and some creative learning. Throughout the time in school there will also be a strong focus on mental wellbeing.</p>
<p>What happens if a member of staff or a pupil gets Covid 19?</p>		<p>There will be additional guidance provided on this. The basic answer is that the group/bubble that the staff member or pupil is part of will be asked to self isolate. Clear and detailed guidance on this will follow.</p>