

Friday 26th February

Dear Parents/Carers and Children

Well we finally have a definite answer and we are overjoyed that we will be welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 8th March!

You may have read lots of talk in the press about 'lost learning' and 'catch-up'. Our first priority will be to help the children settle back in to school routine and we will do everything we can to support them to feel safe, happy and secure. The staff will then slowly begin to piece together feedback from home learning, feedback from class and they will help the children move forward in their learning from whatever point they are at. Please do not worry. The staff are very talented and will be working extremely hard and I am confident 'catch-up' will happen.

However we still have to take care as COVID-19 remains in the community and we will still be bound by strict measures within the risk assessments. We have been through the guidance and it is very similar so we have decided to revert back to our procedures from September to Christmas. I fully understand some restrictions (particularly staggered times) cause some families issues but we have to remain vigilant until we are fully out of 'lockdown.' Although familiar to us please read the following carefully:

Start times:

Nursery 9.15 – 3.15 (Entrance at the main gates of school)

Reception 9.05 – 3.05 (Entrance at the main gates of school)

KS 1 (Years 1 and 2) 9.15 – 3.15 (Entrance at the main gates of school)

LKS2 (Years 3 and 4) 8.55 – 2.55 (Enter at the children's entrance)

UKS2 (Years 5 and 6) 8.45 – 2.45 (Enter at the children's' entrance)

- Staff will collect the children from the gates, parents/carers cannot enter the site
- Only one parent/carer can drop off or collect the children
- Please do not loiter around the gates or site, even if you have different start times for different children
- Please adhere to social distancing regulations when dropping of or collecting
- Staff will return the children to the same entry point and meet parents/carers at the same entrance gate

- Children in Reception to Year 6 will wear full school uniform
- Children will not need PE kits. On the day they have PE they will only change footwear from school shoes to trainers/pumps
- The Walking Bus will resume on Monday 8th March at 8.15am from the Urmston Pub. – (It will run every day. Not for Nursery children and you must be booked on – we cannot accept children who just turn up)
- As we only have one corridor to the canteen and one entry and exit door we cannot serve hot dinners safely. Children on school lunches will receive a packed lunch from the cook. Dinner money for the rest of the term will be £45.60 or £12 per week if you prefer
- Children who are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 are instructed not to attend school
- Children who are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 in school will be sent home to follow guidance, self-isolate and be tested
- If your child or any of your household display symptoms of COVID 19 the child and family must follow guidance and be tested
- Parents and carers must fully engage with the NHS Track and Trace process
- We will encourage social distancing at all times, providing verbal and signed reminders. However we cannot 100% guarantee the children will not have contact. It is virtually impossible for small children particularly not to touch each other
- Staff will wear PPE in the event of toilet/first aid accidents or if a child is ill. The PPE will include a full face mask and visor
- We will not be accepting visitors to the school site; if this is unavoidable please wait outside the porch and telephone the office on 0161 912 2906
- Children cannot bring anything into school other than trainers for PE, packed lunch if applicable and two refillable drinks bottles. Children can bring in a small bag of any type

As you know we postponed before and after school club due to the positive cases having such a detrimental impact on school. The postponement will remain in place until we are confident it will be safe to start up again. This is being constantly assessed and we hope to open again next half term. Updates to follow.

Please be rest assured we have not made any of these decisions on a whim – they are well planned based on tight risk assessments that have taken place.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Best wishes

Mark Mountcastle