



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to be able to share with you the arrangements for our school reopening on Wednesday 2nd September 2020. The Department for Education have been very clear in their latest guidance: ***“given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus ... school attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.”***

We partially reopened on 1st June and have also been open for some children throughout the pandemic. It is testament to the staff and children that our risk assessment and safety measures have worked excellently. This provides us with great confidence for full reopening on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

The purpose of this letter is to give you all of the information that you need about the arrangements for returning to school. I apologise for the length of the letter but as you can imagine it is important everyone knows the arrangements that are in place.

Here are the key points that we need to inform you of prior to our full reopening:

- You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school and a test is organised. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately.
- If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform the school.
- If we do have to close any classes due to confirmed cases, we will be ensuring the children continue to receive a full, balanced curriculum by putting in place remote (online) learning that the children will be expected to take part in.
- Attendance at school will be compulsory. The government relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. However, in September our expectations for full, punctual attendance in school will resume.
- Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils and keeping their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly and/or use hand sanitiser.
- Pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform. We would like to encourage this to be changed more regularly to ensure it is clean.
- PE kit should be brought into school and remain in school during the week. Children should arrive with their water bottle (water only), coat if required, reading folder and lunch box if having a packed lunch (the menu for the first three days back is attached to this letter).
- Your child will be provided with their own equipment to use in school and this will be stored in their own personal pencil case school will provide this.
- Pupils and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, they must be removed and safely disposed of or stored before entry to the school building.
- The government have advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.
- There will be a slight staggering at the start and end of the day. However, all of the children will get their full entitlement of school hours.
- Only one adult per child is permitted to come on to the school site to drop their child off. **There should be no gatherings on the school site.** Full timings are provided below. Please maintain distance when on the school site and please leave promptly. We are lucky to have large open spaces and playground so the need to be within 2 metres of other parents and carers is minimal. Please keep distance outside of the school gates too.

- The normal Key Stage 1 playground (green) gate and grey gate will open at 8.45am. **It is more important than ever that you are on time.**

Year group	Entry time slot	Exit time slot	Year group	Entry time slot	Exit time slot
Year 1	8.45am	3.05pm	Year 4	9.00am	3.05pm
Year 2	8.50am	3.15pm	Year 5	8.45am	3.15pm
Year 3	8.45am	3.15pm	Year 6	9.00am	3.05pm

- Our School Kitchen will continue to be open in September. Pupils eligible for Free School Meals will be provided with a hot, healthy and nutritious meal and there will be no provision for Free School Meal vouchers. Our usual routine for the ordering of school meals will resume in September.
- In order to main distancing the children will have staggered breaks and lunchtimes and will only have access to a particular playground or outside space for their class.
- All meetings and visitors will have to be pre-booked with the School Office and I will have to approve these. A quick, distanced message at the start/end of the day to teachers is fine but longer discussions will have to take place over the telephone. Likewise teachers may arrange a telephone consultation with parents should the need arise.
- Please make sure you have downloaded the E-schools app (the yellow letter that was included with your child's school report) this will be used in September to communicate letters, emails and text messages with you. If you need any assistance the guidance documents are on our website (E-Schools app in Parents section) or call Mrs Vessey in the School Office.

We understand that some of the children will be anxious about returning to school after so long away. Please be reassured we are taking exceptional measures to make sure our school is as safe as it possibly can be. We will be ensuring the emotional and wellbeing needs of all of the children are met and will provide additional support for those children who may need it. We have a very exciting whole school topic 'Here We Are' planned which will support the children's transition back to school.

Our teachers have worked incredibly hard to provide remote learning on the school website and we know many of the children have worked hard during these testing times. We also know there will have been some lost learning. However, our children will not be a 'lost generation!' The school will ensure, as it always does, that the children's academic and pastoral needs are met and that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to be successful. We will not let our children down.

Finally, once again I would like to thank the whole school community for their support and kind words during this most testing of times. There can be no doubt things will be different in September but we are all very excited to see the children again.

I look forward to seeing everyone again on **Wednesday 2nd September.**

Yours sincerely,



Graham Almond - Headteacher