

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to be able to share with you the arrangements for our school reopening on Monday 8th March 2021. The staff cannot wait to see the children again. Thank you to all those who have shown such an amazing commitment to remote learning during this time – we know it has not been easy at times but as a school community we have all done a great job in very difficult circumstances.

When we reopened in September, our risk assessment and safety measures worked excellently. This provides us with great confidence for when we reopen on Monday 8th March and is testament to the hard work of the staff and the children.

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 as soon as possible.
- If we do have to close classes due to confirmed cases, we will be ensuring the children continue to receive a full, balanced curriculum by returning to our remote (online) learning.
- Staff have the option of taking part in twice weekly testing to help us to manage any potential transmission.

- We will not be testing children and will not be expecting children to be regularly tested at home.
- Attendance at school will be compulsory. 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 week 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.
- Any letters, dinner menus and payments, milk money must be posted in one of the red post boxes attached to the green fences.
- Pupils 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.
- Staff will wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas but not when teaching or working with children.

- The government has 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 Key Stage 1 playground (green) 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
Reception	8.55am	3.15pm	Year 3	8.45am	3.15pm
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 6	9.00am	3.05pm

- Our School Kitchen will continue to be open. Pupils eligible for Free School Meals will be provided with a hot, healthy and nutritious meal. Free school meal vouchers have finished. Our usual routine for the ordering of school meals will resume there are menus in a plastic wallet on the school railings.
- 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 this will be used 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.
- If the children would like to bring in the yellow books that they have been working in at home, there will be a box in the classroom for them to place these in. The children must do this themselves.
- Feedback has been provided online so teachers will not be marking this work but after a period of quarantine I will be looking through some of the work.

In order to aid the children with a settled return to school and answer any questions they may have we have arranged for a special Teams meeting for each year group on Friday. Parents are encouraged to attend with their child and we have staggered times to allow siblings to attend with a parent. The table below gives you the timings for each meeting:

Return to school meetings on Teams:

Reception	11.30am	Year 3	11.00am
Year 1	1.00pm	Year 4	10.00am
Year 2	10.30am	Year 5	1.30pm
		Year 6	2.00pm

We understand that some of the children may be anxious about returning to school. Please be assured we are taking exceptional measures to make 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 are looking forward to the theme of some of our initial work around a whole school story "We'll Build Again" which will support the children's transition back to school.

The school will ensure, as it always does, that the children's academic and pastoral needs are met to enable them to continue to be as successful as possible.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on **Monday 8th March 2021.**

Yours sincerely,



Graham Almond - Headteacher