

Mrs N Gardner  
Acting Headteacher

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1<sup>st</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope everyone had a safe and happy summer. We are looking forward to welcoming years 1 to 6 back on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Reception and Nursery will receive further messages to confirm their start dates. We are excited about having all of our children back and learning and growing with us once more.

To support children in their transition back to school, please look back at the video messages from class teachers on Google Classroom and share the welcome back booklet with your child. It is important that children understand the changes in behaviour expectations so we can all work together to keep everyone safe.

The government expects all pupils to return to school so that teaching and learning continues for all children. The government has published guidance for parents:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

We are following the latest government guidance to reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus. The safety of pupils, staff and parents are our priority so we can continue to offer high quality education within school. We ask that our community follow all government guidance in and outside of the school setting in order to prevent further closures. Face coverings for children under 12 years old in schools are not recommended, however we understand that some children may wear a face covering to and from school.

Children will be organised in class and year group bubbles so if there is an outbreak within a bubble the whole school should not need to close. We will continue to seek guidance from the Local Authority and Public Health. Please adhere to the following rules:

- Do not send your child to school if they are unwell
- Maintain social distancing
- Make sure your children wash hands before and after school
- Use tissues to 'catch-it, kill-it, bin-it'
- Follow the rules for household gatherings, including 'play-dates' for children
- Keep up-to-date with all government guidance

#### **Safety Measures in Place at School**

- Only one parent/carer to drop off and pick up
- Staggered start, break times and lunchtimes
- Allocated eating areas and playground zones
- Good hygiene and handwashing
- Increased cleaning throughout the day
- Class/year group 'bubbles'

**Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.**

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- Resource allocation to bubbles
- Forward facing desks
- Adults will socially distance and wear visors when necessary
- Anyone showing COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home
- All Year 6 and as many Year 5 pupils as possible to walk alone, or part-way, to and from school

### **Start of the Day**

In the morning, the school gates will be open between 8.40 and 9.00. We expect all children to be in class by 9 am promptly. The soft start will mean children can come to school between 8.40 and 9.00 and go straight into class. Children will enter the building through designated doors which will be clearly labelled. Children will be directed and supported if they are unsure. Either gate can be used and parents should maintain 2m distance whichever gate they use.

- In years nursery to year 2 parents should take their child to their classroom and they can go straight into class. The teacher will not be available to talk at this time
- Access to school will be the main gate and the blue door. Please support social distancing
- Classes will no longer be lining up as teachers will wait in their classrooms or at their hall/class entrance to welcome the children in
- Parents dropping their child off should say goodbye and leave the premises immediately
- Year 6 children should aim to come to school on their own
- Year 5 children should come into school on their own if they can or say goodbye outside of the gates
- If there are any queries, then please call or email the school. The office will remain closed to parents at this time
- Be on time. If children arrive after 9 am they will have to queue at the office door and wait to be asked why they are late by a member of staff; they will receive a late card and go to class

### **Home time**

- Nursery to year 2 will be dismissed in the usual way from the classroom door. Please leave immediately unless collecting another child
- Years 3 and 4 will be dismissed from designated spaces on the main playground. Parents are expected to wait around the edge and your child will go to you. Please leave the premises straight away. There will be no opportunity to speak to teachers at this time and we ask for any questions or information to be shared by emailing or calling school.
- Year 5 and 6 will be dismissed first so they can leave the premises quickly and walk home or meet their parents along the way. Letters will be sent home on Monday asking for parent permission for children to go home alone. If permission is not given, the same procedure as year 3 and 4 will be followed.

### **Uniform**

Children will be expected to return to school wearing their school uniform. PE uniform can be worn to school on PE days. PE days will be shared with the children during the first week back.

**Attendance and Learning**

All children should return to school and the usual expectations of attendance and punctuality will return. It is important to be on time for school and to have good attendance. Parents should call the school in the usual way to explain any absence. Attendance expectations will return to normal and we will monitor this in line with government requirements.

As educators, we want children in school learning alongside their peers. We hope you can support us with this. Under the current guidance of possibly needing to self-isolate we understand that attendance will be affected. It is important that our educational offer at school resumes so we can identify where children are currently in their learning and ensure they meet the expected standard for English and Maths. Our curriculum is broad and balanced and based on engaging children in their learning whilst maintaining safety measures, so we can protect our whole community as much as possible.

**Lunchtime**

Children will return to the usual lunchtime set up of packed lunch or school dinners. There will be a vegetarian or non-vegetarian offer and any meat will be halal. Reception will be provided with a picnic style pack lunch to eat in their classroom as part of their transition to becoming more independent.

**Breakfast and After school Club**

The school will continue to offer this wrap around care. Risk assessments have been completed to maintain measures put in place during the school day to minimise risk.

**Remote Learning**

There may be a need for further lockdowns in the future, which could affect classes, year groups, schools or local areas. If this occurs, we will be ready to offer remote learning from our Google Classroom platform that continues to build upon the skills and content taught in school. We will continue to provide printed versions of home learning for those children who do not have access to Google Classroom. School will regularly review the home learning offer to ensure high quality provision is available for all children.

A small number of parents emailed to say they didn't receive the end of year letter on 16<sup>th</sup> July outlining our September plans. From now on, communication will also be available on the website so if an email is not received it can be accessed on the website. We want to ensure that communication is excellent at our school so parents are kept up to date with expectations and guidance. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Please be reassured that we are ready to welcome your children back to school. However your child is feeling after this time away, we will be prepared to support them as they transition back to school.

Yours sincerely

Nikki Gardner