

Friday 26th February 2021

Return to school – March 8th 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the announcement by the Government on Monday 22nd February 2021 we are absolutely delighted to be opening our doors once again to **all** children.

From **Monday 8th March 2021** school will be open once again to **all year groups**. In line with the latest Government guidelines we will continue to observe certain control measures in school. These will be as follows:

- Staggered start and finish times (information to follow)
- Regular hand washing intervals
- Personalised stationery not shared with others
- Classrooms set out to adhere to suggested social distancing
- No gatherings such as assemblies
- Staggered break and lunch times within classes/year groups
- Regular washing of equipment, resources
- Extra cleaning teams to clean classrooms main school areas throughout the day
- Gloves, masks, and aprons available when administering first aid
- Controlling of visitors to school
- Engagement with NHS and PHE in Track and Trace procedures.

Behaviour and routines

On their return to school children will be reminded of the routines and expectations that are in place to keep everyone safe. This will include staying within their ‘bubble class/year group’ and hygiene expectations. We will make reasonable adjustments to support all pupils in managing and getting used to these expectations. However, those who deliberately do not follow the expectations or endanger the safety of others through their actions will be subject to an individual risk assessment. This may mean restrictions being placed on their activities through the school day or that they are unable to continue to attend school until it is safe for them to return.

Equipment

- Children are to come to school in their school uniform. To avoid additional bags coming into school we ask that on PE days the children come to school dressed in their P.E kit. A reminder of PE days for each class will be sent out separately.
- Children will be allowed to bring bags into school but we ask that they do so only if necessary.
- Children will need to bring their own water bottles (named) and lunch bags if they are bringing lunch in from home.
- Children will be provided with their own stationery set.
- Children will be allowed to bring home reading books.

Lunches and snacks

Our new catering company AIP will be offering hot and cold lunches. Please book your child's lunch in advance via Parent Pay.

The Government School Fruit and Vegetable scheme will resume for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children in these year groups will be provided with a fruit or vegetable snack every day. Children in Years 3-6 are encouraged to bring in a snack from home.

Please note that we only allow fruit/vegetable snacks.

The Government Nursery Milk Scheme will also resume for all children under 5.

Parental Queries

To reduce the amount of traffic within school and to ensure the safety of reception staff, we kindly ask that you only come to the school office in the event of an emergency. Please telephone or e-mail school if you have questions or concerns.

Wrap around care

Our Wrap around care (B&A Club) remains open. Staff will organise activities in line with the school control measures.

Parents of children who accessed wrap around care prior to lockdown will be contacted to confirm their existing place and requirements.

Please contact the school should you be interested in wrap around care.

Attendance

The Government have outlined the importance of getting all children back into school and back to learning. With this in mind we will continue to closely follow our attendance policy (available on the website) and would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the following procedures if your child is not going to be in school. Please contact the school office by 9 am on the day of absence. Where contact has not been made with school by parents, the school office will call all the contacts we hold on file. Should we not receive a response, school will conduct a home visit as per our safeguarding procedures. If we are unable to make contact through these methods, we will follow up with additional visits, a referral to MASH or ask the police to complete a welfare check.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is and always we will be our number one priority in school and the wellbeing of our children, families and staff is of upmost importance, particularly during these different circumstances. If you have any concerns about a child's well-being, then please contact the school as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Shotton
Executive Head