Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to let you know that, under current government and PHE guidance, we are looking forward to welcoming back all our children from March 8th 2021.

In order to ensure that health and safety are prioritised at all times, there will continue to be several changes in school.

This includes at the starts and ends of the day:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Drop off time | Drop off gate and door | Pick up time | Pick up gate and door |
| Nur | 8.45-8.55am | Nursery gate Nursery door | 12.00pm | Nursery gateNursery door |
| Rec | 9.00-9.10am | Nursery gateReception door | 3.15pm | Nursery gateReception door |
| Year 1 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Playground gateKS1 door  | 3.05pm | Playground gateKS1 door  |
| Year 2 | 9.00 – 9.10am  | Playground gateKS1 door  | 3.15pm | Playground gateKS1 door  |
| Year 3 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Playground gate KS2 door | 3.05pm | Playground gateKS2 door  |
| Year 4 | 9.00 – 9.10am  | Playground gateKS2 door  | 3.15pm | Playground gateKS2 door  |
| Year 5 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Pedestrian gateMain door | 3.05pm | Pedestrian gateMain door |
| Year 6 | 9.00 – 9.10am  | Pedestrian gateMain door | 3.15pm | Pedestrian gateMain door |

**Class Bubbles**

Children will remain in their class “bubbles” throughout each day in school. This includes at playtimes and lunchtimes. Children will not work in different groups or in classrooms other than those which are assigned to their individual bubble. Unfortunately, this means there

will be no musical instrument lessons or after school clubs for now.

**Will breakfast club be operating?**

Yes. Breakfast club will reopen from 7.45am. Children will be asked to sit in a designated area according to what class bubble they are in. This is to ensure social distancing is maximised as much as possible. Parents requiring a place at breakfast club for their child should contact the school office on 0121 464 4497. Breakfast club will be charged at £2.00 per child per day, with siblings being £1.50 per day. There are a limited number of free places available for FSM children, although these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to offer free places for all FSM children.

**Will parents be allowed to bring children into school?**

No. In order to keep the building as safe as possible, we will be asking that one parent bring children onto the school playground through designated gates and send children in through their allocated door. When picking children up at the end of the day, markings on the playground will indicate where parents should stand. It will be important for these markings to be adhered to for the safety of everyone. Whilst on school grounds we ask that parents wear a face covering.

If children are upset, they will be comforted as much as possible, with social distancing in mind. We will, of course, contact parents if any children become distressed during any part of the school day and will decide, with you, whether they should be collected.

This also means that communication with teachers / school staff will need to be carried out by phone / text / email whenever possible. All letters will be posted on the school website and emailed out to parents. No paper copies will be sent home.

**What if I am late arriving at school with my child?**

In order to maintain good social distancing, it will be important for children to arrive at the correct time of the day (see the table on the previous page). If they are late, they will need

to be brought to the pedestrian gate and a parent will need to wait there with them until they can be safely collected and brought into school.

**What will my child need to wear to school?**

Children will need to wear full school uniform. This will need to be kept clean in the same way as normal. On your child’s PE day, they should come to school in outdoor PE kit and trainers. They will not be able to change into this during the school day.

PE Days:

Monday - Year 1 and Year 4

Tuesday - Year 2 and Year 5

Wednesday - Year 3 and Reception

Friday - Year 6

**Lunches, Play Time Snacks and Water Bottles**

Children will once again be able to bring packed lunches and water bottles to school. These will need to be returned home every day for cleaning and children will not be able to leave them in school.

School meals will continue to be provided in “grab bags” so that children do not need to gather in the school hall for lunch. I am working closely with the kitchen staff to ensure that these are tasty and as varied as possible and that they contain a few yummy treats. Children entitled to FSM will continue to receive a free school lunch if they choose to.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with fruit as a snack at playtime. Unfortunately, this provision will no longer be in place for KS2. Therefore, these children may bring a healthy snack for playtime. Crisps, chocolate, sweets, biscuits, etc, are not permitted.

**Will PPE be used in school?**

Staff will be wearing face masks in school, face coverings are not necessary for children. If children have accidents or need intimate care (changing), or if people become ill and need looking after there will be a First Aider on site at all times to deal with these situations as they arise. This member of staff will wear full PPE to protect themselves and the person they are looking after.

Children travelling to school on public transport must follow government guidance to wear a face mask whilst doing so. These must be disposable and binned on arrival in the school playground.

**Do I have to send my child back to school?**

Yes. All children are now, according to government guidance, expected to be back in school full time.

**What procedures will the school have in place should a child or adult show symptoms for Covid 19?**

The person will be placed into isolation with a First Aider, who will be using PPE. They will then be sent home as quickly as possible and recommended for testing. They will remain at home until a negative test result comes back or until they are better. If the test is positive, the whole bubble will need to isolate at home, along with their families.

**What should I do if my child or someone in my family develops symptoms before / after they have been in school?**

You should immediately inform the school that a member of your family is showing symptoms. Your whole family should be tested as soon as possible. The person with symptoms should remain isolated until a negative test result is received or until they are better. Everyone else should continue to isolate, as they may develop symptoms at a later point.

I hope this information is useful. We are so looking forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday 8th March.

In the meantime, continue to take care of yourselves and your families.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Stokes

Head of School