

25th February 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

We are really looking forward to welcoming all our children back to school on Monday 8th March. We all hope that this will be the last ever lockdown. We have been so impressed with the overwhelming support we have received from parents, grandparents and the wider community. Between us, we have done our utmost to ensure that the effects of this current lockdown are not as great as it was during the school year of 2019/20.

Ultimately, we want our children to feel really positive and are doing our best to avoid some of the less positive words used by the media. Yes our children have not received the usual education, but in many cases, they have experienced some fantastic learning experiences they may not have otherwise experienced which will help them greatly. Those at school covered the same main areas of the curriculum as those at home and that will help us so much as we look to re-establish our teaching and learning experiences.

We feel that the routines we had in place across school were working well last term so we will resume with many of the same plans from the 8th March.

- We will be expecting all children to be in their school uniform
- The children will be able to wear their tracksuit on PE days, as normal. Your child's class teacher will inform you which day this will be.
- Breakfast Club and After School will operate at the normal times.
- Please be aware that children are not required to bring anything from home into school other than the necessary essentials (packed lunch if bringing own, water bottle, tissues)

Morning drop off

As previously, apart from Nursery, we have a 15-minute window to make social distancing easier on arrival. Please remember you can arrive at any point during this window, but please do not drop your child off any earlier than the specified time. This system worked really well last term, many of you staggered your arrival so it was safer and there wasn't a great rush at the gate. We had managed to get into a smooth and slick routine last term that felt like the safest option. We hope we can return to this for the remainder of this term and again get all children to their classrooms in a safe and timely manner.

Below is a reminder of each year group's arrival time.

Due to our social distancing protocols, KS2 parents will not be allowed on site during the morning drop off.

KS1 parents are asked to drop their child at the classroom as previously.

Please bear in mind that our Foundation Parents will need to walk through the school grounds with young children immediately after KS1 and 2 children have been dropped off. Please be punctual but not early.

Face masks must be worn by all adults or children of secondary school age and above when on the school site

Foundation	8.45 - 9.00 am	Bottom Gate
Nursery	9.00am	Top Gate
Y3/4	8.30 - 8.45 am	Bottom Gate
Y5/6	8.30 - 8.45 am	Bottom Gate
Y1/2	8.30 - 8.45 am	Top Gate

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19 regulations, we still cannot let parents inside any of our classrooms or teaching spaces.

We appreciate that it might take longer for arrivals on the first morning back, but please do try to be prompt so that we can keep these arrangements as slick as possible and get the school day off to a great start with everyone back.

Afternoon collection

Routines were refined throughout the Autumn Term for the end of the day collection to the following times and collection places that will be in place again;

Y5/6	3.00pm	Bottom Gate
Y4	3.15pm	Ladybirds 4SR link walkway Busy Bees 4SC classroom door
Y3	3.15pm	Classroom door
Y1	3.00pm	Seahorses 1BM Classroom door Dolphins 1FP/JD steps at main entrance
Y2	3.00pm	Butterflies 2NE classroom door Dragonflies 2HE link walkway
Foundation	3.00pm	Classroom door

Lunch Arrangements

Our kitchen will again be offering a selection of takeaway lunches rather than normal school meals. We will be operating universal free school meals for Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Parents can purchase a takeaway meal for their child for the usual price of £2.30. We will do our best to make the menus as exciting as possible under the circumstances.

Children in Y2 - Y6 will be eating their lunch in their classroom. Foundation will eat their lunches in the school hall with separate classes on separate tables at 11.30-12.00. Children in Y1 will be eating their lunches in the school hall with separate classes on separate tables at 12.00 -12.30.

All tables will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised after use whether in the classrooms or in the hall.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club will be available from 7.45-8.30am. Please note this club finishes at 8.30am so that is in line with our starting time. Parents are requested to bring their child through the top gate and to Reception where a member of staff will collect each pupil. Parents will not be allowed to enter the school.

After School Club will be available until 6.00pm and the usual charges will still apply. You will be able to collect your child at any time. You are requested to enter through the bottom gate and walk past both playgrounds, up the ramp and to the external door of the Computer Suite. You will not be permitted to enter the building so please knock if you are not noticed straight away.

It is vital that you book your child a place for our wraparound care. We have an online booking system that has been working well during lockdown. We will send parents a link to a booking form which must be completed a week in advance. The form will close at midday on a Friday for bookings for the following week. You must inform the office of any cancellations within 24 hours or you will be charged for the first 30 minutes of the session.

We are proud of how well we managed the safety of our community last term and will continue with the measures we had in place to maintain good health and hygiene. We hope this remains the case through what remains of the Spring Term. In addition to the cleaning, PPE, hand hygiene, social distancing measures etc. staff are now encouraged to carry out twice weekly testing.

How we manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) within the school community

The school will contact the local health protection team should anyone within the school community test positive. The school will keep up-to-date records of contact between staff and pupils in bubbles and between bubbles where an intervention takes place, to ensure we can trace those who have been in contact and to what degree contact has taken place.

Close contact means:

- direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person

In terms of the curriculum, we will be taking into account the time that our children need to get back into established learning routines again. The mental wellbeing of our children is always our top priority, we will focus time for PSHRE, as much as on core curriculum, as well as building on topics that may have been started in lockdown.

We have been so impressed by your attention and enthusiasm for remote learning during this lockdown. We are proud of all our families and wish to thank you for your dedication and support whether your child has been in school or learning from home. It has been challenging to say the least for everyone. We will continue to use google classroom in the future to communicate between home and school as well as use it to set home work.

Unfortunately, the new guidance for opening swimming pools does not enable us to open our pool yet, but we are looking to open after Easter. All other PPA arrangements will be as normal and all the necessary precautions will be taken regarding sport and dance coaches.

We will of course constantly review all our arrangements in accordance with *Government Guidance* and local knowledge. We worked so well together as a team, keeping our children and adults so safe last term. If we remain vigilant until the crisis eases, I am sure things will continue to improve and we can look forward to further developing an exciting and vibrant school environment where our children can prosper and thrive.

Kind regards

