



25.02.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, the government has announced that schools should fully reopen from Monday 8th March 2021. We are all really looking forward to reopening school and welcoming our pupils back.

We wanted to get in touch to explain what you can expect from us and what we will expect from all of our pupils, parents and carers.

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory from Monday 8th March, as the government expects all pupils to attend school. The usual rules will apply, meaning we will be recording attendance and following up on any absences.

However, if you have received clinical or public health advice that your child/ren should still remain at home, please let us know and continue to follow that guidance. We will be offering remote education to these pupils.

Safety measures

When your children come into school, we will have the following protective measures in place:

To minimise contact with individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible, school will be split into 4 bubbles.

Bubble 1 - The Base

Bubble 2 - Acorns, Maples and Hawthorns

Bubble 3 - Chestnuts and Willows

Bubble 4 - Sycamores and Oaks

- Pupils will remain in their class for the majority of time, but will be allowed to mix into the bubble for specialist teaching and transport.
- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered, so that bubbles do not mix.
- Assemblies will be held virtually.
- Breakfast club will be offered from 8.30am each day in bubbles so social distancing can be maintained. More information to follow.

Procedures for going to and from school,

Bubble 1 – The Base: 9.05am – 3.05pm Base yard door

Bubble 2 - Acorns, Maples and Hawthorns: 8.55am – 3.15pm

Bubble 3 – Chestnuts and Willows: 9.00am – 3.20pm

Bubble 4 - Sycamores and Oaks: 8.50am - 3.10pm

- Family with siblings will all start at 8.50am and finish at 3.20pm to reduce large gatherings on the yard.
- Parents will not be allowed into the school building. If you need to speak to a class teacher, myself or any other member of staff please contact school through Class Dojo or phone the school office.
- Families will be asked to ensure that only one adult brings the pupil/pupils to school at the designated time.
- Families will also be asked not to gather in groups on the yard.
- All pupils will wash their hands / use hand sanitiser on arrival at school at specifically allocated facilities.
- Parents to use the carpark by the shops and enter school through the pupil entrance. Children will be encouraged to come straight into class upon arrival.
- Parents/carers to wear masks on the school yard.
- Pupils using dedicated school transport will arrive and leave at the usual time. Transport has a strict risk assessment to ensure the safety of all on board.

Pupils are not to bring any equipment to school except a packed lunch, water bottle and inhaler.

- Your class teacher will contact you with arrangements for PE
- All pupils to wear school uniform
- All other resources will be provided by school.
- Face coverings are not recommended in school.

Our pupils will be kept safe in school by: -

- ensuring good personal hygiene, through hand washing and robust respiratory hygiene (catch it, kill it, bin it)
- keeping children and staff in ‘bubbles’
- conducting regular cleaning.
- Our new safety rules will be reinforced on a daily basis with the class teacher.
- If a child develops any symptoms in school they will be quarantined in a separate area, 2m away from other people. Parents or carers will be contacted immediately to collect their child. If your child develops any

symptoms at home, please phone the NHS through the new telephone number 119. Please also let school know.

- If there's a confirmed case in school, we will contact Public Health. The local Health Protection Team will then work with school directly to guide us through the actions we need to take.
- Our risk assessment, has been agreed by Health & Safety, it can be viewed on our school website.

Curriculum

Although there will need to be some changes to reflect the teaching time that was lost during the lockdown, we will still be doing our best to provide an ambitious, broad curriculum.

Our plan is:

- During week 1 and week 2 there will be strong personal, social and emotional focus. We will be settling children back into school and enabling them to become familiar with routines and rules. We will also assess our pupils during this time to identify their starting points and gaps in their knowledge created over lockdown.
- Pupils will then continue to be taught a wide range of subjects. We will prioritise within subjects the most important knowledge and skills to be taught. We will also use subjects to plug other gaps e.g. measurement in Science, writing in History.
- There will be, as ever, an emphasis on Reading in all subjects. Reception to Year 3 will receive an intensive phonic program in both the Main School and the Base.
- We will focus upon the year group's current curriculum, but will continue to address gaps. Our children in the Base will continue to receive an individualised learning program depending upon their need.
- More details of catch up support through catch-up funding and the National Tutoring Program can be viewed on the website.
- We hope to return to our normal curriculum by the Summer Term 2021.
- Pupils in the Base will continue with their individualised plan based upon their EHCP. We recognise that more time will need to be spent supporting their Personal, Social and Emotional Development and that it may take longer to establish routines, but be rest assured that we will work closely with you.

Pastoral support

We're aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our pupils.

Please let us know if you think your children might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they are experiencing bereavement. You can get in touch with Ms Helen Towers, our Family Support Worker to do this.

Schools are waiting for further information and guidance from DfE. Our current plans to support your children's wellbeing during this time are:

- We will work closely with the School Nursing Team and Emotional Resilience Team to provide additional support.
- For children who have difficulty re-engaging with school we will work closely with the family and implement a back to school plan.
- Ms Helen Towers (Family Support Worker) will provide 1:1 support for individuals.

If you have any questions or concerns about the points we have set out above, please get in touch with either your child's class teacher, Mr McMullen (SEND Co) or myself.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received so far from the school community. We will continue to keep in touch if there are any updates to our plans or if we need to make changes due to new or updated government advice.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch,

Julia Tones

Mrs Julia Tones
Head Teacher

