

6 July 2020

Dear Parents

Thank you for your patience in waiting for information regarding the return to school in September. We have now, finally, been provided with the guidance that was needed by the DFE to allow us to plan our opening of school fully. This is Plan A. However, there is a caveat that if either local or national lockdowns occur (like the one in Leicester) or the infection rate increases, then we will not be able to re-open fully. Therefore, we have had to plan for different scenarios - Plans B and C! I apologise in advance for the length of this letter but there is so much information to provide you with. Here is the link to the DFE guidance if you wish to look through this yourselves <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

PLAN A- this is the preferred option and will be implemented as long as all remains as it is now

The plan for full reopening in September will also have some restrictions placed upon us in terms of continued staggered entry and exit of school times for every class as well as playtimes and lunchtimes. There will continue to be one-way systems to come into and out of school as well as around the corridors and zones on the playgrounds and field to accommodate the children. Unfortunately, due to the number of families we have within school, we are unable to move class entry times around to suit everyone. If you have a child in Reception or Years 1 and 2 and another in key stage 2 these older children will be allowed to make their way around to the holding areas outside each classroom to wait until their class start time.

The government has decided that each class will be an individual bubble to allow for the full return of all children. The children will remain in their classroom bubbles for at least the first month and not combine with any other classes. They will stay with their class teacher. As we don't have enough teaching assistants for each class, we have been allowed to share these vital members of staff across the classes within the key phases i.e. across Years 1 and 2.

With regards to attendance, we expect that all children restart school on the days below and continue to remain in school. The government announced that they expect children to be in school full time and fines will be issued if they were not. We are taking a pragmatic view that there may be times that the children could be overwhelmed by restarting school and need more time to adjust. If this is the case, fines will not be issued. However, if the children are fit, well and healthy and there are no health issues at home, then they must be in school.

We will expect the children to return to school in their uniforms as normal. This provides the children with a huge sense of belonging, which again is crucial at this time.

There are some practical considerations in respect of the organisation of timetables and around the school. We will not be allowed to hold whole school gatherings as yet. Therefore assemblies for worship will be held in classrooms and be connected via Zoom. Children will either eat their lunches in their classroom or outside, weather permitting. At the moment, we are unsure of the implications for cooked school lunches. The current plan is to provide school sandwiches on a daily basis from the kitchen. If there is a reinstatement of cooked lunches, then there will be a protracted lunchtime to allow just two classes in the hall at one time at each end of the hall. Then the Hall will be cleaned between each sitting of classes.

Each class will be allocated a set of toilets to be used. These will be made unisex, which is how they are operating in school at the current time. Each set of toilets will be used by up to three classes. This will prolong the break times and lunchtimes slightly to enable us to get the children through. There will be enhanced regular cleaning of the toilets as happens now. There will also be enhanced hand washing hygiene. Children will be expected to sanitise and wash their hands when they arrive at school and at the end of each lesson. The classrooms surfaces and door handles will be wiped after use. This is all part of the Health and Safety Risk Assessment that we have placed on the website for you to see.

In respect of illness, we would ask that you inform the school immediately if your child becomes ill or any member of your household with symptoms of Covid 19. We will have to inform PHE (Public Health England) and follow this up when you or the children have been tested. If any member of the class becomes ill and tests positive for Covid 19, then they will have to isolate themselves at home for up to 14 days. We will be in contact with PHE and will follow their guidance as to the next steps before we inform parents of any decisions taken regarding closure of the class bubble.

We would ask that you follow the normal procedures if your child becomes unwell with other illnesses or bugs such as vomiting, etc. This is extremely important for the safety of all members of our school community.

These are the times for each class for arrival and departure of school (for classes from September 2020).

Bubble Class	Miss Wingett's	Mrs North's	Miss Hake's	Mrs Leonard's	Mr Garcia	Cwtch group
Classroom	Own	Own	Own	Own	Own	C Kitchen, Cwtch and Sensory room
Time of entry	9.05	9.00	8.45	8.50	8.55	9.10
Entry/exit	Gate to pathway	Entrance to cloakroom	Entrance to cloakroom	White hall door	White hall door	Entrance to Hall green doors
Times of break	10.15 – 10.30	10.15 – 10.30	10.00 – 10.15	10.30 – 10.45	10.15 – 10.30	10.45 – 11.00
Time of lunch	12.00 – 1.00	12.10 – 1.10	12.20 – 1.20	12.30 – 1.30	12.40 – 1.40	12.20 – 1.20
Afternoon break	2.05 – 2.15	2.05 – 2.15	2.15 – 2.25	2.15 – 2.25	2.25 – 2.35	2.25 – 2.35
Time of leaving	3.25	3.20	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.30
Toilets to be used	Boys Reception	Girls Reception	Girls Reception	Boys KS1 corridor	Girls KS1 corridor	SEN toilet

Bubble Class	Mr Evens's	Miss Moore and Miss Ramli's	Mrs Long and Mrs Duffy's	Mr Dean's	Mr BM and Miss Winter's	Mrs Goode and Mr Allen's
Classroom	Own	Own	Own	Own	Own	Own
Time of entry	8.45	8.50	8.55	9.00	9.05	9.10
Entry/exit	All to enter and exit school via the main gate to the KS2 playground					
Times of break	10.00 – 10.15	10.00 – 10.15	10.15 – 10.30	10.30 – 10.45	10.30 – 10.45	10.45 – 11.00
Time of lunch	12.00 – 1.00	12.10 – 1.10	12.20 – 1.20	12.30 – 1.30	12.40 – 1.40	12.50 – 1.50
Time of leaving	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.20	3.25	3.30
Toilets to be used	Girls KS2	Girls KS2	Girls KS2	Boys KS2	Boys KS2	Boys KS2

PLAN B

The same expectations would apply as stated above regarding attendance, uniform, hygiene and general timetabling, etc.

However, Plan B will be enacted if there is a restricted start to school due to increased infection rates and the need for greater social distancing. The children's attendance at school would be on a rota basis. Group A would be in school on Monday and Tuesday only with Group B in school on Thursday and Friday. There would be a Group C which would consist of key worker children within their own bubble class again if parents required them to be in school full time. Children in groups A and B would be based on family groups on the same day. There would be an expectation that the children then completed work set by their teachers on the days when they would not be in school. The school would be closed on a Wednesday for deep cleaning and time for teachers to prepare online and home learning when the children are not in school. If this plan is used it would be for a limited amount of time as we would hope to return to full school as soon as possible.

PLAN C

This plan would be put into place if there is a full lockdown of the local area or nationally. This would mean a return to online home learning and only children whose parents are key workers would be able to attend school.

The whole situation remains fluid and subject to change with different plans being put in place as and when required. However, I felt it was important to provide you with all of the relevant information.

The most important thing is that the children remain safe, well and healthy as well as the staff.

In terms of the curriculum, we have planned for a strong curriculum which enables the children to reconnect with their friends, teachers and learning in school. As usual in September, we start the year with a series of activities over the first three weeks relating to Wellbeing and Mental Health. These will be most important this year after the children have been away from school for such a long period of time. I know that many have maintained their enthusiasm and developed different skills over this period of time, which has been celebrated in our Hall and corridor displays already. We have printed out lots of photos you have sent into school of the children's home learning activities. Well done and thank you to all those who have kept this up.

We will be enabling the children to revisit objectives and some activities covered during the past three months during the first term before moving on. There will be a certain amount of 'catch up' for every child in the school. The government announced some time ago a huge summer of catch up. This sadly hasn't materialised for the large number of children around the country. There are some authorities who have been given funds to put on some activities but these are not being run by teachers and will mainly focus on social and physical development. Funds have been promised for all schools for the Autumn term to enable children to 'catch up'; we are still awaiting the details of any plans for this sum of money. When we have these, we will be in a position to share them with you.

During the Autumn term (at least up to the end of October) we will not be able to hold after school clubs inside as we are not able to do PE in the Hall during curriculum time. We will review the outdoor clubs during October and will inform you when these will restart. We usually go swimming with Year 4 during the Autumn term as well. This has been postponed to later during the academic year.

The addendum to our Behaviour Policy will still stand as it has done since it was introduced in May. This addendum addresses issues that some children may have with the new systems in school. If the children consistently break the bubble regulations and rules or become too distressed then we may ask for a parent to collect them to allow them to regroup at home and have a restart when they feel ready to adhere to these rules. Of course, we expect that the children will be their usual well behaved selves.

The children who have been in school over the past term in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as those of key worker parents, have thoroughly enjoyed their time back in school. It was lovely to welcome the majority of the other children back for visits. The children are very aware of the need for social distancing and hand hygiene. I am sure they will be able to share this with others in September.

To allow the children to become accustomed to the new systems, we have decided to have a phased entry to school at the start of September. Therefore the children will be invited into school on the following days before everyone starts fully on Monday 7 September.

Tuesday 2 September	INSET DAY school closed to all children
Wednesday 3 September	Year 5 and 6 children only
Thursday 4 September	Year 3 and 4 children only
Friday 5 September	Year 1 and 2 children only

Thank you for all of the support you have given to the school, its staff and your children over the past few months. It has been invaluable and much appreciated. I would echo your thanks to the staff who have worked hard and tirelessly over this time to ensure the safety of all those in school; have made home learning accessible and fun as well as teaching children other than their own classes. The staff and children have been 'stars' and deserve a well earned summer break.

If anything changes, I will be in contact with you all via email during August and will confirm everything before the end of the holidays. However, please assume we will be going ahead with Plan A as from September.

I would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer with lots of sunshine. Enjoy the holidays spending time as a family and having fun without home learning. We all look forward to being back to school as normal as possible in September.

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith
Head Teacher