

10.07.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have heard the government announcement that schools will be open for all pupils full-time education from September 2020. Our school has been welcoming pupils in different year groups back to school since June. We approached this with great caution, reviewing all the scientific advice to ensure that we could be as safe as possible. This has gone extremely well, as our safety measures and risk assessments were excellent. Thank you to all those parents who sent your children back into school as requested – it has been lovely to see them.

We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our pupils back in September. We will be very busy in the next couple of weeks planning, completing new and detailed risk assessments, and working out exactly what school will look like and feel like when your child returns.

The Government has stated: *'Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19).'*

We're working hard to consider how we group pupils together, ensure that we reduce contact between different groups of pupils, and keep the stringent cleaning and disinfecting processes we already have in place to ensure that our academies are as safe as can be for your child.

In preparation, there are some key points that you need to be aware of to ensure that your child is safe. Please be aware some details may change, we will keep you updated.

1. You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform your school.
2. The government has advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.
3. Attendance at school. The government has relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. **However, this will change in September.** The government guidance says: *'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term'*
4. Pupils and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, disposable face masks can be placed in a secure bin and reusable masks will be placed in a secure plastic wallet.
5. Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils, and keeping their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly, and/or use hand sanitiser.

6. If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) we will contact you to explain what provision will look like from September.
7. Our School kitchens will re-open in September, and hot lunches will be available again. Pupils eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school and will no longer receive lunch vouchers.
8. In order to maintain social distancing during social times by having separate playtimes and lunchtimes.
9. It will be more important than ever that your child has their own equipment in school to ensure that this does not need to be shared. Children are not to bring in their own equipment as all equipment needed will be provided by the school.
10. Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform.

The following measures are to protect all members of our school community.

It is important that start and end times are **strictly adhered to** in order to reduce the amount of children arriving and leaving at any one time. Do not arrive early or late.

When you arrive in the playground:

- Keep socially distant
- Keep your children with you until they go into the building
- Leave immediately after your children enter school
- Do not enter the 'bubbles' marked out on the ground
- Do not try to engage with the teachers, you must call or email

Phase	Start Time	End Time	Playground
Nursery	08:30	11:30	Via KS2
EYFS	08:40	15:05	Via KS2
Year 1 / Year 2	08:40	15:05	KS1
Year 3 / Year 4	08:50	15:15	Via KS1
Year 5 / Year 6	08:45	15:10	KS2

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our schools as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for any pupils that need it, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although very many of our pupils have worked hard using our remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that learning has been lost. We are all determined that your sons and daughters will absolutely not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting

our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future.

Your children deserve a great, and safe education – we will not let them down.
See you in September!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Pantling', enclosed within a large, horizontal oval flourish.

Mr N Pantling
Headteacher