

School Opening for all Children; Monday March 8th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have seen on the news last week that the Government have released their 4 stage roadmap to the lifting of our current lockdown. Stage 1 sees the return to school for all children on Monday 8th March.

We are very excited that all children, from nursery to year six, will be returning to face-to-face teaching and will be spending time with their friends and in their classroom. Children, parents and teachers have done an amazing job in keeping children learning, motivated and safe throughout this lockdown and the quality of remote education has been very high. However, nothing can replace being in school, learning together and developing relationships. Therefore, we are thrilled to be opening the school gates to all children on Monday 8th March.

The school takes the safety of your children and the safety of our staff very seriously. Over the past two weeks we have reviewed and updated our risk assessments and put in place all possible measures to ensure everyone's safe return to school and school based learning.

I am aware that you may be apprehensive about sending your child back to school so I will outline all the procedures that we have in place to ensure we minimise the risk of Covid-19 across our schools.

Safety Measures

In school we have planned and prepared the following procedures:

Daily Good Behaviours

- A soft start to the school day where children can go straight into their classrooms from 8:20am to avoid crowding in the playgrounds and staggered closing times
- Teachers will promote 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' with all children.
- Whole school approach to 'Hands, Face, Space'.
- Children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day and hand sanitiser will be readily available in each classroom
- Social distancing will be maintained around the school buildings.
- Good ventilation throughout the school.
- Staff will wear face masks in shared areas of the school.
- **Parents must wear a face mask when approaching school and in the playground.**



In the Classroom

- Children will mainly stay in their class bubble with the class teacher and teaching assistant.
- Children will stay within their Key Stage bubble in the playground and will not mix with other bubbles.
- Children can sit together but all children will be facing forwards at the moment.
- Children will be allocated their own personal stationary.
- All classroom equipment used will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day.
- Each class has their own supply of disinfectant and all surface will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Windows will be opened to ensure good ventilation.

Movement Around School

- Movement around school will be limited. Children will follow social distancing and use the markers on the floor to support this.
- All communal areas such as corridors have been adapted to show the 2 metre rule.
- All communal areas will have good ventilation.
- All staff will wear a face covering in shared areas of the school.
- Additional hand sanitisers have been installed throughout the school and children are encouraged to use these.

Lunchtime

- All bubbles have staggered lunchtimes and break times. To ensure they do not mix, children will have two lunch breaks per week in their classroom playing games such as chess or scrabble.
- All children will follow the one-way system.
- All surfaces will be cleaned before the next year group bubble enters the space.
- Classes will enter one at a time.
- Children will sit side by side and face forward.

Additional Cleaning

- Additional cleaners have been appointed to clean the school throughout the day.
- Toilets will be checked and cleaned every hour.
- Additional adults will support with cleaning in the lunch halls.

Staff Testing

All staff in school will test for Covid-19 twice weekly, using the 30-minute Lateral Flow Device. This helps us identify members of the team who may be Covid positive but not displaying any symptoms. If a member of the team has a positive lateral flow test they must then attend a local centre to have a full PCR Covid-19 test. Whilst we wait for the results of the full Covid-19 test we will have to send home any children and staff who have been in close contact with the individual.



Drop Off in the mornings

- We will continue with the soft start to the school day where the school gates will open **from 8:20am for all pupils**. This gives you a 10 minutes window to just drop your child and leave straight away. The teachers will be in their classroom at this time so the children will go straight in to avoid anyone having to wait in the playground.
- KS1 parents please follow the one-way system in the KS1 playground.
- Parents of KS2 children will not be allowed to enter the KS2 playground. Please say goodbye to your children at the main gate.
- Before 8:20m please queue along the pavement observing the 2m markers.
- Face masks must be worn upon entering the school grounds. Members of the School Leadership Team may have to refuse entry to anyone not observing these safety rules.
- The gates will be shut at 8:40 am so you must ensure your child arrives on time.
- Only one adult or family group at a time allowed in the Foyer.

Pick up in the afternoons

- We will be having staggered pick up times in the afternoon. Please see the table below for details.
- KS2 parents and children to leave via the gate opposite the community room that leads into the carpark.

Year Group	Pick Up	
YN am	11.30 am	Pick up from the classroom door in the KS1 and EYFS playground
YN pm	3:15 pm	
YR	3:00 pm	
Y1	2:50 pm	
Y2	3:00 pm	
Y3 and Y4	3:10 pm	KS2 playground. Please observe social distancing
Y5 and Y6	3:00 pm	
Late collections		After school club room

Breakfast Club and After School Care

We will be continuing the wrap around care as soon as the school reopens

As year group bubbles will be mixing we will be using the hall and we need to ensure that the groups are consistent. This means that we will not be able to add any additional children to the provision once this is established until after the Easter holidays.



If you require Breakfast Club or After School Care then please book your place this week. You can contact the school office to book your place.

Children in both provisions will be asked to maintain social distancing at all times and resources will be thoroughly cleaned daily.

Well-Being and Learning Recovery Plan

The staff and I have missed your children greatly and we can't wait to see them all again. We know that children may be a little worried about coming back to school and about Covid-19 in general. Consequently, we have put in place a programme of support to address any issues they have with their emotional well-being and mental health. Your child's well-being is our top priority.

We know that parents have done their very best to continue with education at home but for many this has not been easy as you have had to juggle many factors. Thank you for working with us during this period.

Many children will have fallen behind in their learning throughout the two national lockdowns and as a school we have been thinking of ways in which we can help children recover from this quickly and over time. This may involve additional lessons after school or possibly during the weekend. Please look out for letters that will invite your child to one or more of these sessions. I will also be holding a zoom meeting to explain the catch up programme we will be providing. Details of this will be sent out very soon.

Vaccine, Covid-19 Symptoms and Self-Isolating

It's extremely positive that the Government has rolled out the vaccination programme and that huge numbers of the population have already been vaccinated. However, local data shows that the uptake of the vaccine is low in our community.

In order to protect each other and for our world to go back to normal as quickly as possible I would urge everyone who is invited to have the vaccine to take up the offer. If you have reservations about the vaccine and would like to know the facts please contact your GP or if you want to chat about it I'm happy to speak to parents to understand the issue.

Only together, as a community, will we be able to overcome Covid-19 and get back to some sort of normal. Please help us by following the school expectations.

Covid -19 Symptoms

All children must return to school on Monday 8th March unless they:

- are clinically, extremely vulnerable
- have tested positive for Covid-19
- are living with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 and are self-isolating

Your child must not come to school if they display any of the following Covid-19 Symptoms.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 [here](#).



Loaned devices

Children who were given a chrome book must return this to school during the week beginning 8/3/21. Please drop off the devices to the school office between **10am and 4pm** on your allocated day. Please see the table below for the day to return your device

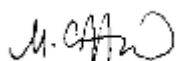
Year Group	Day
EYFS	Monday 8 th March
Y1 and Y2	Tuesday 9 th March
Y3 and Y4	Wednesday 10 th March
Y5 and Y6	Thursday 11 th March

The school staff and I are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 8th March, the school without children is just an empty shell!

Please help us keep all our community safe by abiding by the rules above and let's get back to some kind of normal as soon as we can. I can't wait to see you all again!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr M Clifford



Headteacher

