

Paper Copy Recipients

- Sample Student (Year 1, Samples)

4 March 2021

Sample Parent

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Mixing of children within a year group

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you will be aware, we are permitted to mix children from within the same year group (upto a maximum of a secondary school-sized year group bubble).

There are many, many factors that have to be considered when organising the return to school. It is a huge logistical operation, with one change impacting upon another and creating a domino effect. We have to decide upon our priorities and these are obviously, the safety of the children, staff and parents and the quality of education your children receive. Every decision I make is with these two factors at the forefront of my mind.

Our Early Years provision (including Year 1) is a highly successful setting for your children to begin their school career. The provision is such that children from within a year group mix with all other children within the year group. You will remember that this was in operation during the Autumn Term and will remain in operation from next Monday.

In addition, there are other things we do not want to compromise on and one of these is the provision of a hot school meal, every lunchtime, for those that want it.

In order to meet all these (and many more criteria), we will be mixing some Year 3 and Year 4 children - during their outdoor playtimes. Wherever it is possible to separate the children into their classes, we will do so. However, this is an over-cautious approach and the guidance we are given is - and always has been- clear; that the mixing of classes within a year group is permitted. Obviously, the full range of system of controls will be in place to support this.

In addition to this, some children may be asked to work in small groups with children from the other class in their year group. This is in order to access specialist intervention that they require in order to continue to make good progress. Again, the utmost care will be taken and we will endeavour to socially distance children while they are within these smaller groups. This is also permitted in order to offer a high quality education to children and we will, of course, ensure that the system of controls is rigorously implemented to mitigate risk.

I would like to again reassure you that our approach has always been overly cautious and we will continue to do everything we can to ensure that your children are safe and happy in school.

Kind regards,

Vicki