

Dear parents & carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to another year in school. We are all hoping for an uninterrupted year, which will see the return of the full range of wonderful opportunities we can offer your child.

There are a few changes to the normal routines of the school day and this email is to share these with you. Attached to this email are the latest risk assessment documents relating to COVID19.

Belongings:

Children may bring their own bags to school, but we would be grateful if you could ensure that this are not too large.

All children will be provided with a wallet of stationery items that they will need in school. In the Early Years, resources are shared, but all children will have access to everything they need.

Arrival at school:

ALL children should **arrive** at school between **8:45 and 8:55**. **Gates will close promptly at 8:55**. **Registers will close at 9:00 am**. All arrivals after this time will be marked as late.

. children to enter via these gates:

Reception and Nursery: Nursery gate

Year 1, 2 & 4: Main pedestrian gate

Year 3, 5 & 6: Front playground gate

Parents are encouraged to drop children at gates still, but may enter the school grounds. There will be **no one way system** in place.

Parents with children in multiple year groups may - if they wish - **use a single gate for all children**.

The **back gate will be open** for parents who wish to use it with their children, but will **not be manned by school staff**.

Leaving school:

Nursery children should be collected at **11:45**.

All other children should be collected at **3:15**.

Children in **Year N to Year 3** should be **collected from their classroom / cloakroom doors**.

Children in **Years 4, 5 & 6** will be **released from school at 3:15**, and may leave via any gate.

Parents with children in multiple year groups may - if they wish - **use a single gate (of your choice) for all children**.

The **back gate will be open** for parents who wish to use it with their children, but will **not be manned by school staff**.

Year 4,5 & 6 - Please make sure your child knows where to meet you if you are collecting them. **If you wish to collect your child from the classroom / cloakroom door, please make sure that your child and your child's teacher are aware of this in advance.**

Assemblies will once again take place in the school halls, with most assemblies being split by Key Stage.

Lunchtimes:

The dining hall will be used for hot lunches, with the children eating in one of three sittings.

EYFS children: 11:30 - 12:00

Years 1,2,3 children: 12:15 - 12:45

Years 4,5,6 children: 12:45 - 13:15

Children from different year groups will mix during this time.

In line with many other schools, sandwich lunches will be renamed 'picnic lunches' and will take place on tables and/or large picnic rugs in the other hall. A comprehensive cleaning system is in place to ensure that the children are eating from hygienic surfaces and picnic rugs will be washed very regularly. This is a very sociable system successfully used in other schools. We will, of course, keep it under review.

Children from different year groups will mix during this time.

Playtimes will continue to be staggered, but children will be able to mix with children from beyond their own year group. Initially, this is still being restricted to a smaller number of year groups and will be kept under review in line with the COVID19 situation.

Face coverings are no longer required on site, although we reserve the right to ask you to wear one if you attend a meeting in school. Adults in school may choose to wear visors on occasions. This too, will be kept under constant review.

Attendance at school:

'School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school.'

Children under the age of 18 are **no longer expected to self-isolate** after contact with a positive case of COVID.

If your child displays symptoms of COVID19, they should attend a test site for a PCR test as soon as possible. We will contact you if your child displays symptoms in school. Children with symptoms should remain at home until the results of the PCR test have been received. Children who test negative should return to school as soon as possible.

No-one should remain at home because they have been in contact with COVID19. This is no longer grounds to be absent from school and we are unable to authorise this absence as being due to COVID19. This is a directive from the Department for Education and is not something we have any control over.

Cleaning & Hygiene Measures:

We will continue with enhanced cleaning and hygiene procedures, including increased ventilation.

I know that there will continue to be a range of differing opinions on all matters relating to COVID19. Please be assured that we are following all guidance issued to us and doing everything we can to safely return to a wider school experience for all children.

Kind regards,

Vicki