



Care Believe Achieve

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Headteacher - Mrs A. Clarricoats BSc PGCE



26th August 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

As I write this there is just over a week to go before we are to welcome the children back into school – the staff are very much looking forward to seeing them. I just wanted to keep you up to date with the preparations that we are undertaking as a school ahead of September.

The national picture at present appears to continue to be towards directing all children to return to school as soon as possible. With this directive in mind then it is all our responsibilities to ensure that our children, staff and families are as safe as possible on return. Currently we are ensuring that the risk assessments and procedures we have in place meet government guidelines and advice. We take advice from our Health and Safety advisers for this – and I anticipate that over the next week or so we may receive further guidance. Once completed this will be on the website. Please can all members of the community carefully read the plans and follow them.

- School will reopen on Wednesday 2nd September for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6

The Governments guidance is to have bubbles as small as possible. We will, where we can, keep those bubbles as small as possible throughout the day.

School will look and feel different – there will be four bubbles – Nursery and Reception, Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6. Nursery will be educated in the school house; Year R in the conservatory; Year 1 and 2 in their normal classroom; Year 3 and 4 in the large classroom (formerly Mrs. Kellock's room) and Year 5 and 6 in what was Miss Turnbull's room. Although children do not need to socially distance adults will be encouraged to maintain this. Frequent washing of hands and staggered playtimes/lunch breaks will require school staff to work with pupils ensuring they understand the reasoning behind the changes.

Drop off and Pick up times:

Entrance into school will be slightly different. Please be patient as this plan is currently untested with the full numbers of parents and children. No parent will be allowed into the building, please contact the school by either telephone or email to make an appointment.

Allotted drop off and pick up times will be emailed to you on Thursday 27th August, as we plan to do this by family rather than by year group so as to avoid congestion in the car park.

All year groups with the exception of Nursery and Year R will independently leave from their cars when entering school and the staggered start times will help with this. It is important that you stick to your allotted time; **do not arrive early or late.**

Curriculum:

We will be assessing the need of whether we need to work from what has been called a 'recovery curriculum' over the first few days back in school as well as helping pupils to settle back in to the routines of school life. Support for children who need an extra boost in either Maths or English will be provided. We are very fortunate to have employed Miss Caroline Kennedy, a qualified teacher, to help us with this.

Lunch:

School dinners will be packed lunches; either provided by Julie the school cook or brought in from home. You will need to have pre-ordered school packed lunches; these are chargeable at £2.80 per day unless you are in YR, 1 or 2. These are free under the Government's Universal Free School Meal initiative. If bringing your own packed lunch from home, please ensure that it complies with the packed lunch policy and that it is brought in a disposable plastic bag or something that can be washed and reused.

We seriously hope that Home Schooling will not have to return, however this could be a possibility for families who are isolating, or a school bubble that is sent home or even local lockdown. Online learning may still have to be used and we will maintain using Class Dojo as our online learning tool if necessary.

School governors will continue to meet regularly – reviewing not only risk assessments and procedures but also the learning provision and the preparations for home school learning.

Some points to remember:

- Dropping off/collecting children must be done promptly.
- School uniform must be worn Mon – Wed with a suitable waterproof coat.
- No shoes with laces unless they can be managed independently.
- Children should come in to school in their PE kit on Thurs and Fri.
- Water bottles will need to be brought in from home; children will need to be able to refill bottles themselves. Please ensure they are taken home, cleaned and refilled each day.
- Children should not bring their own pencil case, toys etc. due to hygiene reasons.
- Books will be sent home to read but please do not return them to school in book bags.
- Reception/Nursery parents may accompany their children into the main playground at morning drop off, however social distancing between adults must be maintained and no one will be allowed into the school building.
- After School/ Breakfast Club will begin the following week. (Monday the 7th September)
- Staggered start and finish times will be communicated to parents via email.
- Temperature checks will be done as children enter the playground (this takes seconds to do), parents will wait for the thumbs up sign before driving off.
- At the end of the day, children will be brought to their parents who will stay in their cars.
- Do not send your child/ren into school if they are unwell. Please follow the Covid-19 guidance as advised by Public Health England. If any of your family have symptoms, please self-isolate for 14 days. If your child has symptoms during the day, the school will contact you immediately. Arrangements will need to be made to collect your child as soon as possible.
- Your child/ren will follow the Covid-19 handwashing guidelines, i.e. hand wash on arrival, toileting, eating and leaving.
- The home school agreement will need to be signed by both parents and children and brought into school no later than the 2nd September
- We will let parents know of planning and any dates within the first week.

I know that this coming term will take some adjustment to and that some of these details could change as we find out what works and what does not. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bear with us during this period. We are all looking forward to our return to school and we are very much looking forward to seeing everybody. We are excited to get back to teaching and learning in the classrooms: we are particularly looking forward to our whole-school topic to settle us all back in... more details to follow in September! We are confident that the children will have the resilience and enthusiasm to take everything in their stride!

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Kind regards,

Alison Clarricoats
Headteacher

Karen Reid
Chair of Governors
On behalf of the Governing Body

Helen Sheridan
Vice Chair