

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**RE: Information for September 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Within this letter, please find details that will outline children's return to school after the summer break on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. There are many changes to the procedures we had to put into place due to the Covid restrictions however, we have been urged by the government to be cautious and we will continue to do so. I urge you to thoroughly read through this letter so all members of our school community can continue keep as safe as possible moving into the new academic year.

- **Children's start and finish times:**

I am able to confirm that the staggered start and finish times will now come to an end. From September, the start time for all children will be 9am. We will continue to operate a system of **drop off and go** in order to minimise the amount of mixing on the school site. All children will finish at 3:30pm. Please be sure to arrive on time for school – as this allows children the opportunity to make the most of their day in school. We truly believe that every second in class counts.

- **Arriving at School**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that in order to ensure the safety of all children and families entering and exiting the school, all roads areas around the school gates must be kept free from cars parked to allow clear access. It is imperative that we work together to allow this large number of children and families to enter and exit the school in the safest way possible. Please consider walking to school, taking public transport or parking further away from the school, and walking the remainder of the journey in order to avoid excessive traffic.

- **Parent/Carer on site**

At the start of the day, please drop your child at the school gate. Please use the entrance specified below:

Year 6	Sports Playground
Year 5	Sports playground
Year 4	Sports Playground
Year 3	Sports Playground
Year 2	Main Playground
Year 1	Main Playground
Reception	Main Playground
Nursery	Main Playground

On the first day, school staff we be able to direct your child to their line. The idea is to try and keep numbers of people on the school site to a minimum, as much as possible.

At the end of the day, please enter onto the school premises to collect your child. Please do not delay in leaving the grounds as quickly as possible.

At no point should any parent/ carer enter a school building, unless specifically instructed to by a member of staff. Please continue to contact the school office via email or telephone should you require any information or assistance.

- **Attendance**

Attendance continues to be compulsory so in September it will be anticipated that your child will attend school for five days per week. If for any reason your child is not coming to school, then you must contact the school to explain the child's absence. I can fully appreciate that sending your child back to school may cause a

mixture of emotions and I hope the details in this letter illustrate how we intend on doing our best to keep children as safe as possible.

- **Covid-19 Symptoms**

It is important that you still keep regular checks of your child's health, as I am sure you are already doing. Key signs for Covid-19 remain as high temperature and/ or a new continuous cough and/ or loss of sense of smell or taste. If your child is unwell or presents any of these symptoms then please do not send your child into school. In the event that your child shows symptoms, you should book a PCR test online. If your child tests positive for Covid-19 then they should continue to isolate. If the test is negative, your child may return to school. Please ensure you contact the school office to inform us as soon as possible of any confirmed cases of Covid-19 in your household.

From September, we will no longer be shutting a whole class in the event of a confirmed case of Covid-19. Instead, the only children/adults in school who test positive will be expected to self-isolate.

- **Face Masks**

In line with the current guidance, it is no longer a requirement for face masks to be used in school. However, if you wish to use a face mask when on school premises, we support this decision.

- **Cleaning and hygiene**

The school will continue its rigorous cleaning regime in order to keep surfaces clean. We will also continue our routines of regular hand washing and use of hand sanitiser.

- **Equipment**

Please make sure that your child continues to bring in a full water bottle every day. They do not need to bring in a pencil case as school equipment will be provided.

- **Steps in the event of a local or school outbreak of Covid-19**

As a school we will continue to work with the local authority, public health England and the DfE to monitor the spread of Covid, particularly when we come back from the summer holidays when many of the restrictions have been relaxed.

It is important to understand that even though many of the restrictions are being relaxed within school, should it be considered that there is an outbreak of Covid-19 in school, it may be necessary to re-instate many of the procedures that we had before. Should this be the case, I will write to all parents to outline what these measures may be.

I thank you in advance for your understanding. Putting this provision into place means that we can continue to keep everyone as safe as possible. If you have any questions regarding any of this information, then please do not hesitate to phone or email the school, where a member of staff will be available to assist you. The school office will be closed over the school holidays but please email the school with any queries and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, staff will be returning to work from 1<sup>st</sup> September, where you will be able to speak to someone prior to the children returning on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

I am really looking forward to welcoming your child back, and hope everyone has a lovely summer.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Askins  
Headteacher