

Dear Parent /Carer,

**RE: COVID-19 PHASED RETURN TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

I hope you and your family are safe and well. It has been a strange summer, however, I hope you were able to enjoy some of the glorious weather and had the opportunity for some quality family time together.

As we prepare for the new academic year, we continue to work closely with our Trust (Thinking Schools Academy Trust) and to follow the Government advice to ensure we give the safest welcome for our pupils.

The Government's guidance for opening to all Year groups from September is the cornerstone to our plans and we have been working around the clock to reflect this and ensure a safe welcome back for all children in the new academic year.

In addition to this letter, the information [here](#) will help you understand how the return-to-school based learning will happen and answer questions you may have.

We will be continuing to work to our mission of Child First = Child Safe = Adult Safe. This has guided our planning since lockdown and we are pleased with how well it translated to everyone in our school community.

**HOW WE ACHIEVE 'CHILD SAFE'**

At the heart of our strategy to keep everyone safe will be the Year Group Bubble. Each pupil will be part of a consistent bubble made up of their year group with no mixing between these bubbles in the school.

I have outlined below the top five considerations and principles that will be in operation in time for all of our pupils returning.

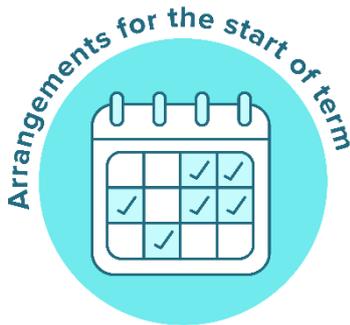
**1. MANAGING SICKNESS AND REPORTING**

Please remember that you must not send your child to school if they are unwell or displaying any symptoms of Covid-19.

- New continuous cough.
- High temperature.
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

We are going beyond the Government advice regarding Track & Trace to ensure the highest safety for our community. Therefore, any member of our school community that is displaying symptoms must self-isolate and be tested.

In the event of a positive test result, we will inform Public Health England (PHE) and follow their advice.



## 2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START OF TERM

We will provide a full time education provision for all children five days a week. The Government expect all children to return in September and we have planned carefully to ensure that we are able to welcome them all back safely. Year groups 1 – 6 will return to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Reception children will start full time on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Nursery parents please see separate communications.



## 3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

To keep the pupils day as uninterrupted and smooth running as possible we have implemented a new approach to the school days. To support social distancing, pupils must enter and leave the school grounds through the drop off / pick up times outlined in the table below. As education is now compulsory, we are unable to allow you to drop off your child late if they have a sibling in a different year group. We recognise that some parents have multiple drop off times, however government guidance is clear that drop off and pick up times should be staggered to avoid large gatherings. If you feel there is a genuine reason that would prevent you from being able to drop off and pick up your children at their allocated time please contact the school to discuss this. Parents have the option of booking their children into Breakfast club and Seedlings.

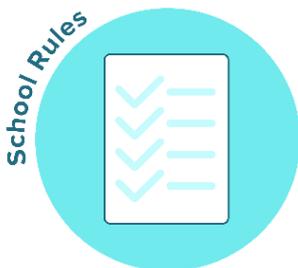
Year Groups	Drop off to school	Pick up from school	Drop off Location
Nursery Morning	8.40am	11.40pm	Nursery door
Nursery Afternoon	12.25pm	15.25pm	Nursery door
Reception	8.25am	2.55pm	Reception doors
Year 1	8.55am	3.25pm	Bottom of the glass corridor
Year 2	8.35am	3.05pm	Bottom of the glass corridor
Year 3	8.30am	3.00pm	Training room door
Year 4	8.50am	3.20pm	Top of the glass corridor
Year 5	8.40am	3.10pm	KS2 Playground
Year 6	9.00am	3.30pm	KS2 Playground

Pick up locations will be signposted. Years 3 – 6 will have chairs on the KS2 playground. Please make sure you maintain social distancing and do not congregate by and block exits to the school.

**LARGE GATHERINGS:** There will be no whole school assemblies taking place throughout the Autumn Term to ensure safety.

**BREAK/LUNCHTIMES:** Break and lunchtimes will be staggered so that the Year Group Bubbles do not mix. Please provide children in Years 3 - 6 with a healthy snack as usual. We will be offering a hot meal option as usual, alternatively please provide your child with a healthy packed lunch.

**FACE COVERINGS:** In line with government advice children under 12 do not need to wear a face covering.



#### **4. SCHOOL RULES**

We expect our pupils to return in full school uniform. Wearing the correct uniform is important to our identity and school community and we recognise the importance of establishing our school as a family of learners together and uniform is integral to this.

All normal school rules will apply as well as additional expectations around behaviour in corridors and the maintenance of social distancing – these are shown on additional signage throughout the school. If pupils choose to ignore these expectations then the school will apply the normal range of sanctions.

**BELONGINGS:** Children will need to bring in a named water bottle, weather appropriate clothing e.g named coats, hats etc. The following year groups need to bring in a NAMED PE kit, which will stay in school for the term: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. Year 5 and 6 can come to school in their PE kit on the day they have PE as we limited changing facilities for these year groups.

## 5. SAFETY AND CLEANING



Ensuring that our school is kept clean is a key part of our plan. This means regular cleaning of all shared spaces including classrooms, corridors, and toilets.

Hand washing will be the principle means of securing hand hygiene and will be easily accessible throughout school.

As a result of these measures we believe we will be able to provide a safe learning environment for your children and we look forward to welcoming them all back in September.

### FINAL NOTE...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our children, parents/carers, staff and governors for their support over the last term and indeed, since the pandemic impacted on our usual ways of teaching and learning.

Together we have overcome some great challenges and we are proud of what we have achieved. Should there be any further changes to the Government guidance before we return, or during the new academic year we will respond as fast and as best we can.

However in the meantime, I would like to thank you again and I hope you have found this update useful. Further information will be published on the school site as and when it occurs.

Yours sincerely,

Kirstie Jones