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**Headteacher: Mrs J Paterson**

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Returning to school on March 8th

We are looking forward to the return of our pupils. As always, pupil safety and welfare is our main priority and focus. All of the measures that we put in place in school in September will continue, in line with government guidance; the children are used to these and they will be included again on next week's newsletter. The guided home learning using the Launton online classroom over the next week, with daily meetings with teachers will help children to settle back into the routines of school.

### Arrival at school/ Collection

To keep all members of our school community safe, parents are not permitted in the playground, so we must continue to stagger the start time of the day and collection time at the end of the day. There will be specific times for arriving at school to keep a steady flow. Playgrounds are very busy places and we need to minimise the risks and respect social distancing guidelines as far as possible. Therefore, these things will be in place:

- Each class has their own arrival time; if you have more than one child, you may drop all children at the earliest time (unless you are dropping off a child for nursery at 8.30am in the front garden: please then make your way to the back gate to drop off older children at the appropriate time)
- Each class has their own pick up time; if you are collecting more than one child, you may collect them at the latest time (except nursery children, who must be collected at 3pm in the front garden unless they are booked into Afterschool Care)
- The area between the small black gate and the large green gates will be clearly marked to create a one-way pathway in through one gate and back out through the other gate
- You should walk in through the gate with your child and your child will immediately join the line for their group, but please understand in these circumstances, we won't be able to engage in long conversations. The children will line up in alphabetical order (by surname) at the end of the day to speed up the process
- We understand that some children may be worried, anxious or upset when they arrive at school. If this is the case, we will need you to settle them before you come through the gate and we will ask you to step out of the one-way system to do this. If any child is really distressed, please don't worry. If your child is upset when parting from you, please keep walking through the one-way system, and re-join the line to try again. We will work together to find solutions.

## Classroom Organisation

2m social distancing is not possible in school: they are children. We will use our best endeavours to position desks so that children work alongside one another, rather than facing one another. As staff, we have a duty of care to always attend to pupils' welfare and medical needs. The main strategy is to operate "bubbles" alongside good hygiene and handwashing practices. Children should not wear PPE to school and this includes masks. If your child needs to arrive wearing PPE because you have travelled on public transport, it must go into a plastic bag and you should take it away to avoid contamination.

- Every child has their allocated work -station with their own stationery, pens and pencils in a named tray, in which they will also store their water bottle (please ensure that it is clearly labelled with your child's name and is washed daily when your child brings it home)
- There will be some limited use of shared play equipment in spaced games at break and lunchtimes (which will be shortened); this will be used only by children in one class and will be frequently cleaned
- Your child must not bring toys to school, just book bags and a packed lunch in a wipe-clean container with their name on (if they are not having a Fresh Start lunch), and a named water bottle. Fruit snacks may be brought in a small plastic bag.

## Infection Control/ Minimising risk

If any child or member of their household displays Covid-19 symptoms, they should **NOT** attend school. Children that are unwell should not come to school. If any child or member of staff displays symptoms during the school day, they will be isolated immediately and sent home. I will liaise with Public Health England about communicating with you. Government testing is available and if a child or member of staff tests positive then the whole 'bubble' of staff and children may need to self-isolate for 10 days. This decision will be made by Public Health England and not the school.

Children will be supervised throughout the day washing their hands regularly, before, after and between activities. There will also be limited shared equipment which remains assigned to one bubble only and not shared between bubbles.

## Breakfast Club and Afterschool Care **MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE**

- We will resume Breakfast Club and Afterschool Care from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March; these will operate their normal timetables every day for parents/ carers where *"use of the provision is reasonably necessary to support them to work, seek work, undertake education or training, attend a medical appointment or address a medical need or attend a support group"* DfE

## Uniform

Children should wear their school uniform as usual, but they will not change for PE until after Easter. Children should bring their trainers to school (in a carrier bag with their name on).

## Medical Needs- Inhalers/ Epipens

Please can you ensure that inhalers and epipens are returned to school with children returning, if you did not send this in on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Please ensure that the inhalers and epipens are in date and named in the usual way. We will not be able to administer any other medication during the day. Children who are unwell should not attend school.

## Vehicle Access

Please remember that the bridge is now closed (details are on recent newsletters), so you may need to allow extra time for journeys. We encourage you to walk or cycle to school as there will be a greater number of parents and children in the area outside the school gates. **DO NOT PARK ALONGSIDE THE FENCE obscuring the view of pedestrians leaving**

**through the large gate, and DO NOT PARK ON THE BEND as this will cause an obstruction and cars will need to drive closer to the pedestrians waiting to drop off their children.**

Finally, but most importantly, we want to ensure that your child feels prepared to return to school. We have distilled the hierarchy of infection control into 5 simple measures, which the children are all very familiar with, and I will put this on next week's newsletter as a reminder for children.

A summary of this information is below.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Paterson  
Head teacher

Things to remember

	Drop off time at black gate	Pick up time at black gate		<b>My child should bring</b> A wipe clean lunch box A named water bottle Book bag Trainers
RECEPTION and YEAR 1 Miss Coleman <i>Ash Class</i>	9.05am	3.20pm	Children in these classes should be dropped off at the time the <b>first</b> sibling goes into school	<b>My child must not bring</b> Toys PPE PE kit
YEAR 1 and 2 Miss Morton <i>Rowan Class</i>	9.00am	3.15pm		
YEAR 3 Miss Nightingale <i>Oak Class</i>	8.55am	3.10pm	Children in these classes should be collected at the time the <b>last</b> sibling leaves school	<b>My child should wear</b> School uniform  <b>Fresh Start Lunches</b> should be ordered by midday <b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>
YEAR 4 Miss Kapp <i>Beech Class</i>	<b>8.55am</b> Please note change of time	3.10pm		
YEAR 5 Miss Robb <i>Chestnut Class</i>	8.45am	3.05pm		
YEAR 6 Mrs Terry <i>Willow Class</i>	8.40am	3.00pm		