



3rd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that all of you are continuing to keep safe and healthy and we are very excited to welcome all the children back to school on **Monday 8th March**. We would like to take this opportunity to share with you our current plans for a full return to school:

We are planning that all children attend school in their classes of 30, and we want to reassure you that we will continue to put in place many of the protective measures that will be familiar from the autumn term:

1. Ensure that any children or adults who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
2. Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual; we have increased washing facilities.
3. Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach; we have increased tissues and lidded bins in all classrooms.
4. Enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often. All classrooms are well equipped with additional cleaning materials and the Premises team are ensuring that they are wiping down areas and cleaning toilets throughout the school day.
5. Active engagement with NHS Test and Trace.

We will aim to maintain consistent groups to reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of children and staff in contact with each other to only those within the group. Having groups of children that do not mix will make it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate, and keep that number as small as possible.

We will also continue to minimise contact between adults and maintain social distancing where possible. In addition, where necessary, we will wear appropriate PPE.

We hope that our families will have confidence in all the measures that we have put in place to keep all children and adults safe and healthy, as attendance from March 8th will be compulsory, unless there are good reasons for a child not attending.

Below we have included some further information for the school day. **Please note that the arrangements for morning drop-off and afternoon collection have changed!**

Arrival at school.

We are planning to continue to stagger the morning drop off to school and afternoon collection. This will allow us to maintain social distancing where possible between adults.

In the morning we would ask that you arrive at school between **8.45am - 8.55am using the car park gate for all infant children.** Please leave your children at the gate, where staff will be available to see the children safely across the playground to their classrooms.

As always, our main priority is to work with all our families to ensure that children come into school happy and ready to learn. If you experience difficulty with your child separating from you, then please bring them into the playground / reception area where a member of staff can support you.

Collection at the end of the day

We will continue to stagger our collection times to ease congestion at the gates. Please collect your infant children between **3.15pm – 3.20pm from the infant playground, entering and exiting via the car park gate.**

If you have junior siblings, we ask that you collect your infant child first, then exit the school and re-enter at 3.20pm from the middle gate when the junior children will be dismissed. This will enable us to maintain social-distancing.

We request that parents wear a face covering when picking up children (unless you are exempt) to keep our school community safe. We also ask that only one adult attends the school at the start and end of the day.

Breakfast club

The Infant breakfast club will be available for all. We will ensure that children remain within their year group. This helps us keep the provision open in the event of a positive case in one year group.

After school clubs and Extended provision.

TopMark will resume a full extended service within year groups. We are hoping to introduce some clubs in the summer term, but this will depend on available space.

Lunchtimes

Lunches will be a normal service in the junior hall. At lunch time the children will remain playing in their year groups in a dedicated zone in the playground. There are a good range of resources to play with, and all resources are thoroughly cleaned.

Water

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle, as our water fountains have been taken out of action.

Bikes and Scooters

To avoid congestion and mixing of ‘bubbles’ we would ask that you continue to take scooters or bikes home. Please do not chain them to the safety barriers outside the school. We will keep this under review and open up the facility as soon as possible.

We are very excited to welcome all our wonderful families back to school. We will continue to give you further guidance as it arises, but please be assured that we will continue to update our plans and risk assessments over the next two terms. We are so proud of all our families and the support that we have received from you all during this challenging time.

As always, if you have any further concerns or questions at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact us. Sian or I will also be available at the school gates, either before or after school if you want to catch us then.

Best wishes,
Annie and Sian