

17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last few months have proved to be a difficult time for us all and we have had to adjust our lives in order to keep our families safe. However, as the African Proverb says: *'Smooth seas do not make skilful sailors'*; the hard knocks in life shape us into something more refined and resilient. I have also been heartened by the many examples of kindness in our school community where families have looked out for one another and supported those less fortunate.

We wrote a week ago to let you know that school will be open to all **children from 7<sup>th</sup> September**. Please note that if you have a child starting school in Reception in September, a separate letter has been sent out already to share our plans for a phased start. Our risk assessment has been agreed by our trust Anthem and the detailed arrangements for the safe management of re-opening are now in place - we have added the risk assessment to our website. Since changes in the government's advice and guidance are likely to continue, it is important to give you as much information as we can so that you are able to prepare. The safety of students and staff remains our priority and our plans for increasing the numbers of students in school reflect this. It essential that you read and understand the changes we are putting in place.

**Getting to and from school:** Children should avoid public transport, if at all possible. A face mask is compulsory on public transport and so we are asking that parents provide their children with two washable face masks to allow for overnight cleaning. Over the holiday with the help of FoJKPS, we are expanding are the cycle and scootering space, and we strongly advise where possible children come to school on foot or pedal power.

**Drop offs and Collections:** We are going to have **staggered drop off and pick up times** to reduce the number of people arriving at school at the same time. It is imperative that your child comes in their allotted time, so as not to create pinching and too much queuing at drop offs. We ask that all parents vacate the school grounds immediately. Where there is more than one child per family we ask that you choose the earlier slot. We also ask out of courtesy and respect for our staff that all adult wear masks for dropping off and collection times. Children who arrive at school with a mask must immediately place it in a plastic bag inside their bag, and then wash their hands.

	Drop Off	Collection
Reception	8:45-9:00	3:00
Year 1	8:45-9:00 West Stair case	3:15
Year 2	8:45-9:00 East Stair case	3:15
Year 3	8:35_8:45 West Staircase	3:25
Year 4	8:35-8:45 – East Staircase	3:25
Year 5/6	8:25-8:35- West Staircase	3:30

**No parents or other non-school-based adults will be allowed into the school buildings:** All children and adults will arrive through the school vehicle gate and will be dropped off at a designated point (see attached map). We ask that each child is dropped off by one adult and that they queue one metre+ apart at the gate to wait to come in. The handover point will be next to the netball pole for children from Years 1-6 and the handover point will be at the reception gate. In ordering to stop 'pinching' we will have two lines, one for Reception and Year One children and one for everybody else. This is because the younger children need a little bit longer to say goodbye. If your family falls between both of these, please choose the Reception and Year 1 queue.

Once the child has been dropped off - the adult must leave immediately via the pedestrian gates. **There will be a line marked on the ground which adults must not cross.** From September, we will be vigilant about this. For pick up time - parents will arrive via the vehicle gates for their allocated time (queueing 1m+ apart) when they reach the netball pole, the senior leader on duty will call the child's name, who will walk to the adult and then they will immediately leave via the pedestrian gates. Please note, **ALL children (except Year 6 if written permission (please email the office) has been given) MUST be accompanied by an adult for dropping off and going home** – adults are asked to stay with their child until the teacher has admitted their child through the gate.

**Year Group 'Bubbles':** In line with government guidance, the school plan for re-opening is based on the following key principles: a requirement that people who are ill stay at home; robust hand and respiratory hygiene; enhanced cleaning arrangements; active engagement with NHS Test and Trace and reducing contacts between those in school wherever possible to minimise potential for infection. This approach has been described by the government as maintaining pupil 'bubbles' which must be kept separate as far as practically possible. We will have a Reception bubble, Year 1 and 2 bubble, a Year 3 and 4 bubble and a Year 5 and 6 bubble. At all times children will stay in these bubbles and the teachers will for the most part remain constant. However, for PPA cover (German, Music and PE) the adults will need to mix, these adults will be following stringent hygiene protocols and social distancing measures.

**What children can bring into school:** children are expected to bring in the bare minimum, as children won't be sharing pencils and pens, children are expected to bring in their own pencil cases (please see illustration). For PE children are expected to come to school dressed in PE kit. Your child's teacher will share which days these are. Finally, from September children are expected to wear full uniform unless it is their PE day.

**Lunchtimes:** From September, children will be back to having lunch in the dining hall, the timings for each bubble will be staggered with a twenty-minute eating slot for each group. The children will be expected to sit for this time and their lunch will be brought to them. Playtime and lunchtimes will be staggered, with the children playing in zoned areas. Due to adherence to the guidelines, lunchtime may feel more structured than it used to. Obviously, children can bring in their healthy packed lunches from home if they wish to.



**What to do if you are unwell:** Children, parents, carers or visitors, **must not** come to school if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus. Usually we encourage children to 'see how it goes' but in these new circumstances we cannot allow this. Details of the procedures to follow can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>. If a student at school presents with symptoms, then they will be looked after in isolation and parents and carers contacted to collect them.

**Wraparound Care:** As explained in a previous letter – under the governments guidelines sadly, we cannot provide breakfast club, however we will be providing after school care. We are currently in the process of finalising details, as soon as we know these, we will write to you. But so that you can plan ahead, for there will be no clubs as such, there will be afterschool care in year group bubbles (with activities from external and internal providers woven in to each bubble). The available options are: a) 3.00pm to 4:45pm-5pm pick up or b) 3:00pm to 5:45pm-6pm pick up.

**Recovery Curriculum:** From September all children will be assessed, so that teachers know exactly what each child's needs are and planned for accordingly. This information will be shared with you in our parent teacher meeting, which be held earlier than normal via a phone call. Our recovery curriculum needs to balance *how to learn best* with *what to learn*. This is a summary of the work of Barry Carpenter, taken from his Recovery Curriculum model:

**Lever 1: Relationships** – we can't expect our students to return joyfully, and many of the relationships that were thriving, may need to be invested in and restored. We need to plan for this to happen, not assume that it will. Reach out to greet them, use the relationships we build to cushion the discomfort of returning.

**Lever 2: Community** – we must recognise that curriculum will have been based in the community for a long period of time. We need to listen to what has happened in this time, understand the needs of our community and engage them in the transitioning of learning back into school.

**Lever 3: Transparent Curriculum** – all of our students will feel like they have lost time in learning and we must show them how we are addressing these gaps, consulting and co-constructing with our students to heal this sense of loss.

**Lever 4: Metacognition** – in different environments, students will have been learning in different ways. It is vital that we make the skills for learning in a school environment explicit to our students to reskill and rebuild their confidence as learners.

**Lever 5: Space – to be, to rediscover self, and to find their voice on learning in this issue.** It is only natural that we all work at an incredible pace to make sure this group of learners are not disadvantaged against their peers, providing opportunity and exploration alongside the intensity of our expectations.

More information on our recovery curriculum will be sent out in September

If you wish to know more information regarding the autumn term, please find the link below from the Department for Education: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parentsand-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

We are really looking forward to welcoming **all of you** back and to meet all the new families who are joining us. We will access the admin email throughout the summer so don't hesitate to contact us if you need to inform us of anything before September.

We wish you all a lovely summer holiday.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line crossing through the middle of the letters.

Jo Ryan

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