

9th July 2021

Dear Families,

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday, 8th September.

As you will be aware, since last academic year, many of the restrictions that have been in place throughout the pandemic have been lifted. Schools have also been issued with new guidelines as part of the process.

When we return, the school will no longer decide on the closure of class bubbles should there be a single positive case within a class. Any positive test will now be reported to NHS Test and Trace who will carry out contact tracing.

We have updated our risk assessment to reflect the new guidelines. Wherever possible we are seeking to return to how our school day operated before the start of the pandemic but supported by some preventative control measures. In readiness for the start of the new year, I wanted to outline the key changes which will take effect from our return on **Wednesday September 8th**.

Timings of the school Day

We will no longer be operating a staggered school day. All children in Y1 to Y6 will need to line up on the playground at 8.50am. Please ensure that your child is on time as we begin lessons as soon as we enter the building and any period of lateness will affect their learning. Reception will go straight to their classroom.

The end of the school day will return to 3.15pm for all pupils

Whilst the requirement to socially distance and wear face coverings will be lifted, we would ask that you remain sensitive to the fact that some adults may still wish to follow this practice.

Lunchtime

We will return to the majority of children eating their food in the hall from September. Lunchtime for all children will be between 12 and 1pm. Reception, Year 1 and 2 will eat their lunch in the hall first, then go outside to play. KS2 will play outside first, then eat inside from 12.30 to 1pm. Year 3, 4 and 5 will be in the hall and Year 6 in their classroom.

Ventilation

Ventilation remains a key control measure. We will therefore balance the need to open classroom windows with the need to maintain a comfortable temperature. Children will not need to wear coats in classrooms but you may wish to dress them with additional layers e.g. vests should the weather become a little colder.

COVID-19 Cases

Please remember that your child should not attend school if they display the symptoms of Covid. You should arrange for them to have a PCR test and they should isolate until the result comes back. If your child's test returns a positive result this will be picked up by NHS Test and Trace who will work with the school to follow any government guidelines. If you do have a positive result, please let the academy know so that we can provide appropriate support including access to remote learning.

Home LFD testing kits are not promoted for primary aged children.

Personal Hygiene

We will continue to promote regular hand washing throughout the school day. Children will be expected to wash their hands regularly particularly before and after lunch and when they have been to the toilet.

We will also promote good respiratory hygiene by promoting the catch it; bin it; kill it message.

Features of the school day

Many features of our pre-pandemic school day will be reestablished from September. This will include school assemblies and whole school playtime. These are important socialisation opportunities that children have missed throughout the last two years. We will be phasing in whole school playtimes and assemblies gradually, starting with two or three classes together initially.

One-way system

We will continue to use the one-way system in the morning and afternoon to avoid congestion and support social distancing.

Google Classroom

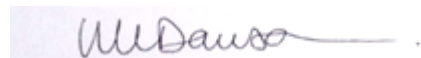
Should the need arise, we will continue to use Google classroom to support online learning. The children will all be allocated a new, updated Outwood account in the next few weeks.

School Uniform and PE kits

We will expect that children come into school in their school uniform every day. On PE days children will be getting changed into their kit in school so please can kits be in school from Monday to Friday.

We are looking forward to a more normal approach to school life and seeing everyone on Wednesday

Your faithfully



Miss Dawson
Principal