



## ARRANGEMENTS FOR WIDER SCHOOL REOPENING – RECEPTION

Thursday 28th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, the government has asked schools to prepare to be open for more pupils from June 1<sup>st</sup>. We have been working hard to make sure that school is as safe as possible for our children and staff when they return and that means that the children will notice some changes to the classrooms when they come back. I am writing to let you know what these changes will be and what plans will be in place to make Reception classes as safe, supportive and positive for your children as possible.

### **Will you be enforcing 2m social distancing for the children?**

No. It is unrealistic to expect our children to socially distance in this way. Our plan is to keep our Reception classes in their own 'bubble' with no contact with any other groups from the school whilst at the same time making reasonable adjustments to the learning environment to reduce risk wherever we can.

### **Who will be teaching our children?**

The reception children have been split into three separate bubbles. Mrs Cameron and Mrs Bevan will share a group in Willow classroom, Mrs Webster's group will be in the studio and, to make sure no group is larger than 15, Mrs Beach and Mrs Copping will share a group in Cherry class.

### **Are there any changes to dropping the children off or collecting them?**

We are staggering the start times that our children are dropped off and collected. Cherry and Willow bubbles will use the back playground via the side gate (off Acton Lane). Studio bubble will be entering school via the computer suite. We will be adopting a one way system. A member of staff will be there to assist.

The children in the Cherry bubble will start school at 8:45am and finish at 2:55pm; those in the Willow bubble will start at 9am and finish at 3:05pm; children in the Studio bubble will start at 8:50am and finish at 3:10pm. Please be punctual so we can ensure that distancing measures at drop off and collection keep you and your child as safe as possible.

Breakfast Club will still be available from 7:30 a.m. each morning but the school will run after school club until 5.30 p.m. **Please note that we cannot guarantee social distancing at either of these clubs. Usual charges apply.**

### **When will Reception classes be open?**

These classes will be open for the children from Monday to Friday. However, they will be closed on Wednesday afternoons for deep cleaning and planning and preparation time for staff. Your child will need to be collected at 12:10pm for Cherry and Studio bubbles and 12:20pm for Willow bubble.

### **What will happen at lunchtime?**

To help keep them isolated in their own group or 'bubble', the children will have their lunch outside whenever possible within their bubble, supervised by the same members of staff each day. Children entitled to Free School Meals will have a packed lunch brought to their bubble. Because the lunchtime will be staggered, there will be fewer children outside.

### **What changes have you made to the classrooms to make sure it is safe for our children?**

The safety of our children and staff is our absolute priority and has been the driving force in everything that we have done. We are also aware that the children's return to school should be as purposeful and enjoyable as possible. Some of the measures in place include:

- Space has been created by moving furniture.
- A limited selection of toys will be provided each day, with the rest being stored for another day. At the end of each day, the equipment used will be cleaned or stored away for at least a week where cleaning is not possible.
- We don't know when the government fruit and veg scheme will be in place, so children may bring in a piece of fruit or veg from home in their lunch box.
- Children will use the toilet one at a time. They will all wash their hands regularly, particularly after using the toilet and before and after eating.
- No other belongings from home will be brought in.
- Sand, water and playdough areas have been removed.

### **What happens if a child or member of staff in Reception shows symptoms of COVID-19?**

The government guidance states that children or staff who develop symptoms should be sent home and tested. If they test positive then all of the children and staff in their 'bubble' or group should isolate at home for 14 days and the bubble closed for that period, but the rest of their family will not need to unless they develop symptoms.

### **Will staff or children be wearing PPE?**

No, we have been advised that this is not necessary unless we are supervising a child who has developed symptoms of COVID-19.

### **What do the children need to bring?**

The children should wear clean school uniform each day including school shoes and bring in a named water bottle that will stay in school until the summer holidays and be washed by our staff at the end of each day. On PE days, the children should come to school wearing their PE kit to remove the need for changing.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr James.

We look forward to welcoming you back soon.

Best wishes,

Helen Arbon  
Deputy Headteacher

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