

"Tomorrow will be a good day!" Captain Sir Tom Moore



Friday 8th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'd like to provide you with an update on bubbles and arrangements for coming to/from school following two cases of coronavirus in school this week. All arrangements below will take place from Monday 8th February 2021.

1. **Due to the amount of children that we have in each bubble currently, we will be splitting the bubbles to single year group bubbles.** This means that year 1 children will no longer be mixing with year 2 children, year 3 will not be mixing with year 4 and year 5 will not be mixing with year 6 children. It also means some children being allocated new doors to enter / exit the building (see no. 2)
2. **Some doors will change for children entering / exiting the building. From Monday, entry/exit doors are as follows:**
 - Reception** – usual Reception door
 - Year 1** – Side door alongside Reception fence. To access this door, go through the MUGA and it is the first door you come to.
 - Year 2** – Main school entrance (office doors)
 - Year 3** – Right hand side door of the hall
 - Year 4** – Left hand side door of the hall
 - Year 5** – Back door of the hall (children are to go around the right had side of the building and wait on the back playground)
 - Year 6** – Stairwell door for the Y5/6 entrance (children are to go around the back of the building and wait on the back playground)Families are please reminded not to be on site too early (no more than 10 mins. Before the doors open) and also to follow social distancing and queueing on the designated markers. Please don't allow the children to run around and play.
3. **Timings are staying the same – School will continue to operate from 8:45am – 3:30pm Monday to Friday during lockdown.**
4. **Lunchtimes will go back to two sittings to reduce the amount of children in the hall.** Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 will have lunch from 12pm until 12:45pm and Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 will have lunch from 12:45pm until 1:30pm.

Other general reminders:

- a. **If you are at home / working from home, then your child should also be at home.** Due to current numbers in school, we are asking all families to reconsider whether your child really needs to be in school at this time. This is to reduce risk of transmission of the new variant in particular.
- b. **Children should be brought to school/collected from school (if not walking themselves) by one person** and you are asked to ensure that you are observing social distancing, following the signage regarding movement around the school and not staying on site once your children have been collected. Senior staff will be moving parents on if this is observed. **The car park will be locked and inaccessible to all vehicles between 8:30am and 9:30am and also between 2:45pm and 3:45pm.**
- c. **The office is open but you are asked to limit contact with office staff to emergency contact** to reduce time spent on the school site. All current ways of communicating with the school are still accessible.
- d. **Children will need to be in school uniform** and normal school rules on behaviour, attendance etc. still apply.
- e. **If your child is sandwiches for lunch, they can bring in their lunch in a lunchbox.** No other bags will be allowed to be brought into school. No book bags, no school bags and no PE bags. (remember that all Reception, Year 2 and Year 1 children are entitled to a free school dinner)
- f. **When in school, children will only work in their year group.** They will not mix with other groups at all – we'll be referring to this with children as "bubbles". Children will need to stay in their bubbles and they are not allowed to enter other bubbles. Bubbles have been created by school staff and will not be changed.
- g. **Children will be encouraged to wash their hands more frequently than normal and all good hygiene systems will be promoted and encouraged such as 'catch it, bin it, kill it!'**

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- h. **At playtimes and lunchtimes, children will not be able to play in the way they do normally.** We will be insisting on social distancing and children will be getting plenty of fresh air and activity time – but they will not be able to play games with each other that involve needing to be closer than 2 metres apart or using equipment that is shared. It is recognised that this is more difficult for younger children.
- i. **A regular curriculum will be operated;** children will be working on reading, writing, maths skills. Topics will involve a lot of outside activity to support good ventilation and social distancing.
- j. If a child is showing signs of Coronavirus, we have thermometers in school to take a temperature. If a child has symptoms, the child will need to go home and the child will be tested for Coronavirus. If that test is positive, the whole of the bubble (all children and staff) will need to isolate for 10 days. If the test is negative, the child can return to school.
- k. Parents who decide to keep their children at home during this time will be contacted regularly for updates much the same as is happening currently.

Thank you again for your continued support and understanding during this pandemic – I can assure you that we are desperate to have all children back as soon as it is safe to do so – but that time is not now. The minute we receive any more guidance regarding wider school opening, we will be in touch with a substantial plan.

Take care and stay safe everyone.

My kindest and most sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jonathan Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mr. J. Williams (Headteacher)