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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all enjoying your summer break and getting some well-deserved family time, currently staff are also busy planning and preparing for the children returning to school for the Autumn Term.

Just a reminder all children will start back on **Wednesday 1st September**.

As you will know the government has now moved us into Step 4 of the 'Covid Roadmap to recovery' this has allowed for all community places to reopen and has allowed people to mix with other people in a way that is almost back to normal. The changes have also impacted upon schools and whilst we can start to return to normal, we are still required to be mindful of keeping Covid 19 transmissions low and must have procedures ready to be put into place should we be directed to by the government or the local authority at short notice.

Procedures that **will remain** in schools:

- Children will still be regularly washing and sanitising their hands throughout the day
- We ask that children do not bring in things from home and keep any items coming into school to an absolute minimum
- Children will still be asked to come to school in their PE kit initially – a letter will be out shortly to your child's year group detailing PE days for the Autumn Term
- Class emails will remain in place for parents to communicate directly with their child's class teacher, we have found these a great advantage for working parents. Class emails will be checked by staff once per day, however if you have urgent information you wish to share or discuss please speak to the main office on **0115 9638649**
- Regular additional thorough cleaning regimes will continue in school
- Good ventilation is still important in school, so windows will remain open when rooms are in use
- **Pupils displaying symptoms of Covid 19 should not come to school and children displaying symptoms at school will be sent home to try to prevent the spread of the virus**

### **Routines for starting back in September**

- **Start of the day** - We will no longer have staggered starts and end of the day times, however we still want to minimise the number of parents and children on the playground at any one time, and to be able to support with the improved car parking situation we have seen outside of the school gates, particularly in a morning. **School will officially start at 8.50am and finish at 3.10pm. In the morning all class doors will be open from 8.40am and staff will be available to supervise children. Therefore, we are now encouraging from September that KS2 children continue to come around to their year group entrances independently or to be dropped off at the drop off zone independently and go straight up to class. KS1 and F2/Reception children can be dropped off at their classroom door (Year 1 and Year 2 or their class gate (Reception classes) from 8.40am until 8.50am.** This should then reduce the need for cars to be parked outside school for any length of time and also help reduce the number of parents and children waiting around on the playground. Staff will be available on the entrance doors, around the drop off zone and around the school building to support the children and help direct them if they need it.

- We know that many parents like to take ‘first day’ school photos which are lovely to see, but we kindly ask that these are taken at home so we don’t block the entrances for children coming into school. Please also ensure you don’t park in the drop off zone or drop off children on the crossing as this has resulted in increased risks to pedestrians on the school site.
- Children will need to be in **full uniform and school shoes** and dressed appropriately for the weather with a coat if needed. They need a small bag to hold their reading book and pupil organiser, a water bottle and lunch box if they are having sandwiches.
- **School dinners** – School dinners are available to purchase via Parentmail and must be purchased in advance, please remember to order your meal even if your child is eligible for Universal Free School Meals or Credit related Free School Meals (For more information about eligibility and how to apply for Free School Meals please contact the school office who will be happy to help you).
- We know the dismissing of children at the end of the day is always slower the first few weeks whilst staff get to know parents, so please bear with us, your child safety is our priority.
- Wearing of face coverings in more populated areas is only advised but no longer mandatory, however some parents / carers and staff may still make the personal choice to wear one
- At the end of the day, we ask that parents stand outside their child’s exit door/gate, but please ensure you stand back so that staff can see parents more easily and enable dismissal procedures to be speedier.

**Class drop-off / collection points**

Year Group/s	Collection / Drop-off point
Nursery / F1	Nursery gate
Reception / F2	Class gate (as shown on transition visits)
Year 1 and Year 2	Classroom doors (around the back of the building)
Year 3 and Year 4	Stairwell door (door to the right of the school’s main office/reception door)
Year 5 and Year 6	Stairwell door (door at the far end of the school building next to the school fields)

We very much look forward to seeing our children return to school and hopefully a more normal year ahead.

Yours Sincerely,



Nicola Davies  
**Executive Headteacher**



Sam Arnold  
**Head of School**

## Government Guidance

Below are extracts from current guidance that has been published by the Government that parents /carers will find useful (please note this is subject to ongoing updates by the Government):

### ➤ Face Masks:

The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. But please be aware that we

### ➤ Children self-isolating:

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

**Self-isolation is only necessary if they are displaying symptoms themselves and are taking or waiting for results of a PCR test or if they have tested positive for Covid 19.**

### ➤ Pupil wellbeing and support:

Some pupils may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as anxiety, stress or low mood. You can access useful links and sources of support on promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools.

[Promoting and Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing in schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/promoting-and-supporting-mental-health-and-wellbeing-in-schools-and-colleges)