

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: Full School Opening Monday 8th March 2021

We are pleased to inform you that, following the Prime Minister's recent address, we will be opening the school for **all pupils** from **Monday 8th March 2021**.

We are very much looking forward to having you all back in the school and returning to face-to-face learning.

The government have made it clear that school attendance is mandatory and is therefore compulsory for all pupils, unless they are part of the clinically extremely vulnerable group. Our expectation is that **all pupils must return** on Monday 8th March 2021. We are looking forward to seeing you all then.

However, we are very clear that Covid-19 has not gone away, and therefore we must continue with the measures to prevent the spread of the virus which we have had in place from September 2020.

May I remind you of the measures below, and ask that you ensure that you and your children (where necessary) follow these at all times:

- There will be slightly staggered start and finish times (see below), to encourage social distancing between members of our school community.
- Parents will not be permitted to come into the school building (with the exception of Nursery parents) and parents will be expected to social distance from each other in the playground and swiftly drop off and pick up their child at the correct times. We encourage masks to be worn by parents in the playground.
- Where parents do enter the school building, they **must** wear a face covering and sanitise their hands on entry. (Mainly applies to Nursery parents)
- We encourage pupils to walk, bike, or scoot to school rather than take public transport, wherever possible.
- We will operate year group 'bubbles' and there will be no interaction between year groups.
- There will be regular sanitising of the building and resources, and washing of hands thoroughly and frequently.
- Pupils will spend most of the time in their classrooms or in the outside areas of the school.
- Lunch will be delivered and eaten in the classroom.
- There is a one way system around the school.
- The curriculum will be broad and balanced and will swiftly address gaps in learning.
- Most importantly, school will be as fun and exciting as it has always been.

NHS Test & Trace and Lateral Flow Testing

In order to stop the spread of Covid-19, school staff are undertaking twice weekly lateral flow testing to detect and isolate asymptomatic infection, and the school is engaged fully with NHS Test & Trace. This testing is not currently available for primary school pupils, and we continue to advise parents/guardians to follow the guidance below.

Symptoms of Covid-19 and reporting cases of Covid-19

Continue to monitor your child's health- if they are unwell then **they should not come to school**.

If your child has **any** of the symptoms of Covid-19 (a high temperature, new continuous cough, or loss of taste/smell) you **must keep them and any siblings at home, and seek a test immediately**. You must let us know the outcome of that test.

If your child has come into contact with someone who has Covid-19 then they **must stay at home and self-isolate**, the self-isolation period is 10 days. Remote learning will be in place for this period.

General illness

If your child has been ill with vomiting or diarrhoea the night before or the morning of a school day, please keep your child at home. Children should not return to school until **48 HOURS** after their last episode of vomiting/diarrhoea.

Similarly, if you have felt it necessary to give your child medication in the morning, including calpol, they are not fit to come into school and **must stay at home**. Please make sure that the office has up-to-date contact numbers so that you can be contacted if your child is unwell.

Uniform

All pupils will be expected to be in uniform, and this should be kept to as best you can. It is important that pupils feel a sense of belonging to a community and uniform helps to support this. PE kit can continue to be worn on PE days, as before. Your child's teacher will inform you of their PE days.

If you require additional uniform, admin staff will be in the playground with order forms- these should be completed and returned with the correct money to the school, and your order will then be given your child.

Start and finish times from Monday 8th March

We expect pupils to be dropped off and picked up at the correct time, and we are asking parents and families not to socialise in the playground.

Year Group	Entrance/Exit Door	Start Time	Finish Time Mon - Thurs	Finish time Friday
Nursery	Entrance – Main door Exit –Main door	8.30am	11.45am	11.45am
Reception	Entrance – Reception door Exit –Reception door	9.00am	3.25pm	2.30pm
Year 1	Entrance – Year 1 door Exit - Year 1 door	9.00am	3.25pm	2.30pm
Year 2	Entrance – Main door Exit – Year 2 door	9.00am	3.25pm	2.30pm
Year 3	Entrance – Year 2 door Exit –Main door	8.45 am	3.15pm	2.20 pm
Year 4	Entrance –Year 2 door Exit –Main door	8.45am	3.15pm	2.20pm
Year 5	Entrance –Main door Exit –Year 1 door	8.45 am	3.15pm	2.20pm
Year 6	Entrance –Year 1 door Exit –Year 1 door	8.45am	3.15pm	2.20pm

I cannot stress enough the importance of returning to full-time education from the 8th of March. We see it as essential to ensuring that your child's transition back to school and their continued development is supported in the best way possible. As the year progresses, we will continue to monitor poor attendance closely, and if necessary you will be referred to the attendance social worker for further investigation.

We know that the last year has been a very disruptive and anxious time for our school community, however we have always put the wellbeing of the children and their families at BPA of highest priority, and we are there to support you and your children in whatever way we can.

I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 8th March 2021. The remote learning offer will continue to be provided for your child until that time, with some exciting events and work being set for Thursday and Friday of next week as we celebrate World Book Day remotely.

Yours faithfully,
Caroline Crosdale - *Headteacher*