

## **We are back in September!**

Dear Parents

I am writing regarding our arrangements for opening school in September. Following The Government's recently published guidance, we have spent time interpreting the information given, putting plans into place and are now communicating the systems that will be in place when the children return to school on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**.

It is important to remember that there is not a "one size fits all model" that every school will follow. Each school is guided by its own risk assessment, which is based on a number of factors including: staffing, the school building and the school site. Arrangements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September can be found in the main body of this letter.

The following bullet points are the headline information from the guidance document that has driven our decision making for September:

-  School will be compulsory for all pupils, in all year groups
-  Extensive cleaning systems must remain in place. This includes regular hand washing and cleaning of areas of high contact
-  Children will be grouped in class/year groups with minimal contact with other year groups
-  Movement around the school will be kept to a minimum
-  To avoid large numbers of children and parents/carers gathering on the playground, schools should consider staggered start and collection times
-  Classes/Year Group of children will self-isolate if a test for COVID-19 is positive
-  School kitchens should be open
-  School uniform can be worn and do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual
-  Schools should consider resuming any breakfast and after-school provision
-  Schools should continue to teach an ambitious and broad curriculum
-  OfSTED inspections will continue to be suspended for the autumn term
-  At this point in time, statutory assessments will take place in the summer of 2021
-  From September 2020, Key Worker and vulnerable children will be integrated into their year groups

Whilst we have all found this time away from school challenging, we have been incredibly impressed with how resilient the children have been in the year groups who have been in school since the 8<sup>th</sup> June. The children have come into school wanting to 'get on with it'. This we feel is because of the positive conversations happening at home, welcoming staff and ensuring that children are hearing the right messages. Further support for your child's return to school can be found in the attachment.

Please read the following information carefully which highlights the plans for welcoming all children back to school in September.

### **Drop off and Collection information**

In previous correspondence I have highlighted that it will be necessary to have a staggered start and end to the school day. As you will all be aware, we are a huge school and therefore the planned drop off and collection times will need to be adhered to by all members of our school community. We will only have two gates in use, one for entry and one for

exiting. If parking by the Community Centre or Sandmartin Pub, please allow time to walk around to the KS1 entrance in Bark Burr Road (at the end of the visitor car park).

**In order to keep the number of people on site to a minimum only one parent will be allowed to accompany children on site.**

There is a one-way system in place and this has worked incredibly well in ensuring that there is a flow of parents and I would like to thank all parents for following this since we reopened to more children. The one-way system will remain in place to control the flow of parents and children around the perimeter of the school building to avoid the build-up of congestion.

All children will therefore enter the school site via the KS1 gate (located at the end of the visitor car park in Bark Burr Road). Please do not arrive at school earlier than the start time for your child.

The following start and finish times will apply from September and will remain in place until further notice:

| Year Group | Start Time | Finish Time |
|------------|------------|-------------|
| Reception  | 9:00 a.m.  | 3:10 p.m.   |
| Year 1     | 8:40 a.m.  | 3:00 p.m.   |
| Year 2     | 8:30 a.m.  | 2:50 p.m.   |
| Year 3     | 8:40 a.m.  | 3:00 p.m.   |
| Year 4     | 8:30 a.m.  | 2:50 p.m.   |
| Year 5     | 8:40 a.m.  | 3:00 p.m.   |
| Year 6     | 8:30 a.m.  | 2:50 p.m.   |

  

|                          |            |            |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| Nursery 1AM (30 hours)   | 9:00 a.m.  | 3:10 p.m.  |
| Nursery 2AM (mornings)   | 9:00 a.m.  | 11.50 a.m. |
| Nursery 2PM (afternoons) | 12:10 p.m. | 3.10 p.m.  |

Parents to wait outside their child's class whilst observing the need for at least 1 metre social distancing, using the X marks where possible.

Children to line up on the X outside their relevant classroom with their parent.

Parents and pupils to leave the site in a clockwise direction around the perimeter of the building. If you have children starting at different times, you may remain on site but will need to follow the one way system to the next classroom drop off.

At the end of the day, for the first two weeks we are going to allow parents who have children in Years 2, 4 or 6 and a sibling in other classes who are finishing later, to be collected at 2:50 p.m. from class, again ensuring that the one-way system is being followed. This will be reviewed after the first two weeks and should any changes be needed these will be shared with you.

Parents are discouraged from coming into the Office foyer area. Questions or queries will need to be emailed wherever possible. Also, the **RED** post box by the entrance to the Office area should be used as a further measure to reduce the need for parents to come into Office foyer area.

Outside the classroom there is a 2m box - parents **MUST** not enter this box in order to ensure suitable social distancing for staff. If you need have a private conversation with the member of staff, please wait until all other parents and children

have left the area.

### **Class Organisation**

Before entering the classroom children will need to sanitise their hands using the sanitiser outside of the classroom, please prepare your child for this as some may find it a little worrying.

In KS1 and KS2 classes desks are arranged so that the children are ***all facing forwards towards*** the front of the class.

Children will stay within their **class bubbles in KS1** (Years 1 and 2) and within their **year group bubbles in KS2** (Years 3 to 6) for the duration of the day. In EYFS (Reception and Nursery) children will be in their **base bubbles** (i.e. classes 4 & 5 will be able to move between the class bases during learning time).

Children should all be in full school uniform.

The children will continue to follow a broad curriculum and the teachers will spend much of the first half term establishing learning behaviours, general behaviour expectations, informally assessing the children and identifying gaps in their learning and supporting the children's emotional well-being.

There will be a strong emphasis on hand hygiene and how to keep healthy.

The world is not as we knew it before the pandemic. For many children and staff, September will be the first time that all have met, face to face or in such large groups since March. The emphasis on well-being and mental health is prevalent in all of the schools' planning for September. Not just of our children, but for our staff and our community.

The Inclusion Team have been working very hard over the lockdown period and in September they will be ensuring that all children feel secure in school. If you feel your child would benefit from additional support in September please feel free to contact the school and a member of the team will get in touch.

### **Before/After School Care**

I have been in discussion with Jules et Lis about resuming before and after school provision. Depending on the appropriate risk assessments and control measures being put in to place they hope to be resuming this provision from the 3rd September. Further information will follow from them.

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

Extra-Curricular clubs play an important part in a child's education and we hope to be able to implement clubs in the autumn term, however this will be reviewed and a final decision made when we return in September.

### **Attendance**

The last guidance from the Government states that attendance, from September, is mandatory for all children unless individuals are at extremely high risk. Our Inclusion Team will be at hand to support families with any anxieties they may have. No term time holiday will be authorised.

In order to keep disruption to a minimum we are also asking parents to avoid making appointments for their children during the school day. Should it not be possible to re-arrange an appointment for after school, parents will be required to keep their child off for the whole day and will not therefore be able to leave or return part way through the day. This will be reviewed at October half term.

All entrances to school will be closed at 9:10 a.m. prompt. Any pupils arriving after 9:10 a.m. should come to the Office. You will be asked to wait outside the foyer area until a member of the Office Team can escort your child to their class.

### **School Dinners**

Our Catering Team will be providing hot dinners when we return in September. The logistics of keeping bubbles apart, having children seated not facing each other and the limited space we have will mean that our lunch breaks will be staggered over an extended period of time.

### **Contacting School**

We would like to keep traffic in and out of the Office to an absolute minimum. We therefore ask you to contact the school via email [office@tudorcourtprimary.com](mailto:office@tudorcourtprimary.com) or telephone **01375 480662** where possible.

### **Future Lockdowns**

All schools have learnt much from their experience during school closure. During this period, we have been incredibly proud of the staff and children. Staff have worked hard to provide remote home learning. We all hope we will not find ourselves in this position again, however, if we do have to close the school in the future we will continue to provide online home learning provision via Showbie or Tapestry (for Reception and Nursery). When children return to school in September, we will continue our review of home learning, seeking feedback from staff, parents and children.

As we finally reach the end of the most unusual and challenging school year, I would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September. We wish all the children leaving us at the end of this academic year the very best of luck with the next step in their education journey.

Phil Kyriacou  
Head Teacher