



## **Friday Flyer – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021**

Dear Parent

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and have kept safe and well throughout. We are looking forward to welcoming you back next Monday!

I am writing to you to confirm the arrangements for children returning to school in September after the easing of Covid restrictions nationally.

Whilst this letter is a lengthy one, I hope that it will answer many of your questions about how school will be organised in the Autumn Term. As you will be aware, guidance and restrictions will remain subject to change and these arrangements are based around the most up to date information that we hold from Public Health England and the DfE.

### **School Starting Times**

The gate will open at **8.40am until 8.55am** to enable a gentle stagger to ease congestion on the yard.

Whilst we will no longer be using the staggered drop off times, we would ask that you do not arrive any earlier than **8.35am** and we will continue to use the one-way system as this really does help with flow and minimises the number of people passing one another.

Please only enter school through the pedestrian route and not the car parks.

The gate will be locked promptly at **8.55am** and any children arriving after 8.55am should do so via the main door.

**Nursery** will start at **9:00am** prompt.

### **End of day**

At the end of the school day, children in **Nursery** are to be picked up at **3:00pm**

**Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3** children picked up at **3:10pm**.

*Reception and Y1 from their classrooms. Y2 – small playground Y3 – big playground.*

**Y4, Y5 & Y6** children picked up at **3:15pm**.

*Y4 – small playground Y5/6 – big playground.*

### **Face Coverings**

We recognise that the wearing of face coverings will now be a matter of personal choice when dropping off and collecting children. If we are given any further guidance around this by Public Health Cheshire, then we reserve the right to inform parents of any measures that might need to be reinstated which helps to protect our school community.

### **Bubbles**

The guidance around bubbles has now been removed and as such children will be allowed to mix with children from other classes at playtimes. Children will also now be allowed to cross class bubbles for the purpose of learning.

## **BEST PRACTICE WITH HAND WASHING, CLEANING AND VENTILATION**

We will continue with our enhanced routine of hand washing throughout the day. Teachers will be talking to the children about routines for hand washing along with reminding them of the 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It' slogan.

We will maintain our enhanced cleaning regime with contact points being cleaned at different points in the day.

Windows will be open to provide ventilation where possible whilst maintaining a comfortable working temperature. CO2 Monitors have been purchased to assist with monitoring air quality with each classroom.

## **WATER BOTTLES**

Please ensure that your child has a labelled water bottle. Children are able to re-fill their water bottles at any time. We encourage children to have water rather than juice in water bottles.

## **SNACKS**

Please can we remind parents that snacks should be a healthy option. Please avoid sending sweets, crisps or chocolate for children's snacks. Fruit is always available in school free of charge. We are a **NUT FREE** school so please do not send any snacks or packed lunch items that contain nuts. We have a few children with severe allergies.

## **PE KIT DAYS**

Can we ask that children come in their PE Kit on their PE day. Nursery will have PE on Thursday but getting changed in school as part of their learning.

Rec Friday, Y1 Tuesday, Y2 Friday, Y3 Wednesday, Y4 Tuesday & Wednesday, Y5 Wednesday, Y6 Wednesday.

## **LUNCHES**

We will revert back to our usual lunchtime routines whilst keeping classes separated in the hall. Children will mix on the playground at lunch. Packed lunches can be eaten outside (weather dependent) to reduce the amount of children in the hall area.

## **ASSEMBLIES**

For the time being whole school assemblies will take place virtually and will be reviewed regularly, with a view to getting back to meeting in the hall very soon.

## **UNIFORM**

Please ensure that all uniform is labelled clearly. We try our best to match up lost property with owners and this is so much easier if a full name and year group is written onto a label.

## **SYMPTOMATIC PUPILS AND NEW ISOLATION RULES**

I would like to draw your attention to the revised guidance around isolation and when children or staff display Covid19 symptoms as this has now changed significantly, with schools no longer required to undertake the Track and Trace process for pupils and staff. **The blue and yellow highlighted sections take you to relevant links.**

*The new guidance states:*

*Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#).*

*They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).*

*If anyone in school develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#), however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.*

*For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household.*

*The household (including any siblings) should follow the current PHE [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).*

## **ISOLATION AND CLOSE CONTACTS**

*In the event of a positive case, close contacts (including household members) are no longer required to isolate if:*

- *they are fully vaccinated*
- *they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months*
- *they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial*
- *they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons*

*Close contacts 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.*

*Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.*

## **CONTINGENCY PLANS**

School will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of any local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in school or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise us to temporarily reintroduce additional measures. These may include reverting to bubbles, the wearing of face masks or increased testing.

## **BLENDED LEARNING**

We have a Contingency Plan in place should any child/ren need to isolate and require remote learning. Teachers will use Tapestry and SeeSaw and our learning Apps for this, so please do ensure that you are familiar with your log in details. Don't worry if you've mislaid them as we will ensure you have them if needed.

Whilst we are very much looking forward to a more 'normal' school year, we are also mindful that Covid 19 remains a serious health issue. We would therefore urge you to remain vigilant of the symptoms and to not send your child into school if they are displaying any such symptoms.

As a school, we will always be guided by national and local guidance and will advise you of any changes that result from any advice as soon as possible.

As always, we would like to thank you for your continued support, patience, trust and resilience.

Mr Wearing & The Kelsall TEAM.