



03/09/2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following changes to government guidance regarding restrictions in place in primary schools and social distancing, please find enclosed our plans regarding school routines. For many of you, this may be a welcome return to previous routines.

Changes that we have made are as a result of updated guidance which can be found by following the link below:

### Government Guidance

Some of the key points within the guidance can be outlined as follows:

- **We no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles').**
- **Assemblies can resume, and you no longer need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch.**
- **Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.**
- **Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.**
- **Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:**
  - 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

However, it is also stated that:

- **You should make sure your contingency plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) cover the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.**





## Drop off / Collection

You will need to take your child to their designated entrance that was in place prior to staggered entry. They are:

| Gate                         | Early Years Gate<br>Main gate to the Nursery and Reception building  | The Key Stage 1 Gate<br>(at the left-hand side of the front gate that leads to the school office) | The Key Stage 2 Gate<br>(at either end of the pathway / gulley way that leads to/from Broadwell Park and McKean Road) |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Classes                      | This is for <b>Nursery and Reception</b>   | This is for <b>Years 1 and 2</b>  | This is for <b>Years 3, 4, 5 and 6</b>  |
| Start of day arrival timings | <b>Nursery (Full time and AM):</b><br>8.30 – 9.00am<br><b>Nursery (PM):</b><br>12.30pm<br><b>Reception:</b><br>8.40 – 9.00am | 8.40 – 8.55am   | 8.40 – 8.55am   |
| End of day timings           | <b>Nursery (AM):</b><br>11.30am<br><b>Nursery (full-time and PM):</b><br>3.10 – 3.30pm                                       | 3.15pm  | 3.15pm  |

Due to the above guidance, from **September 6<sup>th</sup>** when the children return to school, there will **no longer be a need for a staggered start or pick up**. School starts at **8.55am** for **all** pupils – gates will be opened at **8.40am**. Children should make their way to their own entrance where they will be able to go straight into begin learning. The doors will be closed at **8.55am**.

During this time, please help us to remind children that they should not be playing with any equipment such as footballs/balls. This helps to create a calm start to the day and ensures our children are ready to learn upon entering the building.

There is no longer a one-way system in place and you may now exit using the normal school gate. The above systems will also be in place when collecting children at the end of the day. **All** children will be released from school at **3.15pm (3.10 – 3.30pm for Nursery and Reception)**. Children will be released by members of staff from their usual exit point.





May we also take this opportunity to remind everyone that while much of this represents a return to normality, the number of cases is still steadily increasing. **Please continue to socially distance whenever possible and help us by not lingering once you have collected your child/children.**

## School Routines

As stated in the guidance, it is no longer a need to create consistent groups or bubbles. Therefore, classrooms will return to normal, with tables arranged how teachers see fit (rather than in compulsory rows). Children will be able to mix at breaktimes and lunchtimes – where we also have plans for all children to eat their lunches together, rather than sandwiches being eaten in classrooms.

Collective Worship will now be held together or in Key Stages (so some may be over Teams to classrooms) with Monday mornings being an opportunity for the children to gather together.

On **Friday afternoons**, we will hold **Merit Assembly** to celebrate some of the children's achievements and invite parents and carers to see the children receive the awards from their class teacher. We will be able to ask children to bring in any awards they have received to celebrate wider learning and experiences.

## PE Uniform

One change that we believe had a positive impact on school was the introduction of children wearing **their PE kits on the days in which they had PE**. This is something that **we will continue** with. We will send a further letter outlining when your child's PE days are and expected PE uniform.

## Home learning

We hope that we will never have to return to the days of full-time home learning. However, our learning platform **Teams** will continue to be used for homework. Therefore, children will still need their usernames. Teachers will give children a reminder of what this is when they return to school.





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Principal: Mrs J Downes

## Educational Visits

As with the end of the last academic year, we can continue to plan for trips and visits – we really believe that these visits enhance our curriculum and we cannot wait to continue with these in this new academic year. We are also planning on organising residential visits for some of our children. With many of our children missing out on residential visits over the past year, we have thought about when and where these happen, and it is likely that there will be changes to the year groups in which these now happen.

There will be a risk assessment available on our website very shortly, so please look out for this. It will also be emailed to you.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your patience and support over what has been an incredibly difficult time. You have been wonderfully supportive to your children and the staff. We pray that this will be a more positive year in that we are able to be freer in what we can do. We are very much looking forward to seeing our boys and girls return as well as looking forward to welcoming new members to our school family. Stay safe and well, all.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Downes  
Principal

