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Monday6th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Plans for Reopening in September**

Please see below for a reminder of our plans for reopening tomorrow.

Some of the rules will be relaxed, but we will continue to follow updated guidance and keep appropriate measures in place while COVID rates remain high. These measures will be published in our risk assessment available on our website.

**Beginning of Term**

Children in Years 1 to 6 will be returning to school on **Tuesday 7th September**. The dates for Reception and Nursery children to start has been arranged separately with parents.

**School Start and Finish Times**

School will start at 8:55am and finish at 3:00pm for all children in Reception to Year 6. Children will be escorted to the class from the playground. Please ensure that children are in the playground by 8:55am.

Children are to be collected from the playground at 3:00pm. Access to the playground will be from the main gate on Golbourne Street and the lower gate on Kensington Street. We will no longer be running a one-way system.

**Play times and lunchtimes**

We will continue with staggered playtimes and lunchtimes. This was a real success during lockdown. As there are fewer pupils in the playground, children have more space to play and are better able to access activities. To enable this, children will continue to remain in school over lunchtime, so there will be no home dinners.

**School uniform**

Please ensure pupils are wearing the appropriate uniform including plain black footwear below the ankle. Our uniform policy can be found on our school website.

**P.E.**

Children will start P.E. on the second week back. We will inform children and parents in the first week what day they need to wear their P.E. uniform on. They must then come to school in their P.E. uniform on that day.







 

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**How we will continue to make the school safe**

New guidance provided by the Department of Education means that some of the restrictions we were following before have been removed or reduced. For example: we will no longer be involved in contact tracing, children will not need to remain in class bubbles and we will not need to use staggered starts and finishes.

We will however continue with regular cleaning and hand washing. We will also continue with social distancing measures, including visitors wearing masks inside when 2 metres social distancing is not possible. We will maintain good ventilation in all classrooms and common rooms.

In addition to this we will continue to limit the mixing of pupils. This will mean we start the year by not mixing year groups during activities such as assemblies and having lunch. We will start the year continuing to use lunch pack for dinners so some children can continue to eat in the classroom. We will start to relax these rules when it safe to do so, in line with our risk assessment and other guidance.

**Children’s mental health and wellbeing**

For most children the routine and structure of the school day will be important to help them return. However, teachers are very mindful that some children returning may find this more difficult than others. We will support any children and their families where this is the case. Wellbeing is already an important part of our curriculum, and will continue to be so.

**Remote Learning**

While we will not be involved in contact tracing, children who have COVID symptoms will still need to self-isolate and book a PCR test. We will continue to support these children’s learning remotely.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS COVID SYMPTOMS PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM INTO SCHOOL AND BOOK A PCR TEST. The symptoms are a high temperature, a continuous cough or a loss of taste or smell.

**Attendance**

COVID has had a significant impact on attendance over the year. We are continuing to do all that we can to support children in recovering from the disruption caused by school closures and self -isolation. With the change in restrictions we hope that this disruption will be significantly reduced. In order to ensure that pupils close any gaps in their learning, we will be prioritising good attendance for all pupils. Please ensure that your child attends school every single day, unless they have COVID symptoms, are self-isolating or are really unwell.

We look forward to welcoming the children back tomorrow.

Yours faithfully

Mr Morrison

Headteacher