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14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcoming Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children back into school

I hope this letter finds you and your families very well. As you know, we have been closed to most children since 23rd March this year. Our doors are currently only open to certain children as outlined in government guidance. The government have now said that we should welcome more children into school from 1st June, if conditions allow it. Please see this link for more government information about this:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

I understand that you may have some worries and concerns around this and so we have been planning very carefully about how to do it as safely as possible. I am writing to provide you with details about our procedures so that you can be make an informed decision around your child's attendance.

- Children will be working in much smaller groups than usual. These groups, or 'bubbles' will never meet each other because they will be in separate rooms.
- The start and end of the day, break times and lunchtimes will be staggered so that children and adults who drop them off will never be in dangerously crowded situations.
- Children will always be with the same adult in school and working in the same room.
- Children will not share any school equipment. They will have their own trays under their desks with everything they need. All items will be wiped every evening with anti-viral wipes.
- Children will remain with their groups or bubble at all times. Visits to the toilet will be regular and taken together, although social distancing measures will be followed, such as only two children in the toilets at any time and 2 metre apart queueing in the corridor.
- Each room will have hand sanitiser and hand washing or sanitising will be done every hour.
- Lunch will be eaten in classrooms and tables will be disinfected before and after eating.
- Classrooms will be set out so that children are sitting at a distance from one another.
- Reception and Nursery will have reduced resources that are easy to clean. For example, no dressing up clothes, soft toys or furnishings. All resources will be disinfected every day.



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- Nursery will be split into morning and afternoon children so that groups or 'bubbles' can be smaller than usual.
- As much outdoor learning as possible will be planned but this will be carefully timetabled so that 'bubbles' will never meet.
- All door handles and surfaces will be cleaned every morning as well as a rigorous cleaning routine after school hours.
- There will be no assemblies or other times of the school day when classes gather together.
- Children who display any symptoms of Covid-19 will be immediately isolated and parents called. The government have said that they will then be eligible for a test, the results of which will then inform future action.
- There are infrared non-contact thermometers in school and children's temperature will be checked every morning, although we know that this is not a reliable way of detecting Covid – 19 on its own.

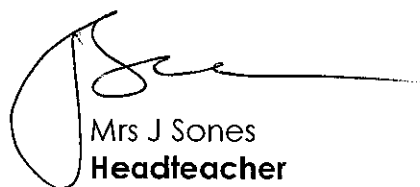
I understand that this all sounds very strange, but please rest assured, we have planned some wonderful learning experiences for children so that they can continue to enjoy learning, even though the school will initially feel very different to them.

The Prime Minister has also said that he would like every primary school child to have a month in school before the summer holidays if possible. We have also planned for this and, if and when it happens, it will follow the same pattern. Children will work in 'bubbles' of no more than 15 children to allow social distancing. Timetables will be developed so that children will never meet another 'bubble'.

For this initial phase when we only welcome Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y6 into school, we have developed a timetable including staggered morning drop off times, staggered breaks, lunches and pick up times. This is quite complicated and so I will share it with you when I have had a chance to make it look tidier and easier to understand than it currently does!

Next week, I will be contacting parents of children in the year groups who will return first to find out if you are confident for your children to return to school on 1st June.

Until then, take care,



Mrs J Sones
Headteacher



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