

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to be welcoming all our pupils back on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021. We are currently busy updating our Risk Assessments and these will be available to view on the academy website very soon. This has felt like a very different lockdown to the first one a year ago. We have around half of our children in currently at each school based on government criteria, which we strictly adhere to. Thank you to those of you who are key workers who have continued to keep your children off when you are working at home, it has meant that we have been able to keep numbers as low as we possibly can.

Please find below the arrangements for full return on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021:

### **1. Attendance**

School attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8 March 2021. The usual rules on school attendance apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

### **2. Uniform**

All pupils are required to wear full school uniform. Due to the requirements for increased ventilation in the school buildings, you may provide your child/ren with an extra jumper or gilet/jacket to wear during the colder days.

*Uniforms do not need to be cleaned:*

- *more often than usual*
- *using different methods*

### **Please note:**

**Monday** - whole school to wear PE kit to school

**Thursday** – Class 1 to wear PE kit to school

**Friday** – Classes 2 and 3 to wear PE kit to school

### **3. Before and after school provision**

Busy Bodies, our before and after school club, will be running as usual. Please contact school asap if you would like places booking. All cleaning procedures adopted during school hours will continue in our out of hour's provision.

### **4. After school sports clubs**

The DfE guidance states:

*You can work with external coaches, clubs and organisations for curricular and extra-curricular activities. You must be satisfied that it is safe to do.*

Where we can ensure social distancing measures can be achieved between bubbles, we will be offering after school sports clubs. A letter is attached to this email regarding the SoccerStars After School Club for children in Years 1 to 4.

## 5. Pick up and drop off arrangements

The arrangements from March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 are given below. **Please can I ask that face coverings are worn by all adults when dropping off and picking up the children.**

Class 1 - 9.00 a.m. drop off - 3:15 p.m. pick up

Class 2 - 8:55 a.m. drop off - 3:10 p.m. pick up

Class 3 - 8:50 a.m. drop off - 3:05 p.m. pick up

**Please arrive and drop off promptly at your allocated time to help us maintain social distancing in the playground, entrance hall and corridor. Siblings can be dropped off at the earliest time and collected at their class time.**

**Class 1 parents – please make sure you are standing in the front playground to receive your child at 3.15pm.**

**Please park on the layby by Town Head Farm at the end of the lane to avoid congestion outside the school gates.**

## 6. Classrooms

The layout of classrooms will remain Covid 19 compliant as far as manageable in our setting.

*'Schools should make small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. That should include seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on'*

We would ask that the children bring their own named pencil case, if they haven't already done so. A set of resources such as pencils, crayons etc will be provided. Each child will need to provide their own named water bottle. These will be sent home on Friday afternoons for a thorough clean over the weekend and to be returned on Monday mornings. Any equipment for lessons such as cubes in maths etc will be sterilised at the end of each day. Reading books will be sent home but on returning them to school, there will be a designated basket in each classroom where these will be placed until it is safe to return them to our book boxes. We ask that other items are not bought into school for show and tell etc.

Class 1 - it would be helpful if the children in Class 1 could bring a named pair of wellingtons in a named bag to keep in school for outdoor activities such as gardening when the weather allows.

## 7. Curriculum

The curriculum will operate as normal with all subjects being taught but with an enhanced focus on mental health and wellbeing, PSHE and outdoor education. The first few weeks back will be assessing any gaps in the pupils' knowledge and understanding. This will be done at pupil level and bespoke interventions will be planned and carried out on a needs basis. We are providing emotional support to our pupils through continued sessions with Relax Kids. Information about Relax Kids can be found following the link below:

<https://www.relaxkids.com/>

The children love these sessions and have had a hugely positive impact which is why we are continuing to fund these for the rest of the academic year.

## 8. Face Coverings

Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils in Primary Schools. **Please can I ask that face coverings are worn by all adults when dropping off and picking up the children.** Staff will be wearing face coverings in communal areas where social distancing cannot be maintained but will not be wearing them to teach. Some staff may wear visors when working with pupils on a 1:1 basis, delivering interventions or hearing pupils read.

## 9. Lunchtimes

Children will sit in their class 'bubbles' and tables will be spaced appropriately. For those who pay for a school lunch, the cost will continue to be £2.30 per meal. The current menu is attached for information.

## 10. Free School Meals

We are aware that unfortunately for some of you your financial circumstances may have changed. Please do not hesitate to apply for free school meals through Staffordshire County Council:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

Your child may already be eligible for the government funded universal infant free school meals (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) or they may bring sandwiches but a successful application benefits both your family and our school as we receive extra funding.

## 11. Cleaning

We have already adopted enhanced cleaning procedures during the school day since September 2020. These procedures are now embedded and will continue. Pupils will be asked to wash their hands on entering school and each class has a set rota for hand washing throughout the day. We have installed automatic hand sanitiser dispensers at the entry to each classroom, in the entrance hall and the annexe. There is no need to send your child with their own unless they have a sensitivity to our products.

## 12. System of controls - prevention

***Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend the school***

***When an individual develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or has a positive test***

*Pupils, staff and other adults **must not** come into the school if:*

- *they have one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)*
- *a member of their household (including someone in their [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms they are required to [quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area](#)*
- *they have had a positive test*

*They must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:*

- *the start of their symptoms*
- *the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a [Lateral Flow Device \(LFD\) or Polymerase Chain Reaction \(PCR\) test](#))*

*Anyone told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their public health protection team has a legal obligation to self-isolate, but you may leave home to avoid injury or illness or to escape risk of harm. More information can be found on [NHS Test and Trace: how it works](#).*

*If anyone in school develops a new and continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we:*

- *must send them home to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the*

- symptoms started and the next 10 full days*
- *advise them to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)*
  - *advise them to [arrange to have a test](#) as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)*

*Other members of their household (including any siblings and members of their support or childcare bubble if they have one) should self-isolate. Their isolation period includes the day symptoms started for the first person in their household, or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms, whether this was a [Lateral Flow Device \(LFD\) or Polymerase Chain Reaction \(PCR\) test](#), and the next 10 full days. If a member of the household starts to display symptoms while self-isolating they will need to restart the 10 day isolation period and book a test.*

*If anyone tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they must restart the 10 day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms.*

### **13. Parent consultations**

There are currently no plans for an official parent evening this term. However, if you have any concerns we can arrange a telephone appointment for you and likewise, once we have had the opportunity to work with the children we will contact you should we feel there is anything we need to discuss.

I hope this has provided you with all the necessary information and reassurances for a safe and happy return to school on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. The safety of our staff and pupils is paramount and all guidance has been strictly adhered to. If you would like any further information, then please contact myself or the senior staff member at your child's school.

Best wishes

Rebecca Walker  
Executive Headteacher