

Dear Parents/carers,

Although I am still working on a number of aspects of school life for September, I have focused my efforts over this last week on trying to make sure that I can provide parents with answers about the things that are most important in terms of planning for September. By the end of term I will have a full risk assessment and new protocols in place, but for now, I hope that the following is useful:

Overview:

I think everyone already knows this, but just in case, all children are expected to return to full-time schooling in September. For my schools that means a return on **Monday 7th September** as we will have our traditional training days with staff on Thursday and Friday of the previous week. We are welcoming **everyone** back on Monday 7th September and I hope that school will be fairly close to normal. I will confirm arrangements for drop-off and pick-up times closer to the time, which I don't expect will still need to be staggered.

Summary of new measures that will be in place:

Social distancing:

- As I can now increase 'bubble size', each **school** will become its own 'bubble' with reduced contact and maximised distancing between the Juniors and Infants where possible.
- The overarching principle is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff and to continue to promote good hand and respiratory hygiene.
- There will be enhanced handwashing and an availability of hand gels.
- Children are to be seated side by side and forward facing although we recognise that this won't always be suitable for our Infant Children. Our Infant children will still get to participate in 'play based learning'.
- Parents are required to follow any relevant school risk assessments, rules, current Coronavirus (COVID-19) Government guidance and meet hygiene expectations, which should also be communicated in the home environment.
- We have sufficient provision (PPE) to administer medication, first aid and provide intimate care, operating to the latest additional guidance.
- Different groups will not need to be allocated their own toilets.
- Staff can move between schools and 'bubbles'.
- Staff can provide interventions as usual for pupil with SEND.

Pick-up and Drop-Offs:

The current plan is to keep our normal drop-off windows at each school, but with clear protocols in place for parents. These include at Wigley, 1m markings outside of both sets of gates. Infants will use the bottom gate whilst Juniors will use the usual top gate (please use either the fox and goose car park or school lane – do not park on the road outside of the school gates). The same markings will be outside the large gate at Penny Acres. We will use different doors for each class and will have a member of staff outside to ensure protocols are followed and to welcome the children and a member of staff inside to receive the children once they have entered and hands have been washed. **Parents will not be able to come onto the school premises.**

Visitors:

We will have no, unplanned visitors to the school and the only planned visitors will be for things like essential maintenance. Where we do need to have a visitor they will undertake their visit away from everyone else with strict distancing, hand-washing and all other infection control measures in place. Regular visitors will not be coming in, nor will music teachers.

Unfortunately, parents are included in this protocol and will not be allowed onto either school premises.

Resources:

Each child will have their own resources they will need for regular tasks. We want to avoid having to clean resources day-to-day and children having their own things that no-one else touches is one way of achieving this. Some other school resources will be rotated and left for 72 hours after use.

We ask that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring to school each day, to essentials such as water bottles, lunch boxes, hats, coats, sun creams and books. Please do not allow your child to bring in toys from home.

Bags are allowed and pupils can take books home although unnecessary sharing is to be avoided.

Reception Starters:

From Monday 7th September, the reception children will follow the same timetable as all other infant children. Please consider the types of clothes you send your child to school in e.g. elasticated waist trousers, skirts, Velcro shoes/trainers (any clothing that does not require adult assistance/supervision). Sadly, we need to be clear that parents will need to work with younger children to be able to make the final steps themselves as staff will not be able to 'peel' children off parents as we sometimes do normally.

Attendance:

From September, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- Parent's duty to secure that their child attends at school where they are a registered pupil.
- School's responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence.
- The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with the local authority's code of conduct.
- Some pupils, no longer required to shield, but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school in September (usually at their next planned clinical appointment).

Catering:

As they have during partial reopening, our kitchens will continue to offer hot meals as per usual.

Curriculum:

Both of my schools will maintain a breadth of curriculum. All subjects will be taught, but my teachers will prioritise core areas of subjects.

- **Reception** will prioritise language, vocabulary, phonics, early reading, maths and outdoor learning.
- **KS 1 & 2** will prioritise identification of gaps, progress in reading, phonics, vocabulary, writing and maths AND the full range of subjects.

Uniform:

We will be returning to our usual uniform policy in the Autumn term. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

Junior Swimming:

Although it has now been announced that pools can reopen later in July, we have no idea what the impact on school swimming sessions will be. As soon as we know more, we will let everyone know.

Communication:

Parents will be asked to provide any information or ask questions via the enquires@pennyacres.derbyshire.sch.uk or info@wigley.derbyshire.sch.uk email addresses as we will not be facilitating the normal drop-off/pick-up 'chats' and a normal telephone service will not always be available.

Kind regards,

Mr David Ratcliffe

Executive Headteacher