

## Phase 3 full opening (September 2020)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following recent government guidance, I am writing to let you know about pertinent arrangements for the start of the new school year. I am delighted to inform you that from the beginning of the Autumn Term, we will be able to open fully for **all** pupils. In order to do this as safely and effectively as possible there will be a great number of procedures and changes that we will need to implement in order to minimise risks – once a thorough plan has been created we will communicate this to you (please note that this is likely to be during the summer holidays).

What I can tell you is that, similar to Phase 1 and 2, children will remain in their whole class bubbles for the entirety of the day: this is to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day. This will mean that drop off, collection, break and lunch arrangements will be staggered, as well as changes to ‘normal’ activities like assemblies, lessons and clubs.

Separating groups and keeping them apart is the overarching principle to be applied from the guidance. In addition, other key measures will be in place, these include: a requirement that people who are ill stay at home; robust hygiene measures; enhanced cleaning; active engagement with NHS test and trace; reducing distance between those in the school community; and minimising potential for contamination.

For now, I am able to provide you with the following key information about the end of this term and the start of the school year. To be clear, as mentioned above, more comprehensive guidance will follow during the summer holidays.

### **New Classes**

Next Wednesday (15<sup>th</sup> July), a video will be posted as a daily briefing to inform children who their teacher will be next year; this will be followed by a letter to parents confirming the details for each class. In addition to this, a survey will be sent to you, to fill out with your child, in order for teachers to gain further information for a smooth transition. This will include any questions that your child may have, what they enjoy about learning and areas that they would like to improve.

### **Ending and Transition**

We feel that it is extremely important for the pupils to have effective closure and transition for this school year. Due to the current guidance, this has not been possible to achieve this term, therefore this will be completed during the first two days of the new school term. It is our aim that on either Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> or Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September that each class will have a ‘closure’ morning with their current teacher and a transition afternoon with their new teacher.

Plan for the start of term:

<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>Drop off</b>	<b>Collection</b>
Current Year 1 (Mrs Burtt’s class)	9.00 <i>Year 1 garden</i>	2.50 <i>Year 2 garden</i>
Current Year 3 (Miss Kavanagh’s class)	8.50 <i>Top playground</i>	3.10 <i>Top playground</i>
Current Year 5 (Miss Steadman’s class)	8.40 <i>Top playground</i>	3.00 <i>Top playground</i>

*Please adhere strictly to these times. If waiting outside the school we respectfully ask you to follow 1M+ physical distancing.*

<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Drop off</b>	<b>Collection</b>
Current Reception (Mrs Simon's class)	9.00 <i>Reception garden</i>	2.50 <i>Year 1 garden</i>
Current Year 2 (Miss Knott's class)	8.50 <i>Year 2 garden</i>	3.10 <i>Top playground</i>
Current Year 4 (Mrs Russ's class)	8.40 <i>Top playground</i>	3.00 <i>Top playground</i>

Please adhere strictly to these times. If waiting outside the school we respectfully ask you to follow 1M+ physical distancing.

### **Drop Off and Collection for Full Opening**

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, all pupils are expected to be back on a full-time timetable. The only exception to this is if they are isolating due to having coronavirus symptoms, if they are unwell enough to attend school or if they have been granted a leave of absence by the headteacher.

<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Drop off</b>	<b>Collection</b>
<b>All classes back – Full Time</b>		
Nursery ( <i>from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September</i> )	8.50am	11.50am
Reception ( <i>from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September</i> )	8.40am	2.50pm
Year 1	9.10am	3.20pm
Year 2	9.00am	3.10pm
Year 3	8.40am	2.50pm
Year 4	9.00am	3.10pm
Year 5	8.50am	3.00pm
Year 6	9.10am	3.20pm

The staggered start and finish times will not reduce the amount of teaching time, and timetables for September have been devised to cover our 'recovery curriculum'; a review of these arrangements will take place at the end of September. Please note that it is very important for your child to be dropped off and picked up at the allocated times – this will help to minimise risk of transmission by ensuring safe physical distancing. Please also note that siblings must be dropped off at the earliest time and collected at the latest time. For example, if someone had children in Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5, they would drop off all their children at 8.40am and collect all their children at 3.20pm.

### **School Lunch**

From the first day of children coming back, the school will be offering a limited range of hot lunch options or packed lunch. The menu that we can offer will be reviewed, with the intention of having a full menu by the end of September. It would be extremely useful to have an idea of how many children intend to have a school meal for the beginning of the Autumn Term so that the school kitchen can plan accordingly. Therefore, we ask that parents complete the attached survey by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Early Bird (before school) and Night Owl (after school) Wraparound Provision**

It is our intention to resume the early bird and night owl clubs in the Autumn Term. However, this will be logistically challenging as the clubs will provide for pupils across different 'bubbles'. Therefore, we aim to review when and how the clubs will start during the second week of the Autumn Term.

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

At this current time, extra-curricular clubs will not take place during the first half of the Autumn Term. This will be reviewed for the second half of the Autumn Term.

### **School Uniform**

All pupils will need to return in their usual Gade Valley school uniform. The advice states that: *'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'*.

There is a small stock of uniform available from the school office, which will be open for purchases from 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Please note that PE will resume in the first week of the new term; the curriculum of this will be adapted as contact sports must be avoided and resources will be difficult to share. However, pupils will still need correct PE kit for their lessons.

### **Stationery**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not require any handwriting equipment or pencil case items - these will be provided. Children in Year 3 to Year 6 will require: two blue handwriting pens (not biros please), two pencils, a pencil sharpener, a rubber and a glue stick. Additionally, they can have supplementary items in their pencil case such as coloured pencils or scissors.

### **Lost Property**

In each classroom there are various items that have been left by the children, these include jumpers, trainers etc. Please contact the office to arrange a suitable time for collection.

### **Parent Questions**

As stated, during the summer holidays, parents will be sent comprehensive information regarding the various procedures we will need to implement within school. In order to make this as beneficial as possible, if you have any general questions that you feel are particularly pertinent, please add these to the attached survey and they will be answered generally. If you have any personal questions, please make contact with the office. [Survey Link](#)

I hope this letter helps to clarify any immediate questions relating to your child's start in September. It is by no means exhaustive and you will receive further detailed information during the summer holidays. Please note that the Covid 19 situation is forever evolving and as a result, we will be constantly reviewing our procedures.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their commitment and hard work. In addition, I would also like to thank parents (and wider community) for their support and positive comments.

Take care,

Mr Barron