**Update 16th March**

**All classes are due back on MONDAY 22ND MARCH 2021.**

Check your child’s Home Learning page for details of returning work-packs this week – some may be required early so teachers can have it marked before Monday.

**Mitigations and arrangements - COVID has not gone away!!**

Can we remind all parents of the arrangements and mitigations which will be in place. We would also remind parents that they must not congregate around the school gates – please stay in the car until your child’s class is brought out of the building and wear a mask.

**Restart plan – March 2021**

1. ***Should your child appear unwell or display any of the symptoms of Covid-19 they should not be sent to school.* School WILL vigorously implement this guidance.**

***Symptoms of Covid-19 include:-
• a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature), or;
• a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual), or;
• anosmia - the loss or a change in your normal sense of smell (it can also affect your sense of taste)***

1. **Primary school children return to full time education with a ‘protective bubble’ strategy implemented as a key mitigating action. A class will act as a single consistent group or bubble, with minimal prolonged interaction with other classes within the school.**
2. **No adult, apart from staff, is allowed inside the school buildings unless by appointment, and must wear a facemask if doing so.**
3. **Start and finish times will be staggered to help minimise contact between classes in the playground**.

**P1-3 classes commence at 8.45am. We are reducing lunchtimes by 10 mins to minimise cross contamination between classes. Finishing at 13.25.**

**P4-7 classes will commence at the normal 9am and will finish at 1440.**

**Parents should be punctual at both times to avoid children mixing.**

**Morning arrival**

In line with DENI Guidance,

* Please ensure your child has washed their hands before leaving home
* Parents will not be permitted into the school site at this time.
* ***Parents should not congregate at the school gate or loiter*** *– please drop your child off and move back to your car and leave as soon as possible to help ease traffic congestion.*
* If there are no spaces close to the school gate, park your car and walk your child to the gate before leaving promptly.
* Children should enter through the nearest external door to their classroom – most will know where this is. If in doubt speak to the member of staff on duty.

(P1-3 enter small gate at front of school; P4-7 enter gate at playpark)

* Children will be directed to the sinks to wash their hands on arrival, or shortly afterwards.
* If you have children in both starting times, send them at the earlier time

**School meals** will be available – please pay on first day of the week… by Cheque if possible made out to Education Authority.

**PE**

On days when pupils have PE they may come to school in PE gear under a school jumper and plain dark jogging bottoms or school trousers .

**During the day**

* Children should wash their hands thoroughly on arrival at the education setting and this must be a repeatable discipline throughout the day.
* Break and lunchtimes will be staggered to minimise contact between classes as far as possible.
* Children will stay in their class base for all subjects apart from PE.

**End of day**

**P1-3 WILL NOW FINISH AT 1.25PM –** Parents should be punctual and waiting to receive their children. We ask that they stay in their cars or remain socially distanced until the children are brought outside. When the children come out, **P1 will exit via the large main gate; P2 through small front gate and P3 through the gate adjacent to the play park**. P2 and P3 Parents may enter the playground and remain at the road side wall and children will be directed to them by staff. If in doubt go to the youngest child’s class first.

**Do not approach the class lines. No cars will be allowed into the school grounds – no exceptions!**

**We will review this procedure regularly to improve the flow of children to parents.**

**Remember** – this will be the protocol no matter what the weather – so make sure your child has a coat! .. and bring a coat or umbrella

**P4-7 WILL NOW FINISH AT 2.40pm.**

Parents collecting children should wait outside the grounds (as normal) until their child is brought to the gate. **P4/5 exit through play park gate. P6/7 exit through small front gate.**

Children going on buses will be directed to their bus by staff, whilst observing social distancing.

**It is important that all parents collect their children punctually. We cannot have some parents waiting until everyone else has gone before turning up. Children should not be left standing waiting for lifts. If there is a genuine reason for being late, on an occasion, please phone the school to explain.**