

Tuesday 21st July 2020

Arrangements for September

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the start of the academic year last September, none of us would have imagined the school year would end in lockdown. In these unprecedented times I have been so impressed and can not praise the staff and children enough for their hard work, resilience, and commitment to keeping education going despite the challenging circumstances. Whilst Zoom lessons are not the same as normal school, I hope the children have found their lessons enjoyable and have benefited from the contact with their teachers. We have much to be proud of in the way that we have encouraged each other to ensure that the lessons for our children has been of a consistently high quality. We thank you also for your support.

The Government has stated that all children should be back in school in September and we will have to take into account the Department for Education's guidelines. We have been very busy preparing school for the children's return and we are looking forward to seeing our community together again. We are also aware that this will be a time of uncertainty and we recognise that this may be a particularly unsettling and anxious time. To make the transition as smooth as possible we will be introducing a Wellbeing curriculum for the first 6 weeks until everyone adjusts back into a routine. We want to create a positive, supportive environment, the children's wellbeing has always been at the heart of our school. The Wellbeing curriculum will consist of a range of activities with focuses on aromatherapy and creative art, science demonstrations, space and speech techniques, literacy games, problem solving tasks, sports activities and learning relaxation techniques such as mindfulness and mediation.

Start Dates and School Hours

All year groups will return to school in 'bubble' groups. The groups will have staggered start dates and school hours will also be staggered for the first week:

Secondary

- Monday 7th September – **Group 4 (Year 7)** – 8.15am – 1.15pm
- Tuesday 8th September – **Group 3 (Year 8)** – 8.30am – 1.30pm
- Wednesday 9th September – **Group 1A (Year 10/11)** – 8.45am – 1.45pm
- Thursday 10th September – **Group 1B (Year 10/11)** – 9.00am – 2.00pm
- Friday 11th September – **Group 2 (Year 9)** - 9.15am – 2.15pm

Primary

- Tuesday 8th September – **Hulk Class** - 9.00am – 2.00pm
- Wednesday 9th September – **Ironman and Spiderman Class** – 9.15am – 2.15pm

We have revised some changes to accommodate all pupils being back in school.

- ❖ There are floor markers for pupils and parents to line up outside whilst waiting to come into school.
- ❖ Pupils will have their temperatures taken before entering school, parents must wait for this process to be done before leaving.
- ❖ We have introduced a one-way system around the school and no entrance signs so that everyone moves in the same direction.
- ❖ Children will need to sanitise their hands before entering school and there are hand sanitiser stations outside every classroom.
- ❖ We will not be allowing parents or visitors into the school. All enquires will be dealt with over the phone or by email.
- ❖ Pupils will stay in their bubbles throughout the day. They will eat breakfast and lunch together in their classrooms. Rest assured they will also be getting plenty of fresh air. Weather permitted, there will be many activities outside.
- ❖ Every week each bubble group will rotate to a new teacher, this will continue for 6 weeks.
- ❖ Parents/carers will be contacted if your child displays any unsafe behaviour towards another child or member of staff. You will be asked to collect your child from school immediately.
- ❖ We are introducing a coloured wrist band system for staff and pupils, the colours they wear will help understand boundaries. Please visit the website to see what we have put in place for Covid-19 measures.
- ❖ There will be no Target Setting days next term.

We must ensure that we all work together, support each other so that everyone stays safe.

We will be sad to say goodbye to some of our staff members at the end of this term. Mr Kyri will be leaving us to start his dream job as a football coach. Miss Barnwell is leaving to train as a trainee teacher. We wish them both the best. We are also looking forward to welcoming new staff members for September. Mr Coleman, our new P.E Teacher and Learning Mentor and Mr Johnson, a Primary Teacher.

Finally, I would like to wish our Year 11 children every future success and happiness as they leave us to start a new chapter in their lives. We encourage them all to stay in touch.

I hope that you have a restful break this summer.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Anderson
Headteacher

