



8 September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you all managed to have a good summer and it is really great so see everyone back in school.

When planning to reopen the school we needed to put in place strategies that will keep the children, staff and parents as safe as possible. To this end we are keeping the children in bubbles and have put procedures in place for dropping off and collecting the children to minimise the amount of time you are in school and to keep a flow of parents around the school. We are doing what we can in school and need your support and understanding while you are on school grounds.

### **Social distancing**

There are a lot of parents coming in and out of school on a daily basis, with varied levels of concern and anxiety around Covid. We need to be aware of those people around us and stay socially distanced while in school. When dropping off / collecting your child please can you stay socially distanced, and where there is not much room, ie. the yr 1 area, please stay in 2 lines, leaving space for people to walk on the pathways and **do not** crowd round classroom doors – all the children will be let out one by one.

If someone were to test positive we will need to know who they have been in close contact with while on school grounds. When the children are in school they are kept in their year group bubbles. At the end of the school day, please keep your children with you and, other than siblings, do not let them mix with other children outside their bubble.

We know that, like the children, many of you have not seen each other for a while and want to catch up. We ask that you do not gather in school to have those conversations. Once you have dropped off or collected your children please leave the school grounds as soon as possible.

### **Entering and leaving the school grounds**

It is really important that we are able to manage the flow of people around school, therefore we have put in place a one way system. Please can you ensure you come in to school using the front gate by the carpark and leave via the side gate onto St Nicholas Gardens.



### **Staggered times**

We have staggered the start and finish times so we do not have too many parents in school at the same time. Please try to get to school at your allotted time and not too early. We understand that some of you need to drop younger siblings off at one time and older siblings after, but some parents are coming into school 20 minutes before their child needs to be here, which is causing larger gatherings than there needs to be.

### **Coughs and colds**

It is that time of year when there are a lot of coughs and colds going around school, and asthmatic children may be coughing more. If your child has a head cold and blocked nose they are fine to come to school, the same goes for asthmatic children who may cough more after playtimes or simply walking to school.

Government guidelines, taken from <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> states:

### ***Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms***

*If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.*

### ***Main symptoms***

*The main symptoms of coronavirus are:*

- ***a high temperature*** – *this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)*
- ***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)*
- ***a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste*** – *this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal*

*Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.*

### ***What to do if you have symptoms***

*If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:*

1. *Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.*
2. *Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.*



*Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.*

If you or your child show these symptom, please do not send them in to school, and please get tested. We have been told that the test results are coming back within 24 hours. Please notify the school of a positive or negative test. If your child develops these symptoms while at school we will send them home and you will need to get them tested before they can return to school.

It is only by working together and respecting the guidance that we can keep our children, our staff and yourselves as safe as we possibly can. I thank you for your continued cooperation in this unprecedented time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Vicky Platten