



Tuesday 2nd March

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you had a good weekend and enjoyed the warm weather.

Following on from the letter I sent out on Thursday I thought it would be useful to review some of our safety procedures and arrangements which we had in place before Christmas and will be continuing on return.

Do they need to wear uniform?

The children will be wearing their uniform on days where they don't have PE planned. On planned PE days they will come to school in their school PE kits (or as close to those as possible). Red PE tops and black/dark joggers. Black/dark fleeces jumpers. Please contact me in confidence if your circumstances have changed and you need some support with purchasing uniform. The teachers will let you know on which days they have PE.

What will they need to bring?

Very little. Just their lovely selves, a snack if needed. Lunch box if bringing their own packed lunch. Named water bottle. Reading book and home school contact book. No soft toys or personal belongings please. Please don't send big back packs as there is no where for these to be safely stored in the school building. As before, we are allocating learning resources to each bubble and children will each have their own pack of equipment to use in class.

Class organisation

The children will continue to be organised in their class 'bubbles'. Children in different classes will not be mixing at lunch and break times and there will be no whole school gatherings such as assemblies. Assemblies will be held in each class. The children will be organised as they were in the autumn term with:

- Reception to be based in the hall and use the EYFS outdoor space.
- Class 1 to remain in class 1 and also have the option of a small group/s accessing the EYFS room.
- Class 2 to be based in class 2 with the option of using the lodge for 2 days for small groups.
- Class 3 to be based in Class 3 with the option of using the lodge for 2 days for small groups.

Classrooms will be organised to minimise contact as far as possible with forward facing desks; this is obviously not possible between younger children hence the bubbles.

We also have the additional use of the wellbeing room as a quiet calming space, to support children on their return. With the weather a little kinder to us (fingers crossed) we will also be using our outdoor area as much as possible, with the canopy to keep us dry if needed.

Lunchtime and break time

Break time will be staggered with Reception having their snack/break/lunch in the hall and EYFS outside area.



Children will eat lunch in their own classrooms as bubbles cannot mix. We have staggered the break and lunch time so that R/Class 1 and Class 2 will have lunch from 11.45-12.45. Class 3 will have their lunch from 12.15-1.15. This allows for different areas of the playground and field to be available to classes separately.

For safety and practical reasons school lunches will be in individual bags or boxes. We will be continuing the 3 hot options (sausage roll, pizza, burger). A lunch menu will be sent out.

What are the procedures and times for drop off and pick up?

We will continue with the timings for drop off and pick as we had in the autumn term. I have attached the letter explaining this, which was sent out in September. We are keeping to exactly the same timings except for some adaptations for the reception children. Miss Imrie will be sending a letter to explain these changes. Please read the information carefully to remind yourselves of the procedures to be followed.

With your excellent co-operation, the car park was running very smoothly. This worked because everyone followed the timetable and procedure. Thank you. Please make sure you maintain the 5 mph speed limit now more than ever as we have children and adults crossing in the path of cars. If you have any items for the office these can be sent into school in a clearly labelled envelope or you can call the school to arrange handing this over.

Please make sure you share this information with any other adults bringing your child to school.

Communication

With the country still in lockdown, it is so important that as a community we are following the guidance and advice from the government. I will update you on an ongoing basis.

We will continue to communicate with you via class list (or e mail if you are not on class list) and update you of any changes to the school procedures around Covid safety. Please make sure that you check and read the updates on there, as guidelines are changing all the time.

It is so important, now more than ever, that we are able to get in touch with you at any time of the day – please ensure that your contact details are up to date. We need at least 2 for each child. If you are at work we must still be able to contact you at short notice.

The home school contact book will be used so that we can keep regular communication with you—we will be sending home messages for you in there so please read it every day and initial the message to let us know you have seen it. Please also use the book for messages to the class teacher. You can also e mail your child's class teacher or contact them via the office email or phone with any questions or updates. As we are not currently able to see you in person it is so important that we continue our excellent partnership and keep each other updated.

How will we manage risk and try to keep them safe?

The whole school risk assessment has been updated (it is continually reviewed) and includes the enhanced hygiene and cleaning procedure's we have in place.

- Children will be taught in the same class bubble throughout the day.
- They will stay in their bubble for all activities
- They will stay in the same room. Where groups may use the wellbeing room/lodge they will only be with children from their own class and these area will be wiped own after each use.



- They will have their own entrance and exit to use throughout the day
- Groups will access their allocated toilet area during the day (with no mixing of bubbles).
- Children will have their own learning packs –no soft toys or furnishings in the classrooms.
- Items will be cleaned or quarantined after use.
- We have a cleaning and hygiene plan in place for ongoing cleaning throughout the day
- Restrictions on visitors

Rapid lateral flow tests

All staff in school now have access to rapid lateral flow tests which are taken twice weekly. This voluntary and all results are sent to test and trace. You will also have received information on classlist about trial RFL testing for the adults in households. Further information will follow about home tests for adults.

Will there be home learning?

We are aware that the children may well be tired physically and emotionally in the first couple of weeks back, while they are getting used to the school routine. This will be very different from their time spent at home and for some children may be a challenge socially and emotionally. With that in mind, we will be resuming the academic home learning after the Easter holiday to give families and the children time to focus on wellbeing. Staff will be sending out ideas for wellbeing activities that the whole family can enjoy. Please continue with reading, spelling and maths skills activities such as times tables rock stars.

What if my child is poorly?

If your child shows any of the following symptoms they must not attend school.

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- 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)
- 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

Please follow the usual procedure and call the office before 9.30. We are always here to talk through any concerns about illness and to advise in procedures to be followed.

Should your child need to isolate or quarantine for covid reasons, teachers will continue to support with remote learning according to guidance and our remote learning plan.

Finally, the pandemic has a huge negative impact on some families financially. Please talk to me in confidence if your circumstances have changed so that we can get support to your family. The teachers will be sending you information with PE days and any other arrangements specific to the individual classes. Please contact me or the class teachers if you have any concerns or questions.

We are all very much looking forward to being together and hearing the school full of the children's talk and laughter.

Kind regards



Messing Primary School
Every Child | Every Chance | Every Day

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