**Covid-19 Wider Opening of School**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Will Breakfast & After School Club be open?**

Yes. We are able to run breakfast or after school club, and initially they will be held in the Da Vinci building, with the costs staying the same as last year. Unfortunately, there is a limit of 30 children, and it is on a first come first served basis, please book in advance.

**How will the children be able to social distance?**

There are a number of measures which we have undertaken in order to achieve social distancing in school.

1. Creating groups or ‘bubbles’ of children with a maximum of 30 children in each. The risk of infection spreading is kept within these bubbles and not able to spread across the school community. Basically, the classes are all kept separate all day.
2. Staggering break and lunchtimes and giving groups their own designated outdoor area to ensure that classes of children do not mix.
3. Implementing a one-way system within school with markers set out on the floor, which are 2 metres apart.
4. Children have their own desk in their classroom with their own equipment. The desks are laid out as far away from each other as possible within the classrooms.
5. Hygiene and handwashing will be mandatory at regular intervals throughout the day.

**How will parents be able to social distance?**

There is a one-way system around the grounds of school. Please follow the signs and use the designated entrances and exits. The paths and some of the gates are too narrow to allow people to pass each other safely. To begin with, there will be staff on the playground to show you which way to go if you are unsure.

Please remember to distance yourself from other parents when you drop off and collect your children. It is ok to step away from others! You can also help by making sure that only one adult drops off or collects your child, reducing the numbers of people in the school grounds. Please do not bring other children with you. Parents are welcome to wear masks in the playground.

**Is my child allowed to walk home on their own?**

If your child is older and you give consent in writing for them to walk to and from school alone, then please let us know. We cannot allow children to leave school on their own without your permission. If you are happy for your child to walk alone, please make sure that you have discussed with them the importance of maintaining social distancing on their journey, and of not mixing with children in a different group.

**Will my child play with his/her friends at break time?**

Children will have their playtimes alongside other children in their class. Whilst we will encourage social distancing, particularly with older children, we acknowledge that this will not always be achieved at these times.

**What will happen if my child has an accident in school or needs comforting?**

Don’t worry! Your child will be cared for by the staff in the usual way and accidents will be dealt with my first aiders.

**Will I be able to speak to my child’s teacher?**

If you need to speak to someone in school, please try to do so by phone or by email. Most queries can be dealt with in this way and messages can easily be passed on to other members of staff if necessary.

**Can my child still bring in a packed lunch?**

Yes, children who bring a packed lunch can bring their packed lunch boxes as normal.

**Can my child have a school dinner?**

Yes. If you require school lunches for your child then please contact the school office. The menu will return to normal, but the price is now £1.75 per meal. All children will eat their lunch at their desk in the classroom.

**Can my child bring in their own pencils and pencil case?**

No. Children must not bring any additional items from home into school. The only exceptions to this are water bottles and packed lunches. This is to reduce the risk of the virus spreading from home to school or from school to home.

**Will my child be given a reading book?**

Children will be able to bring reading books home from school. In some circumstances they may also have a reading book in school.

**What if my child shows symptoms?**

If your child shows symptoms of Covid-19 please notify us immediately and do not send your child to school. Please notify us of the outcome of tests taken.

**What if someone at home becomes ill?**

If you or a family member becomes ill and shows symptoms of the coronavirus Covid-19 then you must self-isolate for the appropriate period of time. This means that you must not send your child to school. If your child or anyone in your household is diagnosed with the coronavirus, please notify us immediately.

**What happens if my child becomes ill at school?**

If your child displays symptoms of coronavirus while they are in school, you will be contacted and you will be required to collect your child immediately. They will be isolated in school until they are collected.

**What is a member of staff becomes ill?**

Our staff know that if they experience symptoms they should self-isolate, inform school and make arrangements to take a test.

**What will happen if someone in school is diagnosed with Covid-19?**

If a child or member of staff becomes ill and tests positive for Covid-19 the whole bubble (of up to 30 children and 2 staff) will be informed and they will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

**How often will the rooms be cleaned?**

Every room will be cleaned as normal at the end of the day. In addition, surfaces touched regularly will be cleaned throughout the school day.

**Will children and staff be wearing PPE?**

Children and staff are welcome to wear masks. Masks must be worn by everyone visiting the school office.

**How can I help my child if they are anxious about returning to school?**

These are unsettling times for both adults and children. Your children will all have had very different experiences of the lockdown. It is important to talk to your child about the measures in place in school and how their school day may be different from how it has been in the past. If you are particularly worried, contact your child’s class teacher.

**What will happen if my child has fallen behind in their schoolwork?**

All children will have completed different learning tasks at home. We anticipate that children’s home learning experiences will be wide-ranging. When your child returns to school our staff will work hard to identify any areas of need in order to support them in their future learning.

**Do I have to send my child to school?**

Yes, it is now compulsory.

**What are the timings of the school day?**

The normal school times are in operation. Children enter and leave school through their classrooms.