Whole School Re-opening – September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the government announcement, we are very much looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school in September on Monday 7th September, if at the time the government and scientific advice still deem it safe to do so. Any changes or additional information will be communicated with you during the week commencing Monday 2nd September. To open fully, we have carefully considered safety measures and guidelines to continue to keep children and staff safe and minimise risk of infection.

**Who can attend and how will it be arranged?**

We will open to all children on Monday 7th September. The government guidelines released states that attendance is expected by all children unless a child is advised to continue to shield by medical professionals – we will follow government guidelines released for attendance and work with parents to alleviate concerns or worries about the return. Initially, we will be open to children for normal school hours, 8.45am – 3.15pm. At this time, we can only offer breakfast club starting at 7.45am in the school hall for children of working parents only – this must be booked via the school office, you cannot just turn up. At present, there will be no after school club, we will review this at October half term and keep you informed of developments.

Year groups will be taught as whole classes and organised into bubbles with other year groups.

* Bubble 1 – Nursery, Reception and Year 1
* Bubble 2 – Year 2, 3, 4
* Bubble 3 – 5, 6

Children in the bubbles will not mix regularly and will only share outside spaces, which will be split to keep classes separate but where required staff can cross year groups within their bubbles to fulfill their role if needed. Children and staff members will not mix across bubbles and movement around the school will be limited.

Desks will be organised in rows so children are not facing each other and children will be provided with a labelled seat and have their own stationary provided for them.

Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered and bubbles will be given allocated outdoor spaces to use during these times. We will be offering a fruit snack at playtime for Key stage 1 as normal. Your child is welcome to bring a snack themselves but again please in disposable packaging if possible. Toast will be available(25p) but delivered to the bubble room if required.

Hot meals will be served at lunchtime as normal and bubbles will have a space to eat with their bubble class. Sandwiches will be eaten in their bubble classroom.

Children will wash/sanitise their hands regularly throughout the day – on entry, at breaks, before and after eating, before home time and other times deemed appropriate by the classroom staff.

Enhanced cleaning of toilet areas, classroom areas and touch points will take place daily and at intervals throughout the day – e.g before eating, after eating, breaktimes.

**What will drop off and collection look like?**

Please adhere to government guidelines on social distancing and avoid public transport to get to school and walk where possible. Please do not car share unless absolutely unavoidable and children must be bought to school by 1 adult.

Drop off and collection will be different. In the mornings, children will be dropped off at the gates and will be met by SLT apart from nursery who will be accompanied to the nursery gate to their teachers whereas at home time, parents will be given an allocated space to wait for their children to be released. Please see information below for information for your child’s class.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Arrival time/Window | Arrival point | Collection time | Collection point |
| Breakfast club  (must be booked) | 7.45am – 8.00am | Main office entrance | N/A | N/A |
| Nursery | 8.40am | KS1 playground – single gate | 11.45am | Nursery playground |
| Reception | 8.45am – 9.00am | Double gate, Reception door – follow the 1 way system. | 3.15 pm | Reception outdoor area |
| Year 1 | KS1 playground – single gate, Exit double gate | Year 1 playground, exit via KS 1 double gate |
| Year 2 | KS1 single gate, children follow nursery path. | Follow nursery path, collect from Year 2 gate. Follow signs and notices |
| Year 3 & 6 | KS2 double gates – entrance via ks2 top door. | Year 3 - In front of the adventure trail on ks2 playground.  Year 4 - next to adventure trail on ks2 playground |
| Year 4 & 5 | KS2 single gate entrance via ks2 bottom door. | Wait in allocated tennis courts to collect children – exit via KS2 single gate. |

Members of SLT will open the gates and be on hand to welcome the children into school and give directions to where children need to go. Social distancing and entrance labels will be on display for you to see and refer to. If you have siblings on different playgrounds, you will need to collect from the different playgrounds. Teachers will keep hold of your children until you arrive to collect.

It is important that you arrive and collect punctually to reduce the risk of bubbles mixing. Congregating on the playground will not be allowed therefore gates will not be open until the arrival and collection window point so please do not arrive too early and we ask that to minimise risk, you social distance and leave the school grounds as quickly as possible.

Children in Year 5 and 6 will not be able to walk home alone without a letter of consent from a parent. If we do not have this letter the child will be kept at school until an adult collects them.

**What should my child wear/bring to school?**

Children should resume wearing full school uniform and be provided with school PE Kit – all should be labelled.

Uniform consist of Grey Trousers or skirt, White shirt, Purple jumper or cardigan, Tie and Black shoes **(not black trainers).** PE Kit consists of white t-shirt, black shorts, pumps or trainers – Please label items of clothing. PE Kits must be in school for PE lessons – they will be sent home for washing after PE lessons.

Please do not allow your child to bring in anything from home – toys, books, stationary, sanitiser. Everything they need will be provided by the school. They may bring a water bottle and a lunchbox to school with them – these do not have to be disposable.

**Are children required to wear a face mask to school?**

The government has stated that it is not compulsory for primary aged children to wear face masks, however we are happy for children to wear them if you as parents require them to do so. If they do bring a face mask, it needs to be either:

1. A disposable mask that will be put in the bin on removal.
2. A re-usable mask – if you choose this option please provide a small plastic bag for children to pop them into if they remove them.

Please note, we will not make children wear face masks - if your child wears a mask to school and chooses to remove it, the mask will be placed in the bin or in the bag to come home as it is not recommended that facemasks be removed and re-applied. Children must have a fresh one/washed one every day.

**What will happen if my child becomes ill with COVID symptoms whilst at school?**

If your child develops symptoms at school, we will contact parents and ask for them to be collected from the after school club entrance off the main carpark. Your child will be waiting with an adult from within their bubble. They will then be asked to isolate and get a COVID test. We ask that parents then follow the guidance for isolation until the test result is received and that they communicate with the school in regards to results of the test.

**What will happen if my child becomes ill with COVID symptoms whilst at home?**

If your child develops COVID symptoms whilst at home, please call in your child’s absence as normal and follow isolation/testing guidelines. It is vitally important that your child does not attend if unwell with suspected COVID. If experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test you must remain at home for at least 10 days after the onset of your symptoms .This will reduce the risk of you infecting others.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If you have any further questions, please email [headteacher@rowleyparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@rowleyparkacademy.org.uk) or call the school office and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Beaumont,

Headteacher