

Information for September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your patience, we really appreciate how supportive you have all been during these last eighteen months. We are now in a position to share our plans for September which are in accordance with the most recent Government guidelines for the full opening of schools. Some of the changes we had to make for the last eighteen months have worked well for safety of the children; they ensure calm starts and ends to the day. We have also found that the children have become much more independent and resilient coming into school by themselves and we have had a lot less tears; therefore, we are keeping some of the routines. I know some parents, like us, have anxiety about everything opening up today; please rest assured we will do all we can to keep children, parents and staff as safe as possible.

- Wednesday 1st September is a Staff Training Day; the children are back at school on **Thursday 2nd September**
- Children will work in classes or phases. When outside, they will continue to play as phases; having less children on the KS2 yard has been much calmer. There are four phases: Foundation Stage (Reception), Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2), Lower Key Stage 2 (Y3 and Y4) and Upper Key Stage 2 (Y5 and Y6 grouped by ability for Maths). Reception children will operate as a year group so they can have access to all the areas of provision and their outdoor space. Working in phases will reduce the risk of transmission if one child catches Covid 19; it is not yet clear how many children are susceptible to Long-Covid, even if they have few symptoms at the time
- Please drop your child at their gate between 8:40 and 8:50. They will come onto the playground and line up with their teacher. These ten minutes should help parents who have to use multiple gates. Teachers will be on the yard to meet your children at 8.40am
- To maintain a small amount of social distancing for parents and classes, we are continuing to have staggered finishes and different gates; however, we have reduced the time gaps
- At the end of the day we feel it has been much safer passing children out to parents/carers one at a time so there will be a short gap in between classes to facilitate this. We aim to have the whole school leaving between 3pm and 3.15pm. Therefore, please read the timetables below carefully so you know which gates to use, at what time
- It is important that you are on time; children feel uncomfortable if they are late and also miss valuable learning. If you are late and your child's class have gone in, please just bring them to the main gate and press the buzzer - a member of the office staff will see them safely to class
- Any child showing symptoms of Covid-19 will be isolated in the First Aid Room and supervised by a member of staff. Parents will be called and asked to collect their child as soon as possible. The guidance expects that the parent/carer will immediately arrange PCR testing; they will keep the child off school until the results are known. **AT THE MOMENT WE ARE EXPECTING THAT FROM SEPTEMBER NO CLASSES WILL BE CLOSED FOR TEN DAYS IF A CHILD OR ADULT TESTS POSITIVE. INSTEAD THE PARENT WILL BE CONTACTED BY TRACK AND TRACE FOR DETAILS OF CLOSE CONTACTS AND THESE CHILDREN WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE A PCR TEST.** This guidance may of course be changed by the DfE at a later date
- We are aiming to provide Dragon's Den (our breakfast and after school club) in September. Please book and pay online as usual

- We fully appreciate that everyone’s experience of lockdown and Covid will have been different and therefore we would appreciate you letting school know if there has been anything that is likely to have affected your child’s emotional well-being over the summer e.g. bereavement (especially Covid-19 related)/financial hardship/change in family circumstances etc.
- Children are not expected to socially distance within their groups. However, your child will be encouraged to regularly wash their hands throughout the day at set intervals and whenever staff deem necessary. Additional cleaning practices will still be in place
- The curriculum in September will be broad and ambitious; all subjects will be taught. However, as we aim to catch up on their missed education teachers will place more emphasis on the core subjects (e.g. reading and writing), during all other lessons. Our overall aim is to help them make progress whilst considering their well-being and wider development
- Children must only bring limited amounts of equipment from home e.g. lunch box, coat, hat, water bottle and school books. They must not bring any toys or items from home. Please send your child’s P.E. kit into school on a Monday and we will send it back home on a Friday
- Each classroom will have a basic first aid kit; if necessary, an adult from that phase may administer first aid to your child (serious incidents will still be dealt with by a first aider)
- Although we are looking forward to welcoming parents back on the school premises we would like to take this gradually due to the rapidly rising cases of the Delta Variant in the community. Most communication will still be via email or by phone. Parents may be invited in for specific meetings when necessary

Timetables for September 2021

Arrivals/Departures - KS1 Playground Gates

8.40am- 8.50am (children to go to teachers on yard)	Main Entrance	FS Playground Entrance	Car park Entrance
8.40am/3pm	Y2CH (North)	YRWA	Y1/2SR
8.40am/3.05pm	Y2JM (North)	YRCL	Y3/4JC (South)
8.40am/3.10pm	Y1RW	YRHD	Y5/6FE (South)
8.40am/3.15pm	Y1Ss		

KS2 Playground Gates

8.40am- 8.50am (children to go to teachers on yard)	Harris Road Entrance	Overton Road Entrance
8.40am/3pm	Y3CB (North)	Y4HB (South)
8.40am/3.05pm	Y3EN (North)	Y4TS (South)
8.40am/3.10pm	Y5GM (North)	Y5ED
8.40am/3.15pm	Y6CA (North)	Y6MA (South)

We will continue to follow any changes in Government guidance and will adapt our plans accordingly. Our previous plans worked extremely well once they were put into practice, so any questions you may have, should answer themselves by the end of the first week back.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a lovely Summer - stay safe and we'll see you all soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Alison Mann (Headteacher) and Mrs Fiona Turner (Deputy Headteacher)