



Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are very much looking forward to re-opening and welcoming back all children to school from Monday 8th March and so I am writing to you today to share our initial plans for re-opening.

I know that some families will feel anxious about the return to school but please be reassured that the safety of our children and staff is of paramount importance and that we are regularly revisiting and reviewing our risk assessments to ensure they reflect latest government guidelines and expectations.

I would like to draw your attention to the parents/carers guidance and measures (see separate document) that we have in place and politely ask that you adhere to these; we **all** have a collective responsibility to keep our whole school community safe. I particularly ask you to pay attention to the drop off/collection section on the document and urge you to abide to staggered timings closely, as these are being used to prevent overcrowding and to allow for social distancing on the school site. I can't emphasise enough that we need your cooperation in observing social distancing at all times when on site; please do not congregate in groups on the playground or outside the school gates.

Year 3 and Year 4 parents/carers, we will be trialling a new system for dropping off and collecting your children from Monday 8th March. We want to prevent the bottle neck and congregating around the back of the building and so although children are still to line up/enter/exit via the back door, parents are to wait on KS2 playground. We will review this after the first week.

An additional measure that has been implemented this term is the twice weekly lateral flow testing of school staff. If a member of staff tests positive from a lateral flow test, the procedure is to inform close contacts and close the relevant class bubble/s immediately; the member of staff would book and undergo a PCR test. Everyone in those bubbles (children/staff) would be required to self-isolate until we have had confirmation of the PCR test result. If the PCR test is positive, the children and staff would have to continue to follow self-isolation guidelines; if negative, the bubbles can re-open and children and staff can return to school. Obviously, I wanted to share this new procedure with you as with increased testing, there is the increased likelihood that bubbles could close more frequently.

Your continued support and cooperation is very much appreciated and we are really looking forward to having the children back in school, where they belong. See you all on Monday 8th March!

Best wishes

Ellie Ballinger
Headteacher