



27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## **RECEPTION LETTER FOR WIDER REOPENING**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support, understanding and patience over the past few weeks whilst we have been preparing for the intended wider reopening of our school from 1 June 2020. Following a full risk assessment drawn up in collaboration with the Local Governing Body, which has been checked and certified by the JTMAT Trust Board, we are now able to inform you of the arrangements for **Reception** pupils, should the government decide that the phased return WILL go ahead. This risk assessment will be reviewed frequently and any amendments that are made will be communicated to all stakeholders immediately. Please note that we will formally open on **2 June**, as we have assigned 1 June for essential staff training, if the phased return goes ahead as planned.

### **BUBBLES**

Due to the numbers we have confirmed to date, Reception will be using the whole of the EYFS area, including the Nursery classroom. The children and staff will remain in this area at all times. Miss Alexander, Miss Walton and Mrs Barrow will be responsible for this area.

### **HANDWASHING**

It is essential that the children and parents wash their hands thoroughly before arriving and leaving school. The children will wash their hands once they arrive and leave the classroom and regularly and thoroughly throughout the day. Additional handwashing facilities have been set up in each classroom. It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides. Children are very welcome to bring their own personal small bottle of anti-bac gel although we do have plenty of hand sanitiser in all classrooms.

### **START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

In line with social distancing measures, the school day will be staggered for all pupils. This is to minimise the contact with other households and to avoid large groups congregating at the school gates. We ask that these timings are strictly adhered to. Reception must arrive at **8.40am** with only one parent. The designated entrance for Reception is the infant gate (by the school hall). Parents and children must wait by one of the designated 2m markers outside the gate. A member of staff will meet you at the gate at a distance of 2m and the children will be taken to their 'bubble'. The one way system here will enable parents to leave swiftly and safely. We have to limit the number of visitors on site, so unfortunately we will not be able to allow parents in beyond the gate. The children will be dismissed from school via the infant gate (by the school hall) at **3.15pm**. Please arrive promptly and wait at one of the designated 2m markers outside the gate. A member of staff will dismiss the children one at a time at a safe distance of 2m.

### **LUNCH**

If your child requires a school lunch, there will a cold option available in line with the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) offer. As children will not be eating together in the hall, their



lunch will be served in a bag and eaten within their 'bubble' (weather permitting, in their outdoor area). Your child is also welcome to bring a packed lunch from home but please could we ask that this is brought into school in a disposable container. This will be kept in the classroom until lunchtime as we won't be using the lunchtime trolleys.

### **EQUIPMENT**

Children should only bring a full water bottle, a snack for break time and a coat or sun hat (weather dependent). Staff will guide pupils as to where these need to be stored at a safe distance within the EYFS setting when the children arrive. Children will NOT need book bags or PE kits. Toys, comforters, books and bags must remain at home and soft furnishings have been removed from classrooms. We would ask that children bring a change of clothes, in a labelled carrier bag, on their first day back in school so that they can be changed if necessary.

### **UNIFORM**

Children are NOT required to wear school uniform but must come in a set of clean clothes every day. These clothes will need to include trainers or suitable footwear for outdoor learning and PE as the children will not be changing into their PE kit.

### **THE SCHOOL DAY**

Home Learning will continue to be provided for years 2, 3, 4, and 5 and those children that will not be returning on 2 June. The home learning provision will be broadly in line with school provision although we will be able to undertake a greater range of PSHE activities to support mental and emotional wellbeing having increased face-to-face contact with some pupils.

At break times, children will only socialise with the other children in their 'bubble'. We will be encouraging children to keep their distance from each other and ask that you discuss why we need to do this with your children at home.

We will not be holding assemblies in order to minimise movement around the school. The only movement around the school will be for going to the toilet or to access an outdoor area. Where movement is necessary around the school, a one-way system has been created. As the school day is staggered for each 'bubble', groups should not come into contact with each other.

Children will need to arrive at school with suncream already applied in hot weather, as it is highly likely they will be outside. When working in the classroom, internal doors and windows will be kept open for increased air flow.

To encourage social distancing in Reception, 'zones' have been set up in the indoor and outdoor area, all 2m apart from each other. The aim is for the children to be allocated a zone when they arrive and staff will rotate them around these zones as the day progresses. Some toys and games have been removed due to the fact that they are difficult to clean throughout the day. All soft furnishings and soft toys have been removed from the setting and we will thoroughly clean any equipment that children have used.

First aid will be conducted within bubbles, if necessary. It is important to note that any staff providing first aid treatment to any child, regardless of the injury, will be wearing gloves, an apron and a face covering. Staff in EYFS will also be wearing PPE should social distancing be a challenge.

Staff will be working hard to make provision as engaging as possible within the constraints of the current situation. However, please talk to your child about these changes, including the fact that they may not have their class teacher, to prepare them for the fact that school will be different to what they are used to.

## CLEANING

Each classroom has been adequately stocked with appropriate cleaning materials. This is to ensure for the regular cleaning and disinfecting of door handles, taps, lights, desks and chairs continuously throughout the day. This is in addition to the thorough cleaning that takes place at the end of each day. Each 'bubble' has its own designated toilets, which will be cleaned down regularly according to a strict timetable.

## ILLNESS

If your child or anyone else in the same household becomes unwell, you must keep your child at home and seek advice from [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#). Please inform us if any child or family member becomes unwell and adhere to the guidelines for self-isolation.

If your child becomes unwell whilst in school, you will be asked to collect your child as soon as possible. School has a designated, well-ventilated medical room and the nominated staff will look after your child until you arrive. Again, if a child is displaying symptoms, we ask that you seek medical advice. In line with statutory guidelines, PPE will be worn when dealing with children with suspected symptoms or for first aid requirements.

If we experience staff shortages, or a test of a child produces a positive outcome for COVID-19, then you will be notified that you cannot send your child to school. Please could you ensure that we have your most up to date contact numbers and email. Please check frequently for any messages throughout the day in case we need to inform you of anything urgently.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

You may find it useful to read the following government guidance, which has been used for our planning and risk assessment:

[Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June: guidance for parents and carers](#)

[Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020](#)

[Implementing protective measures in educational and childcare settings](#)

We have also created a COVID-19 page on our school website, where all the latest guidance, resources and information related to the wider reopening of schools can be accessed. This will be updated regularly. We have added some 'Frequently Asked Questions' to this page, which you may find useful. I hope that this letter outlines all of the information you need to know but, as always, if you have any further questions that can't be answered from the information provided, please contact us through the usual channels. We look forward to seeing some of you on 2 June, all being well. In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy the rest of the half term holiday and, as always, stay safe!

Many thanks and kind regards,



Mr D. Adams  
Head Teacher