



Head Teacher: Mr D A Hodgson

4th March 2021

Dear Parent, Carers and Children,

Information for wider opening next week

We are absolutely 'over the moon' to welcome back **ALL** children to school from next Monday 8th March 2021. To make things clearer for you, I have listed the most frequently asked questions and answers to them. If you have any more questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Q: Does my child have to go to school?

A: Yes. School will be fully open to all pupils and attendance is mandatory again. We understand that some pupils may be anxious about returning and we will work with you to ensure your child feels confident and safe being back at school. The expectation is, however, that all pupils return to school when the term starts on 8th March.

Q: What are the start and finish times?

A: Start and finish times are exactly the same as before lockdown. As a reminder please see below:

Nursery AM & 30hrs	9am 11.30am	Thornaby Road
Nursery PM	12.30pm 3pm	Thornaby Road
Reception	8.45am 2.45pm	Thornaby Road
Year 1	8.30am 2.30pm	Front main gate
Year 2	8.30am 2.30pm	Side gate
Year 3	8.30am 2.30pm	Thornaby Road
Year 4	8.45am 2.45pm	Front main gate
Year 5	9am 3pm	Front main gate
Year 6	9am 3pm	Side gate

Q: What do I do if my child has symptoms of COVID-19?

A: Any child or staff member who is feeling unwell **MUST NOT** come into school.

If your child (or member of the household), displays any of the recognised symptoms of Covid – 19 they should not be sent to school and you should ring to arrange a test as soon as possible.

- New persistent cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste or smell

If a child exhibits these symptoms in school, they will be immediately isolated, and you will be contacted to come and collect your child. We will expect that a test will be arranged to confirm the symptoms.

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Q: Can children bring in their own equipment?

A: No. Children will be provided with the equipment they need in class.

Q: Can children bring book bags?

A: Yes. We will be sorting and sending reading books home very quickly. Book bags are the best way to do this, however, children often fill the bags with other stuff. We request book bags are only used for books.

Q: Can children bring PE kit in?

A: Children should wear their PE kit on the day they have PE. As PE may be outdoors, they may need tracksuit bottoms or leggings.

Q: Do we have to wear uniform every day?

A: We would expect children to wear uniform to school, although we do understand that some children may have grown out of the uniform they had before. We will be flexible with this, please do your best. Children should wear sensible black shoes/trainers they can run around and play in. You don't have to change uniform every day though it is preferable if it can be changed a couple of times a week.

Q: Can my parents or a family member pick up my child?

A: Yes, if they are in your family support bubble and on our contact list or known to school then they can bring and collect your child from school. We request only one adult to either drop off or pick up. We would also ask that adults dropping off or picking up wear a face covering and do not gather around their particular gate.

Q: Will Breakfast Club and After School Clubs be running?

A: Breakfast Club is only available to key worker children in the older year groups at the moment. Places need to be booked in advance. Please contact the office for further details. After School Clubs will recommence in the summer term after the Easter break.

Q: Can bikes and scooters be brought to school?

A: No. As previously advised we would prefer that these are left at home at the moment. We will advise if this situation changes.

Q: How will we ensure good ventilation in school?

A: Classroom windows and doors remain open throughout the day to ensure good ventilation as this reduces the concentration of the virus in the air which reduces the risk from airborne transmission. Children should wear extra layers to help them keep warm, although with the spring weather almost upon us, we hope this will not be a major problem.

Q: What will the Bader curriculum look like?

A: We are aware that some of our pupils may be anxious and concerned about being away from school for so long and returning to school. Staff are ready and prepared for this, including using our very comprehensive PSHE programme.

We ask that you tell us if you feel your child has any worries or anxieties so we can support. Please telephone school on 01642 762856 and speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs J Jones (who has specific responsibility this year for curriculum support).

We will continue to teach an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects, but make use of existing flexibilities to create time to cover the most important content missed.

Q: What will happen if we need to close a Bubble?

A: If there is an issue with a specific class or indeed the whole school and we need to close a 'bubble' or 'bubbles', we will be using Seesaw/ Class Dojo/Tapestry as we have during this lockdown. Devices will be supplied as appropriate too.

Q: What can we do at home to help prepare my child for their return to school?

A: There are a few small steps you can start to take to help us make the transition back to school easier for the children.

It would be really helpful to be reintroducing the school term time routines, if they haven't been as structured as they were before. We want the children to walk into school ready to learn like they did after the last lockdown and have learned that routines and structure are key to this.

Waking the children up at the time they would be getting ready for school, getting dressed in clothes, not pyjamas and having had breakfast by the time you would normally leave, along with making sure that bed time is back to normal, as they would do for school when they were in, will also help children when the 8th comes around.

Q: Is there anything else I need to know?

A: The single most significant priority above anything else is safety for everyone on the school site. Once more, we have spent a considerable amount of time carrying out risk assessments and putting systems in place to ensure all of our pupils can return. As an added assurance, our staff now undertake twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests.

- All children will be in a whole year group bubble. They will not mix with children from different year groups
- Social distancing still applies in school between staff and children
- Parents/carers must leave and pick up their child from the designated gate
- Children need to be on time and keep to your allocated drop off and collection times
- Year 6 children may continue to walk to and from school by themselves
- Children need to stand with parents/carers and remain socially distant
- Please make medical appointments outside of school hours. Children are to remain in their 'bubble' throughout the school day and are to exit from their own classroom doors

Keeping clean and safe

- Hands will be washed continually throughout the day
- Classrooms and toilets will be cleaned throughout the day
- If your child is in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 or they are entitled to free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided. Everyone else, please send a packed lunch and drink in with your child
- Please make sure we have any changes of contact details
- Contact school by telephone or email school regarding any queries
- Parents are not allowed into the school building and on site only with a prior appointment

In school

- Children will be in a class/year group bubbles and will remain with their class or PE teacher
- They will have their own stationary pack
- Lunch will be in 'bubble' classrooms/hall and playtimes will be staggered so bubbles do not mix

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Yours faithfully

Mr Hodgson
Head Teacher