



Headteacher: Mr. Neil McKellar-Turner

Monday 1 March 2021

Full return of pupils from 8 March

Dear Families,

I am pleased to be able to share with you the full details for **welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 8 March 2021**. As I stated last week, the logistics and key arrangements for ensuring that our school site is as safe as possible will largely be identical to those in place during the autumn term. From September to December, when we first welcomed all pupils back, our safety and preventative measures were robust; we had no confirmed pupil cases and so avoided having to close any hubs during this time. During the time of partial opening, we have only had three confirmed pupil cases in school and these were all in the first three weeks of January. This shows that we have experience of implementing rigorous approaches and measures and we continue to build upon these as we look forward to welcoming everyone back next week.

Whilst we feel that we have maintained better contact with you and your children during this period of remote learning and that, for most of our pupils, returning to school is something that they are very much looking forward to, we are also aware that this is not necessarily true for everyone. Where you do have concerns about your child attending school, please do get in contact so that we can discuss this with you and provide reassurance. **The Department for Education has made it clear that attendance is compulsory** for all pupils (except those who are required to shield, are in self-isolation or ill) from 8 March. **We, therefore, expect to see all pupils return on this date** and will work with families where this is not the case. Attendance at school is mandatory because schools continue to be low risk in terms of Covid-19 and, by attending school, pupils will be able to resume their education as well as providing them with the support they may require to address their social, emotional and mental health needs.

Below you will find all of the essential information that has been taken from our full school reopening plan. For parents and carers, the key parts with which we really need your support are as follows:

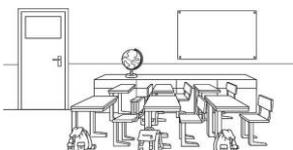
- **Use of face coverings for all adults** (including any pupil in year 7 or above) when on the school site
- **Staggered start and end times** to ease congestion and gathering on the playgrounds. **Please only enter the school site just before your child's allotted time**
- **One-way system around the school site**; families must only enter site via the green gate nearest the school office or the Barton gate. Pupils will be allowed to enter their classroom at their allotted start time rather than being asked to line up
- **Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform as usual**. However, we will maintain a more relaxed approach to this until at least Easter as we are aware that some pupils may have outgrown their uniform during the time away from school and that the financial impact of lockdown may mean that families are not in a position to purchase new uniform
- **Pupils should only bring essential items to school (snack, water bottle, book, lunchbox)**. These can be brought in a small backpack/bag

Miss Robbins and I will be holding a **virtual Question and Answer session for parents and carers on Thursday 4 March at 9.30am**. This will provide an opportunity for you to ask any specific questions you may have regarding the return to school. A link for Microsoft Teams will be emailed out nearer the time.

We are all very much looking forward to welcoming your children back next week. I hope this information is both useful and reassuring. Please do share the key parts with your child/children prior to returning and look out, on ClassDojo, for a welcome back video from teachers. Again, please do get in contact should you wish to discuss anything in more detail.

Return to School- essential information

Organisation- 'hubs'



- Pupils will be organised into usual classes. These classes will operate as a hub and, in year 2 and above, children will not be able to mix with children from other hubs
- Children in EYFS and year 1 will also be in class hubs but, from time to time, they may operate as a year group hub where this is deemed appropriate (for example, during phonics group teaching). Where this does happen, records will be kept of any contact outside of the class hub to help with identifying contacts should there be a positive case
- Classrooms have been cleared so that only essential furniture and resources remain
- In KS2, tables have been arranged in rows so that pupils are forward facing
- Every pupil will be given their resource pack containing everyday classroom items such as pencils. **Pupils do not need to bring in a pencil case**
- **We ask that pupils only bring their morning snack (fruit or vegetables only), packed lunch (including a drink), a labelled water bottle and coat (if appropriate) to minimise the amount of resources moving between home and school.** Pupils can bring bags but please ensure these are a suitable size as they will need to be stored under tables
- All children's belongings will be kept beside their desk- we will not be using the cloakroom areas

Uniform



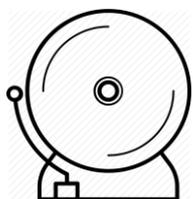
- Pupils should wear school uniform as usual (black/grey trousers/skirt; white polo shirt; navy sweatshirt/cardigan; and black shoes)
- PE kit will need to be worn to school on the days on which your child has PE (teachers will let you know via ClassDojo)
- School uniform does not need to be cleaned more regularly than usual as a result of Covid

Drop off and pick up



- **There will be a one way system in operation around the school site.** Please follow the signs
- **We ask that parents only use the following entrances to help us to maintain social distancing and ease congestion:**
 - Years 5 and 6- Barton entrance (school field)
 - EYFS, years 1 and 2- side gate nearest school office
 - Years 3 and 4- Barton entrance or side gate nearest school office
- There will be staggered start and finish times for different year groups. **Please stick to these and only arrive just before your child's allotted start time:**
 - Years 5 and 6 will be taken into classes at 8.40am and finish at 3.30pm
 - EYFS will be taken into classes at 8.45am and finish at 3.15pm
 - Years 1 and 2 will be taken into classes at 8.45am and finish at 3.20pm
 - Years 3 and 4 will be taken into classes at 8.50am and finish at 3.25pm
- In order to maintain social distancing, **only 1 parent/carer is permitted on site** to accompany their child/children
- **All adults (and pupils in year 7 or above) must wear a face covering whilst on site**
- Please ensure that you maintain space from other families and do not let your child run around the playground before or after school
- **Children will enter and exit via the external classroom doors. Pupils in year 6 will line up outside the hall doors and pupils in year 3 will line up outside the external grey doors at the bottom of the year 3 stairs. Year 3 will exit on the KS1 playground**
- Please leave the site promptly when dropping off and picking up in order to ensure everyone's safety
- **The play equipment is not to be used during this time**
- **Please refrain from visiting the school office.** If you need to speak to a member of the office team, please telephone or email us
- **Please refrain from speaking with the teachers during drop off and pick up.** If you need to speak with a member of staff, please telephone or email the school office

Breakfast and After School Club



- Wrap around care will continue to be provided. However, in order to help us maintain the necessary safety measurements, **please only use this service if it is urgently required and you have no alternative child care**
- **Children will be sat in year group hubs** in wrap around care as it is not possible to maintain the class hubs in this provision
- Bookings can be made online via ParentPay
- Please enter the school site via the one way system (the Barton entrance will not be open for this service)
- **Drop off and pick up will be from the external hall doors**
- Please ensure social distancing when waiting to enter the hall

- Pupils attending Breakfast Club will be escorted to their class hubs by a member of staff
- Pupils attending After School Club will be escorted to the hall by a member of staff

Lunch

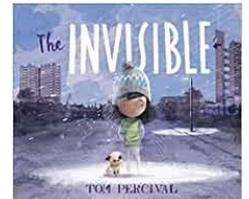


- For term 4, all lunches will be eaten in the classrooms to minimise movement around the school (with the exception of EYFS)
- Pupils can bring a packed lunch to school. This will be kept in their classrooms
- School lunches can be ordered in the usual way via ParentPay. Our kitchen team will be operating a full menu of hot lunches and sandwich options
- **Break and lunch will be staggered** so that all hubs have the opportunity to go outside
- The playground has been divided up to provide clear zones for each hub in order to minimise contact. Pupils will not be able to mix with children from other hubs at these times

Learning



- **Learning within each hub will focus on the key themes which we have identified as essential for their return:**
 - Time to talk, reconnect and feel safe within the school community
 - Focus on core skills in reading, writing and maths
 - Focus on PHSE, mental health and wellbeing to help pupils discuss their feelings- both positive and negative, and provide them with supportive strategies
 - Prioritising sport and physical activity
 - Opportunities for reflection and personal expression through talk, RE and art
- The whole school will be using the text 'The Invisible' as the stimulus for learning during the first week
- There will be a regular time for physical activity
- **Home learning will resume from the 15 March**
- Reading books will be given out by the **end of week two**



Minimising risks



- All staff are self-testing for Covid-19 twice weekly
- **It is essential that pupils do not attend school if they, or someone within their household, develops symptoms or tests positive.** It is essential that anyone who develops symptoms of coronavirus self-isolates and arranges to have a PCR test following government guidelines <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- We will be ensuring **regular hand washing** and good hygiene practices. This will be timetabled at key times during the day (on entry, before and after breaks, before and after eating, before leaving)
- Classrooms also have hand sanitiser at entry and exit points
- Classrooms are thoroughly cleaned daily including extra cleaning of frequently used surfaces or touch points
- Classrooms will be kept ventilated throughout the day

- Staff will be wearing face coverings and/or face visors during the school day

Medicine



- **If your child requires an inhaler, please ensure that this is brought back to school** (there will be a box at the main office window where these can be dropped off- please ensure they are named)
- We are unable to administer medicines (except in urgent cases) so if your child requires medicine, please endeavour to administer this before they come to school
- First Aid and other emergency care will be provided as usual

Thank you for your support and understanding. We look forward to seeing you all next week.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Neil McKellar-Turner'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Neil McKellar-Turner
Headteacher