



Friday 5 March 2021

## **Headteacher Update #4**

Dear Families,

Today marks the final day (hopefully, forever) of remote learning.

**We are so excited about welcoming all of our families back to school on Monday.** I am sure that there will be a mixture of feelings over the weekend as Monday starts to draw nearer. Although the majority of our children have been away from school since January, please remind them that they have done this before. My staff team and I have many exciting learning experiences planned for the coming weeks and our focus on reconnection and re-establishing our class and school community will support everyone to transition back to some form of normality.

Although you will, by now, be familiar with our return to school plan and the key safety arrangements in place, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate and emphasise the importance of the following points contained within our plan:

- Staggered start and end times. With all pupils back on Monday, **please do not enter the site until just before your child's allotted start/ end time.** Also, please do not let your child/children run around the playground with their friends before or after school as we need to maintain distance and safety for everyone
  - 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**
- **One-way system around the school site.** It is vital that everyone adheres to this system. Last year, we had cases of pupils and adults entering via the green gate nearest the bike sheds. This must not happen as it causes worry and concern and means that social distancing cannot be maintained
- As our site is quite restricted in terms of pathways and entrances, where paths are two-way, we please ask that **everyone keeps to the left.** We have installed a new barrier outside of the staffroom so that families can enter and exit via the Barton entrance. Again please ensure that you and your children keep to the left
- **Use of face coverings for all adults** (including any pupil in year 7 or above) when on the school site
- **Please exit the school site promptly** when you have collected your child/ children. Please do not wait around or have conversations with others as we need to keep the site flowing in order to maintain safety for all
- **Parking is not permitted within the school car park** (unless you have a pass due to needing to use the disabled bay). Now that more families will be using the Barton entrance, please try to refrain from

parking in the narrow lane leading up to the Barton entrance as this can be hazardous for young children and try to park a bit further away from school (this will help with Park and Stride also).

### **Welcome back videos**

Today, teachers will be uploading a short video (ClassDojo) to welcome their classes back and discuss some of the exciting plans they have for next week. Please share these with your child/ children over the weekend.

### **Communication**

One of the positives to have come from another period of remote learning is that we feel that we have managed to remain in communication with all of our families. This has largely been enabled through our use of ClassDojo. However, now that all pupils will be returning, we will need to return to our **usual communication channels**. If you have any concerns about your child, want to arrange to speak to a teacher or report an absence, this must be done via telephone or email to the school office. ClassDojo can be used to share examples of, and comment on, learning but should not be used to set up meetings or discuss concerns. Teachers will only use Dojo to share and celebrate learning as well as post class reminders (eg PE kits).

**Should you have any concerns, the first point of call is to discuss this with the class teacher.**

Unfortunately, at this time, teachers are not permitted to talk with you at the classroom door, so should you wish to speak to them, **please telephone or email the office.**

### **WOW- active travel**

During the autumn term, we launched our WOW programme encouraging pupils to travel to school in an active way (walk, scoot, cycle, park & stride). The engagement and success of this was amazing between September and December and now that spring is here (almost!), it will be great to see everyone travelling to and from school in an active and sustainable manner. As a result of the success we had with WOW before Christmas, we will soon be applying for our bronze accreditation for our promotion of active travel so let's get active again from Monday!

South Gloucestershire Council has put together a short video to help encourage pupils to find healthier ways of travelling to school from next week which can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLU2GrleEXI>

### **After School Clubs**

The Government has given the go ahead for after school clubs to restart this term. This is great news and Mr Sharda will be offering four after school sports clubs which will start in the week beginning 15 March. A letter has been sent out today with more information.

### **Survey**

As we approach the end of remote learning, we are asking you to complete a second survey. The questions are predominantly the same as those asked at the start of this lockdown because we are keen to see if the changes and adaptations we made to our remote teaching offer over the course of the last 8 weeks have been successful in further improving the learning experience for your child/ children. Please complete the survey by following the link:

**The survey will close on Wednesday 10 March.** Thank you.

### **Boot Bank**

As many of our children will be participating in football as part of their PE sessions this term, they will need to wear football/rugby boots in order to comply with health and safety regulations. As we know that not all of our children will have appropriate footwear or may have outgrown their boots, we will be setting up a Boot Bank next week. **If you have any unwanted football boots/ studded footwear or shin pads, please put these into one of the crates on the school playground.** Thank you in advance.

### **Return to school information**

There is a letter from the Directors of Children, Adults and Health and Public Health which is attached with this update providing further information to support parents and pupils with the return to school.

### **Covid reminders**

Whilst the country and, indeed local area, continues to move forward in hope as the levels of coronavirus infection continue to decrease, it is still vital that we all follow the government guidelines in order to ensure school is as safe as possible.

Pupils, staff and other adults must not come into the school if:

- they have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptom
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- they have had a positive test
- have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus

If any of the above apply, then your child/ children must cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)

If your child/ children develops a new and continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we will:

- send them home to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days
- advise you to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection
- advise you to arrange a test as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus

Have a lovely weekend. Make sure you take some time away from the screen; your hard work is almost done! We look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,



Neil McKellar-Turner  
Headteacher

