

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to tell you that we will be open for all children in all year groups from September and our staff cannot wait to welcome you all back.

School will open for all children on Thursday 3rd September.

I would like to reassure parents that every precaution, safety measure and Government guidance has been taken into consideration to ensure we provide a safe, nurturing and welcoming environment for the children, where their social, emotional, mental health and educational needs can be addressed effectively.

The following arrangements are in place for the Autumn Term:

- School day start and finishing times will be staggered to avoid congestion.
Reception and KS1 start at 8:45am and finish at 2:45pm.
KS2 start at 8:55am and finish at 3pm.
Children travelling on the school bus will follow their normal routine of usual pick up times at the bus stop and be in school by 8:55am and collected at 3pm.
Please note that during transition for Reception, these times will differ and a separate letter to new Reception starters will explain their arrangements.
- All children will be progressing to their next year group and returning to their new class teacher and friends in groups of no more than 30, wherever possible. These groups will remain as a 'bubble' throughout the day whilst indoors to minimise any transmission between groups, which means they will not mix with other classes indoors.
- Each class group will have two adults to support the children for the majority of the time - their class teacher and one other (teaching assistant or teacher). This will be to monopolise on opportunities to provide additional support and feedback to children so they can catch up quickly. Staff are permitted to move between the groups but this will be minimised wherever possible.
- In Years 1 to 6 the tables will be arranged so all children can face the teacher and children can sit, learn and play side by side rather than face to face. Children are not required to be 1 or 2 metres apart. There is no expectation of younger children being able to social distance.

- Children will have staggered break times and lunchtimes. Reception & KS1 will form one bubble and KS2 another bubble for outdoor groups at playtimes and in the lunch hall. The risk of transmission is greatly reduced outdoors. Play equipment for the groups will be available. A hot school dinner is available for those who wish. Parents also have the choice of providing a packed lunch.
- A frequent handwashing regime will be in place. Children will be asked to wash their hands on arriving to school, before and after break and lunch, after toileting and before home time.
- Children are allowed to bring bags to school and their PE and Forest School kits (suitable outdoor warm, waterproof clothing and wellies) should be left at school on their pegs for the half term please.
- Children will have their own pens and pencils to use provided by the school - the children currently in school love having their own stationary packs!
- Children will be able to share class resources within their class bubble such as construction kits, jigsaws and equipment.
- Children will be able to take a reading book and homework between home and school. We would advise parents and children to wash their hands before and after reading with these books. When books are returned to school, they will be put in a special box for 72 hours before another child may take it home.
- The curriculum will be exciting and stimulating with a broad and balanced range of subjects being taught, with a strong focus on Maths, English, mental health and well-being. Staff will deliver a recovery curriculum which will take into account how far the children have progressed and to identify and address any gaps.
- Assemblies will take place in class bubbles as large gatherings are not permitted.
- There will be two parent consultations in the Autumn term, one very early on in September so parents can discuss how their child has settled in and what their child's next steps will be.
- Please could we politely request parents respect social distancing measures when in the playground and remain a safe distance from the school entrance when

dropping off and collecting children. Children should say goodbye to parents in the yard as they will not be permitted in the building for safety reasons. Any parent wishing to speak to their class teacher should telephone to make an appointment or speak to the school staff member at the door who will relay any messages.

- We do know the school transport and Chester Bears wrap around care will be available from September and are now waiting for further information regarding safety measures and arrangements.
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

All of our staff want children to feel secure coming into school in order to play with friends, socialise and enjoy their learning.

I hope this has reassured you that safety measures are in place to allow your child to return to school safely in a welcoming and supportive environment. I look forward to meeting you all in September.