

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your patience and allowing my team and I to make all of the necessary arrangements needed to welcome your child back to school on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020**.

During the last three weeks, in line with government guidance, we have been undertaking a rigorous risk assessment process in order to ensure that our school is as safe as possible in the current circumstances. The risk assessments will be made available to parents on our website, these will be under constant review and amendments will be shared with parents.

The health and safety of pupils, staff and the community are at the forefront of all our planning so it is vital that behaviour and hygiene rules are followed at all times. We would also like to stress that it will be vital for all children to follow rules and guidelines for social distancing from both staff and other children. Where your child is struggling to do this we will of course support them and ask that you help us to do this with reminders at home.

When your child returns to school please ensure that we have up to date contact details, (if you have changed your telephone number or have changes to make regarding who we contact), please let the office know. These details will be vital as government guidance states that if a child develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, we will immediately isolate your child and call you to collect them and to self-isolate for 7 days. Your fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. We will ask you to get your child tested for COVID 19. Where the child tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. Where the child tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. If other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection may recommend that more people self-isolate, perhaps the whole class, site or year group. It is vital that everybody is completely honest about their state of health and if your child is unwell we ask that you keep them at home until they are fully recovered and until any isolation periods have been correctly observed. We also kindly ask that in order to protect your child, your household and the staff working with your child you do follow the current Government guidelines. By doing this you will be lowering the risk for the whole school community.

If your child will not be attending school, for any reason, please telephone or email the office to inform us.

Children and young people who are considered [extremely clinically vulnerable and shielding](#) should continue to shield and are not expected to attend school.

Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19). A minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.

### What will School look like?

On 8<sup>th</sup> June we will accommodate key worker children from Nursery to Year 6 in classes of no more than 10 children (8 if they are Nursery or Reception age). We will also be welcoming back our pupils in Year 6 on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Due to limits on sizes of groups and some staff not being available for work your child may not be with their usual class teacher or in their usual classroom.

Our fantastic catering team will continue to provide lunch options to children in Year 6 who are eligible for free school meals. If you would like to order a school lunch please contact Gail directly [jeanettegaut@outlook.com](mailto:jeanettegaut@outlook.com) all other children should bring a packed lunch with them.

The school will look very different when your child returns. All classrooms have been set up with minimal furniture and soft furnishing removed as per government guidance. Children are spread out around the room to allow for distancing between them. Each child has an individual pack of resources to use during the day and access to class resources that are just for their group. Please limit belongings to the bare minimum as they will be stored in the classrooms. Each child is only required to bring: A coat (weather dependent), hat, sun cream, hand cream (if required), a water bottle, a piece of fruit (not in a packet) and a packed lunch (if they are not having lunch provided by the kitchen). Please do not send in any other personal belongings or book bags. If your child has to bring a mobile phone to school these will no longer be kept in the office. Children will be asked to turn them off and put them in their trays for the duration of the school day. Please only send these in if absolutely necessary.

We have a one way system in place on the school site and around the school site and in each building. We have social distancing markers and posters displayed. We ask that parents and children observe these when they are coming on to the school site.

**The school day will start for our Year 6 children at 8:45am. The children should not come on to the school site any earlier than 8:40am. All children and accompanying adults should use the school gate next to Thrapston Bowls club. Children should follow the path up to the tennis courts and wait on one of the markers that have been painted around the perimeter. Teachers will collect the children from the tennis courts.** To support us with the social distancing measures we have put into place please tell your child that they should wait on one of the markers until they are collected.

**The school day finishes at 3:10pm.** Year 6 children are permitted to walk home from school on their own. They will be escorted, by their teacher to the tennis courts and directed to follow the one way system which will take them down the school drive and off site. **If you are collecting your child please use the gate by the Bowls club and wait on one of the markers on the tennis courts.**

**To support us with the social distancing measures we have put into place please could you talk to your child about the importance of adhering to the one way system and the markers that will be in place.**

We have put in place staggered start and finish times, it is crucial that children and parents arrive promptly to ensure limited numbers of people are on site.

Members of the staff team will be on hand in the mornings and at the end of the day to support parents and children to go to the allocated area for drop off and pick up.

Please do not send in medicines unless they are essential. Any medicines need to be handed to class teachers upon arrival and will be kept safely in the classroom. If your child has asthma, they will be encouraged to keep their inhalers with them. Classroom staff will support with any medication needed. Staff may need to wear PPE (gloves, apron, mask and visor) to administer the medication if they need to get close to the child so please make sure your child is aware of this.

Please be advised that there will be no enable us to ensure social distancing the school office will not be open to parents or children, all communication should be done via email or telephone.

Handwashing is crucial and will be a scheduled activity throughout the day. All children will wash their hands as they arrive at school, after outdoor time, before and after lunch and before coming home.

We are asking children to wear their own clothes to school. We encourage you to send the children in each day wearing clean clothes.

The groups will be following a similar curriculum to the home learning activities we have been sharing and following the suggested activities. They will have a clear structure to the day with daily sessions on English, Maths, Topic and PSHE. There are certain subjects that we will not be able to deliver due to the sharing of resources needed to deliver these. Outdoor time is clearly scheduled to include daily exercise.

The children will remain in their class groups for the entire day and have all their outdoor times and lunch with the same group as they cannot mix with other groups. The new classes have been numbered. These groups have been assigned with the number of children in mind according to the number of staff available so they may not be with a member of staff they know well. All staff will work to welcome their new group to work as a team and spend a lot of time talking and supporting the mental health and well-being of our children.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) DfE guidance on PPE is as follows and therefore none of the children should be wearing PPE: 'Face coverings should not be worn in any circumstance by those who may not be able to handle them as directed (for example, young children) as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission'. School staff will be using appropriate PPE when attending to first aid, personal care and some aspects of cleaning. The wearing of face-coverings at other times is a matter for individual members of staff, please prepare your child should this worry them.

We know that this is a very unusual time for our whole community and we are committed to working together in the best interests of our children. Please get in touch if you have any questions or queries.

Pauline Turner