

27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a relaxing summer holiday! We are really looking forward to seeing all the children back in school from 7<sup>th</sup> September after such a long break for some. We also want to extend a warm welcome to the new children joining us.

Clearly, things are very different to normal, so we are writing to outline the measures we are putting in place to ensure that the school is 'Covid-safe' for all children to return. We are hopeful that you will all feel confident to send your children in, particularly as the local statistics for Covid-19 are still fairly low (please see the briefing attached).

Here is a reminder of the key planned safety procedures:

- Arrivals and departures will be staggered, and will take place through both gates

Class	Start time/gate	Collection time/gate
Owls (Class 1)	9.00 Black gates	3.15 Black gates
Flamingos (Class 2)	8.45 Black gates	3.00 Black gates
Woodpeckers (Class 3)	9.00 Blue Gates	3.20 Blue gates
Eagles (Class 4)	8.45 Blue gates	3.10 Blue gates

- Staff and children will wash and/or sanitise hands at the following times:
  - Entry to school
  - Before and after breaks
  - Before and after lunch
  - After toilet breaks
  - After coughing or sneezing
- Classes will have allocated toilets
- Doors and windows will be left open to provide ventilation where this is possible (excepting fire doors)
- Children will be kept in two allocated groups ('bubbles') with adults allocated to these groups. Owl and Flamingo (EYFS & KS1) classes will form one group, and Woodpecker and Eagle (KS2) classes the other.
- Lunchtimes will be staggered with the groups above, and some children may need to eat outside or in classrooms (depending on weather)
  - KS2 will go to Jesus Green from 12.00 – 12.30
  - KS1/EYFS will go to Jesus Green from 12.30 – 13.00
- The office will remain closed to visitors. Please use the email for contact [office@parkstreet.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@parkstreet.cambs.sch.uk)
- Before- and after-school clubs will observe social distancing between children and adults. Children will be kept in their groups at these clubs when indoors. Please let us know if you intend to use these services.
- Throughout the day, busy areas, door handles, tables and play equipment will be cleaned, for which we have allocated extra time for Mrs. Clipsham.

Our risk assessment was passed by the Local Authority in July. This is now available on the school website, if you would like to see the measures we are taking in more detail.

### **Attendance**

From September, attendance at school will be compulsory for the vast majority of children.

While the Government relaxed the rules on attendance during the last summer term, this will change in September. Government guidance states that: *'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with lower overall attendance tend to achieve less well in primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the Autumn Term.'*

Please do get in touch if you have any anxieties about sending your child back to school, and we will work together to alleviate these. Please also let us know if your child is having to quarantine following a trip out of the country (Parents will obviously not be fined in this eventuality.)

### **Illness**

Please **do not send your children into school** if your child or a family member display any of these symptoms:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees or above)
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste

Should you have these symptoms, we request that you follow the advice at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Wider information is available on this page:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please also read carefully the 'Test and Trace' information attached with this letter.

**If your child is unwell with any other symptoms, please also keep them at home until they are better.**

### **School Clothing and Equipment**

**Please do not send your child with any items apart from a packed lunch and water bottle. This includes toys and stationery from home.**

The school website outlines the main rules for school clothing. However it is clear that these have not been adhered to very consistently over the past year. The website states that 'children are expected to dress comfortably and appropriately for activity in school – sensible shoes, covered shoulders and plain T-shirts without slogans.' Please could you ensure that these rules are now kept? Party dresses, slip on shoes and open-toed sandals and fashion items such as denim shorts and board shorts, are not in line with this code. If in doubt, the MAPAC PE uniform, available on a link from the school website, is suggested as a good option for everyday wear in school.

Similar plain navy sweatshirts and pale blue polo shirts are also available in many shops, at a very reasonable price. We have access to a 'hardship fund' to help parents with this expense should you need it. Please contact the office or Headteacher directly for this.

## **Community Protection**

We have had members of staff who were isolating during lockdown, and who are now returning to school. This has been in full consultation with the staff and with appropriate individual risk assessments. One member of staff has been shielding her son who is extremely vulnerable and remains at risk. We are therefore very anxious to ensure that we all take social distancing and other measures extremely seriously. Staff will be reminded to take all possible precautions out-of-school as well as in, to avoid any risks. I would request that parents also bear this in mind. We would like everybody to work together to ensure that we stay safe as a community. Congregating and mixing with many others socially and at work still carries a high risk of spreading the virus, particularly over the next few weeks as people return from holidays and students return to Cambridge.

## **Parent Survey**

Thank you again to everybody who completed the survey before the holiday. The results are on our website. Please could we ask that you also complete the Ofsted survey on 'Parentview'? <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views>. We are always interested in finding out your views and thinking about how we can improve.

## **Curriculum**

As Teams and Tapestry proved mostly successful in hosting our online learning, we will continue to use these platforms in September. 'Learning Journeys' will be uploaded to their class 'Team', so that parents can see the objectives on which their children will be working. A class newsletter will also be added by teachers in the first week back, to inform you of other class information. Work and suggested activities will also be posted here in the event that groups or individuals need to self-isolate. This will be very closely aligned to work completed in school.

It is possible that there may be local or national lockdowns, or that one or both groups may need to be sent home as a result of positive Covid-19 tests. Plans are in place for online learning along the lines of the learning prior to the summer break.

Thank you so much for your support over the past few months. We are a very strong community now, and we are sure we will continue to work successfully for everybody over the next term, whatever the circumstances.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher if there is anything you are concerned about.

Kind regards,

Sarah Hawker  
Headteacher

Nigel Moorhouse  
Chair of Governors