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**HEADTEACHER:** Mrs Gemma Martin

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**RE-OPENING OF SCHOOL TO ALL PUPILS – 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are so pleased that the government have announced that we are finally going to be welcoming all children back into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Everyone has done an amazing job during this period of lockdown but we can't wait to have all children back in their classrooms receiving face to face teaching! Thank you to all of you for the hard work you have put in and the supportive approach that has been shown by all.

Our risk assessment has been reviewed and upon return, we will be adopting a similar approach to that utilised in the Autumn Term. This will ensure that key safety measures are in place to protect the whole community from the on-going risk of COVID-19. The risk assessment and measures will be reviewed regularly and we will continue to respond to government guidance, informing you of any changes as and when they are required.

Please see below an outline of the approach that will be adopted from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**Operational and Logistics:**

- Children will be operating in class groups/social bubbles and contact with other bubbles will be avoided as far as possible.
- Adults should wear a face covering at drop off and collection times.
- The Cricket Club car park should be used for parking.
- Drop off and collection times will be staggered as to reduce the number of parents on the playground at one time. Please note, if you have a child in KS2 and another in EYFS or KS1, both can be dropped off at the earlier time, if required, rather than both being dropped off at the later time as this can have an impact in the classrooms. Times are as follows:

<b>Class:</b>	<b>Arrival:</b>	<b>Collection:</b>	<b>Entry Point:</b>	<b>Points to Note:</b>
EYFS (Nursery and Reception)	8.40	3.00	EYFS green gate	Parents please wait on the right side of the playground (as you face the school) whilst maintaining a social distance from those around you and leave the site as swiftly as possible.
KS1 (Years 1 and 2)	8.40	3.00	Library door	Parents please wait on the left side of the playground (as you face the school) whilst maintaining a social distance from those around you and leave

				the site as swiftly as possible.
KS2 (Years 3 and 4)	8.50	3.10	Library door	Please wait on the playground and maintain a social distance from those around you and leave the site as swiftly as possible.

- Staggered break and lunchtimes will be used to limit contact between class groups/social bubbles. Each group will eat in a separate location in school.
- Thorough hand washing upon arrival and at departure from school, as well as regularly throughout the day will be ensured.
- There will be continued promotion of the 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It' and 'Hands, Face, Space' messages.
- Children to have their own labelled water bottles in school. These should be taken home, washed and refilled each day to ensure hygiene.
- Each class group/social bubble will have allocated toilet facilities to use throughout the school day. These will be cleaned regularly.
- Classroom spaces will continue to be set up to promote and support social distancing and limit face to face contact as much as is possible.
- Daily whole school assemblies will continue to be replaced by class assemblies at the current time. Celebration Assembly will still be held on a Friday in each class. Unfortunately parents will not be able to attend these for now but we will still inform you via text if your child gets an award.
- Children will be allocated their own frequently used resources. Shared resources will be regularly and thoroughly cleaned.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes have been adopted across the school and will remain in place.
- Staff members will continue to remain with their allocated class group as much as possible. However, in order to maintain high quality educational provision and due to the part-time nature of some contracts, there will be some movement. When this occurs, staff work hard to maintain recommended social distancing measures, as far as it is safe and practicable to do so.
- Visitors to site will continue to be limited. When visitors do come on to site, they are asked to sanitise their hands on arrival and departure. They are supervised and it is ensured that they maintain a social distance from others. Depending on the reason for their visit and appropriateness, they may be asked to wear face covering.
- Extra-curricular clubs will begin after the Easter holidays and will continue to be run in class groups/social bubbles to further reduce interaction across these.
- Suitable PPE is used when intimate care is required.
- All children should wear school uniform.
- Forest School days will be as follows and children should wear school uniform on this day, ensuring that other required items are in school:

- EYFS: Wednesday
- KS1: Tuesday
- KS2: Thursday

PE days will be as follows and children should come to school wearing their correct PE uniform on this day:

- EYFS: Tuesday
- KS1: Friday
- KS2: Monday.

### **Provision:**

- Wrap Around Care provision will resume from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, as per the guidelines. Please email Mrs Stewart at [office@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk) to outline your requirements for weeks beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 22<sup>nd</sup> March and 29<sup>th</sup> March. Please then submit a new booking form for your Summer Term requirements (extra-curricular clubs will resume from after the Easter holidays (week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> April)). The booking form is available under 'Letters to Parents' on the website. As was the case in the Autumn Term, we will endeavour to structure activities for children in separate class bubbles as far as possible during this session, but it is important to note that there may be some cross over.
- Extra-curricular clubs for Reception upwards will resume from the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> April. Please see a separate letter with details.
- Parent consultations usually take place in March so that we can update you regarding your child's progress from Autumn to Spring and discuss next steps. Due to this period of lockdown, parent consultations will now take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May to ensure that these meetings are as meaningful as possible. More details will follow, but we thought it would be useful to share the dates now.
- We are currently working with the staff at the swimming pool to establish plans for this area of the curriculum for Key Stage Two. Swimming will definitely not take place before the Easter holidays.
- We are also working with Boundless Outdoor Centre regarding the Key Stage Two visit and will update you as soon as we have further information.
- Mrs Beattie will be working remotely from home until her maternity commences at Easter. Therefore Miss Albutt will be teaching KS1 class full-time and Mrs Hedges will be teaching KS2 class full-time from week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March through to the end of the Summer Term (as originally planned).
- For those children who have violin lessons, face to face teaching will resume from week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- Mrs Gordon will resume her 1-1 piano lessons from week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> April (upon return from the Easter holidays).

### **Symptoms and Actions:**

A reminder of the key points, which will remain in force until further notice:

- If your child or anyone in your household shows symptoms of the virus, your child should not attend school. A test should be booked for the person showing the symptoms via <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by phoning NHS 119 if no internet access is available. Please inform us immediately should this situation arise.

- If any child in school shows any concerning symptoms, they will be isolated and parents will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible. Please ensure Mrs Stewart is made aware of any changes to contact details. Parents should then get their child tested so that the government's 'Test and Trace' programme can be utilised if there is a positive result and next steps can be determined swiftly. Please be aware that you will be asked to provide details of those that you and your child have been in contact with as part of this process if there is a positive result.
- The child should not attend school whilst awaiting a test result, nor should any siblings; they should remain in self-isolation.
- If a child or staff member tests positive for the virus, the school will work closely with appropriate authorities to determine the required next steps.
- If and when your child or a member of your household is tested, please advise us of the result as soon as possible so that appropriate action can be taken.
- Please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance> for more information about action needed should your household have a suspected or confirmed case of infection.

We are very aware that this full return will cause anxiety for some and understand this completely but hope that this information will reassure you that we will continue to have stringent safety measures in place. I must remind you that, from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, school attendance is mandatory and usual legislation will apply in relation to this.

Thank you as always for your on-going patience and support. We look forward to seeing everyone back in just over a week! If you have any queries at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin