



Where Pupils Achieve and Excel
Headteacher: Mrs T Price BA (Hons) MA Ed

25th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are absolutely delighted by the government announcement which will see all pupils return to schools on Monday March 8th. In order to ensure a smooth re-opening I would like to update you with the arrangements we will put in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our school community. For the most part we will return to the arrangements we had in September which I have outlined again below. In addition to this there are new aspects we need to consider.

Year 5 and Year 6 will return at their usual time with entry and exit details outlined below. For Year 7 and Year 8 we will be welcoming them all back on the 8th March but with a staggered start time. This is to allow staff to carry out lateral flow tests as set out in the government guidance. If you have not already consented I would urge you to do so (via ParentPay). This has proven to be very effective at picking up positive cases and minimising the need to close bubbles – something I am sure you would agree must be avoided as far as possible. The uptake so far has been tremendous and yet again I would like to thank you for your support on this, clearly we all want our pupils back in school and safe. The staggered arrangements are only for the first day back and from Tuesday 9th March all classes will be starting at the usual times (see below).

Arrival to and from school on 8th March ONLY

	<u>Designated area</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Gate opened by</u>
<u>YR 6</u>	Playground	Main Gate	Pedestrian Gate	8.35	8.45	3.25	<u>DM/HD</u>
<u>YR 5</u>	Playground	Main gate	Main gate	8.35	8.50	3.30	<u>DM/HD</u>

Y7 & Y8 It is extremely important that your child arrives at the correct time and no earlier. They must not mix with pupils out of other classes, even if in the same year group

<u>Y7</u>	<u>Designated area</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Gate opened by</u>
<u>7LH</u>	Tennis Courts	Pedestrian Gate	Top Drive	8.45	8.45	3.30	<u>DM/HD</u>
<u>7NJ</u>	Tennis Courts	Pedestrian Gate	Top Drive	9.00	9.00	3.30	DM/HD
<u>7CMO</u>	Tennis Courts	Pedestrian Gate	Top Drive	9.30	9.30	3.30	DM/HD
<u>7LJ</u>	Tennis Courts	Pedestrian Gate	Top Drive	9.45	9.45	3.30	DM/HD

<u>Y8</u>	<u>Designated area</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Gate opened by</u>
8HH	Astro	Pedestrian Gate	Gully	10.30	10.30	3.25	<u>AWA/NH</u>
8LC	Astro	Pedestrian Gate	Gully	10.45	10.45	3.25	<u>AWA/NH</u>
8SC	Astro	Pedestrian Gate	Gully	11.15	11.15	3.25	<u>AWA/NH</u>
8AD	Astro	Pedestrian Gate	Gully	11.30	11.30	3.25	<u>AWA/NH</u>

Arrival to and from school from 9th March

	<u>Designated area</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Gate opened by</u>
YR 8	Tennis Courts	Gully	Gully	8.35	8.45	3.25	<u>AWA</u>
YR 7	Astro	Top Drive	Top Drive	8.35	8.50	3.30	<u>NH</u>
YR 6	Playground	Pedestrian gate	Pedestrian Gate	8.35	8.45	3.25	<u>DM/HD</u>
YR 5	Playground	Main gate	Main gate	8.35	8.50	3.30	<u>DM/HD</u>

- Gates will open from 8.35am. School will start for all pupils at 8.50am. Please do not send your children to school before 8.35am as there is no access to school and this will cause congestion on public highways. Unfortunately, we still have pupils outside school before 8.00am.
- Parents – if possible do not congregate in the gully or outside the school gates. When dropping off pupils you should always wear a mask. We politely remind you that visits to school are by appointment only.

Breaktimes

Snacks will be available and should be paid for using ParentPay.

Lunchtimes

From the 8th March we will revert back to the arrangements which were in place before Christmas. Lunch will be served in either the dining room or the hall with two-year groups using each facility on a rota basis. Hot food options will be available in both areas and there should be adequate time for pupils to enjoy their lunch. All meals should be paid for using ParentPay – no cash will be accepted.

Before and After School Provision

From Monday 8th March our before and after school provision will re-open. Breakfast club is available from 7.30am and the Base after school club is available until 5.45pm

PE

When pupils are timetabled to do PE we would kindly request that they come to school in their PE kit as before. We will review this after the next government announcement on April 12th.

Equipment

Pupils are reminded that they should be providing all their own stationery requirements including headphones. Again, this minimises risks associated with sharing. If this is not possible please contact your child's form teacher and we will be able to help.

Lateral Flow Testing

From Monday 8th March all KS3 pupils will have the option to have a lateral flow test. This is an extremely simple process and all key worker pupils have been participating in the programme since the beginning of January. The tests are carried out by staff who know the pupils and it is done in a reassuring and comforting way. Tests will take place on Mondays and Thursdays and this is a pivotal step in keeping pupils and staff as safe as possible. Home testing kits are going to be provided but, as yet we do not have a date on these. Therefore, we will continue to do the tests in school, with trained staff for the 4 weeks leading to Easter. Again, we may have more clarity on this following the announcements in April. Should a pupil test positive we will notify you immediately and advise you on next steps you will need to take.

Masks

The latest guidance states that all KS3 pupils should now be wearing masks in classrooms as well as corridors in order to minimise risk of spreading the virus as much as possible. I appreciate that this will be a challenge but we must adhere as far as possible to the government advice. KS2 pupils are not included in this latest advice but I would strongly recommend that all KS2 pupils wear masks in the corridors and if they wish they can wear them in lesson too. Pupils will not be expected to wear masks during PE sessions or outdoors.

Please see DFE guidance below:

Where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by pupils when outdoors on the premises. 12 In addition, we now also recommend in those schools, that face coverings should be worn in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons.

Please can you make sure pupils have a supply of their own masks – either disposable or fabric.

We have become very adept at undertaking risk assessments associated with COVID and our latest version to reflect the changes will be available on the website by 8th March. As a school, and with your fantastic support, we have managed to keep things running smoothly and kept disruption to a minimum. We cannot wait to have all pupils back on the 8th March and staff can't wait to get back to doing what we all love – teaching and supporting your children.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Tracy Price
Headteacher