



An Academy

11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Well, that's a whole week of school done! It's been wonderful to welcome the children back. Many thanks to all our parents and carers for your help and support in making our re-opening as smooth as it could possibly be.

We are keeping all of our arrangements under constant review, as explained in previous communications. With that in mind, I have a few notes and requests to make:

TIMINGS

As mentioned before, we are trying to maintain a balance between making sure we have staggered timings to allow for distancing, whilst also being mindful of the need for parents to drop siblings off without too much waiting around.

However, I also have to ensure that the teaching staff have adequate time to prepare their classrooms. This is especially important with the youngest children as, once they are in school, they need much more adult support and attention than older pupils.

Therefore, may I firstly remind all parents of the classroom opening times for all year groups:

YEAR	ENTRANCE & EXIT	START	END
6	Main gate, classroom door	Door opens 8.30a.m.	3.30p.m.
5	Main gate, classroom door	Door opens 8.45a.m.	3.30p.m.
4	Middle gate, classroom door	Door opens 8.30a.m.	3.30p.m.
3	Middle gate, classroom door	Door opens 8.45a.m.	3.30p.m.
2	Playground gate	8.45a.m.	3.15p.m.
1	Bottom car park door	8.45a.m.	3.15p.m.
R	Reception outdoor area gate	9a.m.	3.15p.m.

If you have an older child to drop off at 8.30a.m. please do so first, before going to the waiting area for your younger child; if the classroom door is due to open at 8.45a.m. the teacher will open it promptly or a little earlier but please be prepared for a short wait.

The official start of the school day and registration is still at 9a.m., the introduction of an 8.30a.m. door opening in some classes is simply to help manage the numbers of people in the village and around the school.

Collection time is a little more difficult to fully stagger but we are working on it. Inevitably there is a period of time when there are lots more people in the vicinity of the school. As a consequence, I would like to clarify further our position regarding distancing and face coverings for adults.

DISTANCING

As you will be aware, we are still very much in the midst of uncertainty and all have to play a part in keeping a distance from others. The national guidance has become more stringent and Northamptonshire remains an area of intervention.

Please can I ask that all parents and carers:

- Adopt an approach of “drop and go” rather than gathering outside school;
- Only come onto the school site if you need to;
- In Key Stage Two, please drop your children at their gate and let them walk to their door independently; at pick up time please stand on the pavement past the hedge and wait for a teacher to open the gate and dismiss the children to you;
- Please try not to congregate and please leave the area as soon as you have collected your children;
- Keep your children with you at all times – particularly if you have collected younger siblings and are waiting for older ones – please don’t allow your child/ren to run around the pavement/roadside or climb the gates;
- Stand back from the door/gate to allow the teacher to let the children out safely;
- If you need to speak to the teacher, please wait until they have handed all the children over to their parents and carers.

MASKS

We already have a policy of visitors wearing a mask inside the building. I’m aware that some schools are now introducing a policy of all adult visitors on site wearing a mask. Many parents/carers already wear a mask when they drop off or pick up; that will remain a choice for now.

However, from Monday I am asking anyone wishing to speak to their child’s teacher at the beginning or end of the school day to wear a mask, as this is a face-to-face interaction and can’t necessarily be held at a distance of 2m.

Many thanks to all parents for your support and understanding. We are trying to work with you to ensure we can keep school open and keep everyone safe.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mary James

Head Teacher