

Dear Parents, I hope that you are now feeling as settled as the children into the school year – from a school point of view, we think that you are doing a great job as the children have returned with great joy and excitement.

Risk Assessment Update of Advice for all families from September 22nd:

1. We recommend to limit numbers of family members coming onto the site when bringing and collecting their children to and from school for everyone's safety. Previous risk measures will be re-enlisted in the event of increased cases.
2. We recommend families continue to keep at a safe distance from other families when on the school site and meeting socially is not to be encouraged whilst on the school site.
3. We would like to continue the one-way system where possible for everyone's safety and ease of 'traffic flow' along the school drive. The daily 500 metres path is to be encouraged to be used for additional exercise for pupils at break and lunch times – and even at the end of the school day for pupils who access the after-school provision with Mrs Wright and the team.
4. Only EYFS pupils and their parents should enter via the Reception green gates if their children are still experiencing difficulties in lining up independently with their peers at 8.55am.
5. Parents and other adults arriving by car in the morning must not enter the school site unless by prior special arrangement with Miss Cottrell or in case of needing to see Miss Cottrell or use the entrance-foyer toilet.
6. Face coverings are no longer required to be worn on site or within the school building unless the school is required to review its risk assessment due to increased cases. The wearing of face coverings does however remain optional.
7. Staggered start and finish times are still in use to help ease the congestion on Raglan Street. These are set out later in this newsletter.
8. Adults must ensure that their child has joined the line at the end of the drive where Mrs Smith and Mrs Grimes stand each morning. Please stick rigidly to the timings on your mobile phone to ensure that the start of the day runs as smoothly as possible.
9. At colder times of the year, children will be encouraged to wear more layers underneath their uniforms as classrooms will continue to be well ventilated.
10. The school PE kit is to be worn on outdoor games days. PE kit will be brought into school for indoor PE sessions when these take place later this term. Your child's Classteacher will inform you when indoor lessons will take place.
11. Temperatures are no longer required to be taken at home if a child may feel unwell. School does however recommend that parents do this for peace of mind. Where a child arrives at school, and appears unwell, school will reserve the right to check for any high temperature. In this instance a child may be sent home according to the Covid symptoms check list.
12. A summary of instructions to follow in the event of a positive case: fundamentally, households do not have to self-isolate if there is a positive case in the home so long as they are doubly vaccinated or under 18 years and 6 months. This also includes anyone who has tested positive within the last 90 days and who tests negative with a PCR test. All householders are expected to take a PCR test within 48 hours of being in close contact with someone who tests positive, but they are not required to isolate unless the result comes back positive. They should isolate if they start showing symptoms, however mild. Only positive cases will need to isolate for the full 10 days along with adults who are not vaccinated twice.
13. Class bubbles are not sent home when a positive case is identified, however, 'warn and inform' letters/dojo messages will be sent home when a positive case is identified in school.
14. Hand washing will still be promoted regularly throughout the day. (If your child has a specific skin condition which requires specialist soap, please contact your class teacher and provide alternative products as necessary).
15. Children will remain mostly in class groups when outside, although strict class bubble segregation will now no longer apply; unless the school is advised otherwise in the future if cases rise rapidly again.
16. Upcoming parents' meetings with staff will take place by prior arrangement. Parents will be expected to complete Covid forms prior to entering the school for meetings. These meetings may still take place remotely at the preference of either the staff member or parent.
17. Members of staff displaying the three symptoms: persistent coughing, high temperature and loss of taste or smell, will be expected to stay at home. A PCR Covid test is expected to be taken with evidence of a negative result prior to coming into school. Other members of the household are expected to also take a PCR test within 48 hours.

18. Vehicles are only permitted on site with prior permission i.e. to support families with disabilities. This includes dropping off or collecting children from wraparound care.
19. All parents to follow the parent code of conduct respecting the above advice as supporting our promotion to keeping our school community as safe as possible. The school will not tolerate aggression or threatening behaviour either physically or verbally and reserves the right to ask parents to leave the site in the event of breach of this.

Staggered start times:

- Year 5 and Year 6: **8.35am**

Siblings from other classes will also start at this time and go to 'the breakfast club bubbles' where children are by this time playing outside. A member of staff will be at the top of the drive – and pupils will line up either side of the drive, ready to be collected by their Classteacher.

- Year 3 and Year 4: **8.45am**
- Year 1 and Year 2: **8.55am**

Again, younger siblings will also start at this time and go to 'the breakfast club bubbles' where children are by this time playing outside. Like last year, a member of staff will be at the top of the drive – and pupils will line up either side of the drive, ready to be collected by their Classteacher or a Teaching Assistant.

- Reception Class: From **8.55am**

It is extremely positive to see that the majority of Foundation Stage pupils are able to line up and walk to class independently. Parents are free to take children down the drive and to the setting if they still feel upset. Children achieve this independence at different times – our provision and response is always around the needs of each individual child.

At the end of each day: Please utilise all of the space on both playgrounds when entering school premises – please do not stand in the area that connects both playgrounds as this needs to be kept clear for access. When coming down the school drive, please walk on the right-hand side of the drive (yellow arrows have been painted on the ground as a reminder). Also, you may wish to wear a mask; this is optional and entirely your decision.

End times: We have staggered the end of the day so that Reception pupils are collected at **3.05pm**. Then, Year Groups 1 and 2 are collected at **3.10pm**. Year Groups 3 to 6 are collected at **3.15pm** from the playground.

Using the school and surrounding grounds: The drive is never completely cleared until 3.25/3.30pm so please do not think you have to rush out of school or rush into school if running a few minutes late (social distancing is still extremely important, as is moving around away from large crowds).

By taking things slow and steady, we hope to have all pupils collected just before 3.30pm – in an orderly way to ensure everyone's safety. To do this effectively, **please:**

- Spread out over both playgrounds
- Wait patiently for up to 10 minutes before an older sibling is dismissed
- Arrange with Miss Fisher if your child (Year 6 only) has special permission to leave and meet with you outside school
- Arrange with Miss Cottrell if your child (other Year Groups) has special permission to leave early and meet with you at the school office
- Do not linger around on the school drive; we will politely ask you to move on
- Do not park directly opposite the school drive – the highway code stresses that you should not park **opposite** yellow zig-zag lines
- **Use the time as shown on your mobile phone**, as this is the time we use in school.

After school club: I am pleased to report that a menu of traditional after school clubs is being put together by Mrs Wright. I am aware that the ECO club is set to return – led by Mrs Mucha and Miss Evans, as well as dance and gymnastics being offered by Miss Singleton. The cost of the activities, which take place from 3.15 to 4.30pm, is **£4.00**. This price may however change if we are invoiced by providers who come into school to offer bespoke types of clubs and activities. The second part of our after-school provision runs from 4.30 and up to 5.45pm – this again costs **£4.00**. Parents who have work commitments often use this facility. The total cost is therefore **£8.00** for any child who stays at school after 4.30pm and as part of the later wrap around care. ***Please note, the after-school club closes at 5.15pm on Fridays.*** Mrs Wright will be in touch soon to provide information about the menu of activities taking place each evening.

Breakfast Club: For all parents/carers –and especially those new to our school – we have a breakfast club which starts at 7.30am each morning. The cost is **£4.00** per pupil. Please sort payments with Miss Cottrell. It was lovely to see Mrs Scrimshaw at school on Friday as she is recovering from surgery. She runs our breakfast club and is dearly missed by the children and school community. Please continue to remember her in your prayers in the hope that she will return to school and to full fitness soon. On another note, Mrs Judd is sadly leaving school in order to spend more time with her family. She is therefore leaving her post in the Breakfast Club. In the meantime, Miss Butkevicius continues to cover and works to support all children who access our breakfast provision.

Staffing: Congratulations to Miss Ocean Bradley who has joined Mr Holmes as part of our cleaning team. This appointment is in response to the departure of Mr Dean Marsden – he has now left the school to enjoy his retirement. We wish Dean all the very best. Please also remember Mrs Williams who is on maternity leave from school, with her beautiful baby girl. My thanks also go to Miss Hopewell and Mrs James – both of whom are due to leave us for pastures new as they have both been successful in getting similar jobs nearer to their homes and families.

Job adverts: If you – or you know of anybody who is a Teaching Assistant and is looking for a job – then please do consider the roles that will be advertised in the coming weeks. As soon as the Academy Trust has decided on the knowledge and skills required for the upcoming vacancies, and have agreed the job adverts, then these will be emailed out to you by Miss Cottrell. Thank you for your help and assistance with this matter.

Pedestrian Entrance to access school each morning: Due to a general lack of pupils using the Nottingham Road entrance, we have decided not to pursue this venture. My thanks to the seven pupils for giving this a go.

Talk Homework and our Statements to live by: This week's statement for children to think about is: I forgive others when they make mistakes. Other statements to be explored up to October half-term are:
Mon 27th Sep: **Acts of kindness lead to God's Kingdom being built on earth**
Mon 4th Oct: **Live simply, like a child, to enjoy and enter God's Kingdom**
Mon 11th Oct: **Live simply – share your gifts to inherit the Kingdom of God**
Monday 18th October: **Live simply – serve others to inherit God's Kingdom**

Celebration Assemblies: These will take place on most Fridays throughout the year. When these take place, EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils will join together from 9am; whilst Key Stage 2 pupils will celebrate together at 2.45pm. One parent/carer from each family is invited to join us at these times. We will do our best to keep the hall ventilated and face coverings will be recommended – but not obligatory. Our first Celebration Assemblies of the new school year will take place this coming Friday (September 24th).

Mass Times in our parish: Our Lady of Good Counsel Eastwood –Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.15am. Furthermore, our next whole school Mass will take place on Friday 1st October to celebrate Harvest. Please send in donations for the poor and needy of tinned and dry food next week.

Food for thought: There is no failure; there are things we simply have not grasped yet! (Alvin Goldman –philosopher) God bless – Anthony Harrison