26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Proposed school re-opening to all pupils**

I hope you and your families are all staying safe in this uncertain time.

As you are aware following the decreasing rate of infection across the country, schools have been asked by the Government to begin preparing for a wider re-opening of schools to allow all pupils to return to school on 8th March. All staff are really excited at the prospect of seeing the children back in school!

The guidance so far says that schools must continue to follow the strict rules around social distancing and limited contact between groups. Working together with the other schools within the Wade Deacon Trust and following our recent Health and Safety updated assessment we are confident that we are able to re-open but we must remind parents that the national restrictions are still in place and that we will continue to operate a strict ‘bubble’ system once all pupils return.

We have social distancing measures in place that will be enforced as best we can; however we cannot guarantee the maintainance of 2m social distancing by young children whilst they are in school. However we will be encouraging children to maintain distance from their classmates, particularly in our Junior classes, wherever possible and particularly when they are on the playground. Please help to support us by re-inforcing the rules at home.

As with the previous return to school in September, children will stay with their small group and break times and lunch times will be timetabled to ensure that children are not mixing with another class.

Children will continue to have their lunch in classrooms, apart from our Reception class who will use the hall each day, but all other classes will be able to access a hot meal each Friday if they so wish. Our rota of weekly hot lunches will resume and details of when your child’s class will be having lunch in the hall will be sent out via text message.

To maintain social distancing and to ensure that we keep each small group separate we will have continue with our specified start and finish times for the day for each group as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Entry and Exit point** | **Start Time** | **Finish Time** | **Classroom** |
| Nursery RED POD | Junior Playground | 8.30am | 11.30pm | Nursery |
| Reception ORANGE POD | Junior Playground | 9.00am | 2.45pm | Reception |
| Year 1 TURQUOISE POD | Infant playground  Junior playground | 9.15am | 3.00pm | Year 1 |
| Year 2 BLUE POD | Infant Playground | 9.00am | 3.00pm | Year 2 |
| Year ¾ GREEN POD | Lower Gate – Junior Playground | 8.45am | 3.10pm | Year 3/4 |
| Year 4/5 PURPLE POD | Infant Playground | 8.45am | 3.15pm | Year 4/5 |
| Year 6 YELLOW POD | Junior Playground | 8.45am | 3.15pm | Year 6 |

Parents must leave their child at the school gate. One member of staff will be on hand to supervise this and to ensure the children are escorted to their classroom. No parents will be allowed onto the playground, if you need to speak to a member of staff then this needs to be via appointment. The office will be open once all children are in school with strict social distancing guidelines in place to ensure safety. Please ensure that you stick to these times to allow us to minimise contact between groups.

Breakfast club provision will remain limited due to the current restrictions and will be available to working parents who require the service. Once again we request that places at Breakfast club are booked a week in advance via the booking system.

Teachers will continue to provide online home learning for any children who are unable to attend due to a positive case at home, however as all teaching staff will be back in school supporting those children who have returned to school, this will be a lighter touch and feedback may be more limited than it currently is.

Thank you for your continued support and remember that if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Highcock

Principal