

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you so much for all of the hard work and effort that you have put in over the last few weeks. I appreciate just how much hard work it is (I have found it tough myself) to try and homeschool, especially whilst some of you are still working from home too. No doubt there have been arguments, no doubt there has been stress and tears, but what you have done for your children will be so beneficial to them, and will be appreciated by them even if they don't let you know!

I am sending this to outline the plans for the return to school and how things will run. It is basically as we were doing from September, but with a couple of little tweaks.

### **The School Day**

All children will enter through the main school gate and go in the main school entrance. Please can we ask parents to try and arrive/collect at the correct time in order to avoid having lots of people at the gate at the same time. If you have children in different classes, you can drop them all off at the same time. A member of staff will be on the gate to direct children. The children will go straight to their classes.

<b>Class group</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Finish</b>
Class 1	9.00	2.50
Class 2	8.55	2.55
Class 3	8.50	3.00

Pick up will be from the playground following the same one way system that was in place in September.

**We politely request that parents do not enter the school premises at any other times, unless to pick up an ill child or if they have made an appointment.**

### **Lunches**

As it stands currently, lunches will be provided as normal via Rumbling Tums. You should have all received information regarding this. Children will eat lunches in their own classrooms.

### **Wrap around care**

Until the situation we are in improves, this will only be available for the children of key workers in order to reduce the numbers and minimise the risk. Breakfast club will run from 8am. After school care will run until 3.30pm. Both will need to be booked and breakfast club paid for in the usual way. There will be no charge for after school. As always, we will try to help where we can, so if you need wrap around care and are not a key worker please get in touch and we can try to sort something out.

### **Children's wellbeing**

There is no doubt that this lockdown will have had a bigger impact on our children and their wellbeing. We as a school are aware of this and will be focusing on helping them with this when we go back into school. We will give the children plenty of time to get used to being back in school, to get used to the routines again, to get used to having other children to socialise with again. I know that there will be lots of children who are anxious and worried about returning to school. We understand this and will allow them the time and give them the support they need, to make this transition back into school as easy as it can be for them.

### **Catch up programmes**

The work that you have put in over this lockdown at home will have lessened the negative impact on your children's learning. However, there will have been some impact on all children. After giving the children a suitable time to settle back in, we will administer tests in phonics, maths, spelling and grammar and reading. These will be relatively short tests but will allow us to identify the children requiring further catch up and allow us to try and narrow the gaps.

### **School uniform**

I understand that some children may have grown over this lockdown and may have grown out of their uniforms or school shoes. The fact that shops are not open makes this trickier for you. Therefore, up until Easter, children will be able to wear non uniform in school. This will allow you time to sort uniform/shoes for after Easter, by which time shops will hopefully be back open. Please ensure that children wear clean, washed clothes every day. On Wednesdays, the children will be doing PE as normal, so please make sure that they are in appropriate clothing for PE.

### **Masks/visors**

We ask that all adults (unless there is a medical reason why you cannot) wear masks when dropping off and collecting your children from school. Staff will be wearing masks at these times too and will wear clear visors at all times in school. Please let your children know this so that they are prepared.

### **Social distancing in school**

We know that children (especially the little ones) struggle with social distancing. We will be doing what we can in school to minimise the risks. Children will be in their class bubbles at all times, with no mixing between bubbles. Breaks and playtimes will be staggered and lunches will be eaten in classrooms. As soon as we can ease up on this, we will, but for now I want to do what we can to minimise the risk for the children, staff and you and your families.

### **Lateral flow testing**

Staff are testing themselves twice a week with Lateral Flow Testing kits. There is also the option for all households with primary school age children to access twice weekly lateral flow testing to do at home. These can be accessed:

- Via employers if they offer testing to employees
- At a local test site

- By collecting a home test kit from a local test site
- By ordering a home test kit online.

More information about this and how to order can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm\\_source=1%20March%202021%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_source=1%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

Once again we would like to thank you for your continued support during this time. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

If you have any questions or need any support from us, please contact us via [admin@kc.hmfa.org.uk](mailto:admin@kc.hmfa.org.uk) or me direct via [jgittins@kc.hmfa.org.uk](mailto:jgittins@kc.hmfa.org.uk). Please feel free to contact me should you need to.

Yours sincerely

Mr Jamie Gittins  
Head of School