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Headteacher Mrs Maureen Burns

20th July 2020

Dear Parents and carers

We are looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Monday 7th September for the new school year. Parents of children in Reception Class will receive a separate letter with transition details.

We know some parents may still be anxious about coronavirus and we need to work together to reduce the risk of further infection, but the number of cases has been decreasing and it is understood that the risk to children and young people is very low.

We have had to plan the school day very carefully to make sure we fit in with government guidelines and we want to provide you all with information to support your understanding of the measures being taken.

Preventative measures in place

- ensuring everyone cleans their hands more often than usual, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, and before and after eating – this can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser
- displaying information posters to remind children to stay safe
- installing hand sanitiser dispensers throughout the school
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene, by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces more often
- good ventilation throughout the school
- minimising contact and maintaining distance, as far as possible. Guidance states that children should stay within specified separate groups (or bubbles), and through maintaining distance between individuals. The government's guidance to schools recognises that primary aged children may not be able to maintain social distancing, so the emphasis will be on separating groups.

Attendance

All children are expected to attend school unless unwell or there are exceptional circumstances which apply.

Children should wear school uniform, apart from on their PE day, when they should come to school in their PE kit. Joggers may be worn on cold days.

Staggered times

The school day will start and end at different times for different ages groups.

08:45am – 3.00pm	KS1
08:55am – 3:10pm	KS2

Parents are to enter through the small gate and exit via the double gates. Only one adult should bring children to the school.

Siblings will arrive and leave together, at the time applicable to the younger sibling.

There will also be staggered break and lunch times.

Covid-19 symptoms

If anyone at school develops symptoms of coronavirus infection they will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for at least seven days. They should also have a test.

If a child or staff member tests positive the rest of their class will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. Track and trace procedures will be followed.

If test results are negative they will be able to attend school unless they are symptomatic. Test results should be reported to school so that any appropriate action may be taken.

Resources

Children do not need to bring book bags to school. Each child will be given a plastic wallet to store reading books, letters and homework that needs to be taken home.

The children will be encouraged to wash their hands when entering and leaving the building, as well as using hand sanitiser. Our aim is to make the school as safe as possible for staff and pupils.

Children will be taught in class bubbles and will not mix with children from other bubbles.

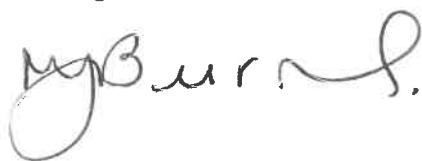
Curriculum

Children will experience a broad curriculum which includes all national curriculum subjects, though in the initial two weeks, the time will be weighted towards Maths and English. We shall be establishing an understanding of each child's achievement and progress since March, using low stakes quizzes and activities to assess and inform the picture we build about each child's strengths and needs. We shall not use formal tests and we shall not report our 'findings' as this process of formative assessment is part and parcel of normal teaching routine. We recognise that pupils will be returning in September after an extended period of not being in school and may feel anxious about returning. We will also focus on pupil's wellbeing, getting to know our new class group and helping the pupils to feel settled in school again.

A further letter will be sent out before the start of term giving further up-dates and information.

If you have any queries please contact Jo in the office or me during the summer holiday on head@garboldisham.norfolk.sch.uk

Kind regards



Maureen Burns
Interim Headteacher