Friday 14th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Information for Autumn Term 2020**

We promised to send an update after 11th August in case the government had made any changes to the requirements for September that affected us. We have not had to make any changes to our opening arrangements at Myddle, so below is a copy of the letter and information you received on 15th July as a reminder of what will be in place and the timings for your child’s class. If your child is in panda class, you will have had a separate letter with timings for their transition from Mrs Turner, as we are taking special care to integrate the new reception children in with the year 1s during the first two weeks.

If you feel that there have been any specific incidents or occurrences in relation to COVID, family or close friends health etc which class teachers should be aware of in order to support your child on their return, please email the office or dojo the teacher to notify us before we return to school on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

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The government has released updated plans for pupils to return to school in September 2020. They intend that **all** pupils will return from the beginning of the Autumn term. The government also state that ‘for the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from Coronavirus (COVID-19)’. We have missed you all so much and can’t wait to have you all back.

In welcoming children back, schools have been asked to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day as part of the controls to reduce the risk of transmission – this means that there will still be some restrictions in place, including some distancing (where appropriate and applicable), individual resources where possible etc.

Please note that if you have a child starting school in Reception in September, a separate letter has been sent out already to share our plans for phased start. An updated version of the reception transition timetable has been placed on the school website (14.7.20) For all other year groups the information is below.

It is an important part of our risk assessment that:

* Anyone who is ill must stay at home
* Hand washing and use of the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ will still be in place
* Cleaning arrangements remain at an enhanced level and we will have a midday clean of the toilets and shared areas.
* All of the school community must engage actively with NHS test and trace – this includes parents

School will continue to work on minimising contacts through:

* Grouping children in bubbles – this will be their whole class
* Avoiding contact between the bubbles
* Considering the arrangement of desks as far as possible to have them facing forwards
* Staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible
* Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary
* Supplying each child with a supply of key equipment, pencils, glue sticks etc for their personal use. No pencil cases in from home please.
* Cleaning of other equipment in between groups eg. iPads, laptops
* Minimising the number of adults who move between classes as far as possible

**PE coaches and Shropshire Music service:**

These providers will return and have their own guidance and risk assessments to ensure they can work safely in school. There will be no musical instruments for the first term – just whole class curriculum music. There will be no PE clubs at lunchtime or after school, as we cannot mix bubbles in this way.

**Extended Schools:**

Our Little Angels provision is able to operate and will be open in line with our staggered timings before and after school. Thank you to Jemma for facilitating this. Children at Little Angels will be from different bubbles, but we are allowed to provide this facility for working families to ensure they have the wraparound care they need. To minimise contact a little further, they will be supervised playing and eating in two groups – Key stage 1 and key stage 2. Little Angels will be using the hall and the outside area for the time being as there is more space to facilitate this.

There are a few reminders and changes also listed below to help make the transition back to school, whilst adhering to the government guidelines:

* Children are to wear their **school uniform**
* **PE kit** – please keep this **at home**. Children need to come into school in their PE kit on the day they are due to have PE (this will be confirmed by teaching staff during the first week back. No-one will need to wear PE kit on the first day).
* **School** **meals** will re-start as usual from September. The guidance is to stagger lunchtimes and clean the eating area between each bubble. With the space, staffing and time available, we are unable to serve hot food for the first half term. This will then be reviewed. Grab and Go bags will be available to order and these are free to all KS1 and those who qualify for Free School Meals. If your child wants to bring a packed lunch then this will be acceptable as well.
* It is still recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each

day to essentials such as lunch boxes, hats, coats, reading books and water bottles and

therefore **small**bags are allowed - we would ask that these are kept to **the school book bag**, which can be purchased from The School Shop.

Teachers and timings:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Myddle** | Teacher | Time in | Door | Time out |
| Snow L (N) | Jodie | 9:15 | Nursery main entrance | 2:45 |
| Panda (R/1) | Mrs Turner | 9:00-9:10 | Panda veranda door | 2:45 |
| Tiger (2/3) | Mrs Crowe | 9:00 | Tiger veranda door | 3:00 |
| Rhino (4) | Mr Glover | 8:45-8:55 | Rhino back  door | 3:10 |
| Jaguar (5/6) | Mr Hughes | 8:45 | Jaguar back door | 3:10 |

If you have children in multiple classes, please bring them all at the earliest time and they can all come in together so that none of you have to wait around unnecessarily. For example, if you had a child in year 4 and a child in year 1, they would both be able to come in at 8.30am.

Any late arrivals **will not be allowed** to enter via the main entrance. If you are running late, you should accompany your child to the reception door, ring the doorbell then step back. Once a member of staff has seen and acknowledged you, you will need to go to your drop off point and your teacher will then be asked to come and meet you there There may be a delay in this as the teachers will have started teaching as soon as children are in school: Please support us in this.

**Please note, ALL children (except year 6 if written permission has been given) MUST be accompanied by an adult for dropping off and going home – adults are asked to stay with their child until the teacher has admitted their child through the gate.**

On site, parents/carers are requested to follow the one-way system for entering and leaving the school grounds and ensure only one adult comes on site to minimise contact with others. As per government advice please do not loiter either inside our grounds or outside along the road.

We would ask parents to remember that:

If we call you saying your child is ill, we need you to come and collect them immediately. There will be a separate designated area in school for them to wait, as per government guidance. If they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature or have a loss of or change in their normal sense of taste or smell they will be sent home and advised to follow the guidance from the government ; ‘stay at home:guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection’.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If your child feels unwell before coming to school, please do not send them in. Usually we encourage children to ‘see how it goes’ but in these new circumstances we cannot allow this.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you back and to meet all the new families who are joining us. We will access the admin email throughout the summer so don’t hesitate to contact us if you need to inform us of anything before September.

We wish you all a lovely summer holiday.

With kind regards from

Mrs C. Williams

Executive headteacher