



Update 4 - Friday 28th August - General Safety Measures

Good Morning

Hopefully this will be my final communication before school reopens next week. Thank you to the parents who have been in touch to ask questions or let me know you have appreciated the information. Obviously we will not know how everything will work until we put it all in action and we may need to make tweaks and alterations to make things run more smoothly as time goes by.

Amongst our school community we have a range of feelings and thoughts regarding the whole Coronavirus situation. We have nervous parents, anxious parents, right through to confident parents. All of these feelings are normal. We are entering the unknown and so we will all feel differently about it all. One thing I am certain of, is that, as parents we are all trying to do our best in a very uncertain situation. Hopefully by helping you to understand the measures we have put in place, I have helped you to at least feel informed about the return to school. Although Senior Leaders are unable to meet with you in person we will be available to talk on the telephone once school is back in operation next week. Obviously on Wednesday and Thursday morning our priority will be to ensure all children returning find their classroom safely, but we will answer queries later in the day. School number is 01254 698584.

So today I wanted to clarify with you the additional measures we are putting in place throughout school in order to help keep our community safer.

Our local area, as you know, is currently in tighter restrictions. This has meant we have had to follow additional guidance. So we are unable to operate in year group bubbles, we are at least initially, operating in class bubbles. Each class will maintain social distance from every other class in school. This means breaktimes and lunchtimes are staggered and we will be zoning the KS2 playground for different classes to have separate areas to socialise in. Please help us by maintaining your distance from other family groups on your way in to school. We all need to maintain the 2m distance wherever possible and follow the one way system during drop off and pick up. There should only be one adult dropping off and picking up, additional children should not be on the school grounds.

Along with additional cleaning throughout school, all classrooms have additional cleaning supplies to be able to wipe down surfaces and touch plates through out the day. The cleaning team will be cleaning throughout the day as well as thorough cleaning at the end of each day.

We have installed additional hand sanitiser stations throughout school for both staff and children to use. Children will be washing their hands at regular intervals throughout the day. Please help us with this by spending some time demonstrating how to wash their hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds before they return to school next week. We will be reiterating this but additional support from home will reinforce this message.

From Year 2 upwards classrooms will be set up in rows facing the same direction and one way systems will be in place in class. Children in reception and year 1 will be working in consistent groups. The movement around school will be reduced and kept to a one way system during 'busier' times.

We will not be meeting for whole school assemblies etc but will be using technology to make sure these events still happen in one way or another.

Breakfast Club and After School Club will operate in both halls to maintain smaller group bubbles within key stages. Key Stage 1 children will be in the usual KS1 hall, key stage 2 children will be in the key stage 2 hall. Within the clubs they will socialise within their class bubbles. **Maximum numbers have had to be reduced so please ensure you have booked in advance - no children will be able to join the club without being booked on in advance.**

It may seem like there are many changes but there are many things remaining the same as I pointed out in an earlier email. The children will be our first priority and all staff will endeavour to make all of these changes seem like second nature to the children as quickly as possible. Hopefully if the situation in Blackburn improves then we will be given the opportunity to move to year group bubbles which will assist our logistics in many ways.

Rest assured we are looking forward to seeing everyone back at school next week. Let's get back to normal!

Regards

Mrs Duckworth
Headteacher