



Wednesday 24th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Earlier this week, the Prime Minister announced that primary schools in England are due to reopen on Monday 8th March. We are delighted to be able to welcome the children back and are so excited to see them.

All year groups will return to school on Monday 8th March. All safety measures and systems remain in place, in line with the Government's guidance, to protect our children and staff as far as possible from coronavirus.

Attendance

School attendance will be mandatory for **all pupils** from 8th March. All children are expected to attend school in March unless they are complying with clinical or public health advice. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time.

Year Group 'bubbles'

In line with government guidelines we will maintain our three-year group 'bubbles'. We will endeavour to keep bubbles separate as much as possible. There will continue to be separate playtimes, lunchtimes, assemblies and entrances / exits for each year group bubble. Some classes will be eating lunch in their classroom to avoid large numbers in the dining hall.

Start and end of Day

There will continue to be separate entrances and exits for different year groups.

Reception	CAR PARK GATE, STANHOPE ROAD
Year One	TOP PLAYGROUND GATE, COTELANDS
Year Two	OFFICE GATE, COTELANDS

Honesty

Respect

Courage

Kindness

Positivity

"All Different, All Equal, All Achieving"

Arrival times:

Arrival time will be between 9am and 9.10am. It is important that all children arrive during this time as the gates will be shut promptly at 9.10am. Please observe social distancing outside the school gates and avoid congregating in one area. **Face Coverings should be worn at all times.** We would ask that only one adult accompanies each child to school to minimise congestion at the gate.

Please ensure that you bring your child to the correct gate so that children do not mix year groups. Siblings should be taken to their own year group gate during this 10-minute window.

Collection times:

At the end of the day, the teacher/teaching assistant will continue to bring your child to your year group gate at their allotted time.

Class 1: 3.25pm, Class 2: 3.20pm, Class 3: 3.15pm

Class 4: 3.25pm, Class 5: 3.20pm, Class 6: 3.15pm

Class 7: 3.25pm, Class 8: 3.20pm, Class 9: 3.15pm

Please ensure that you collect your child promptly from the correct gate. Siblings should be collected from their own year group gate. Gates will be shut promptly at 3.30pm.

If you wish your child to attend the Breakfast or After School Club at Park Hill Juniors, please contact Helen McCarthy to book your place on her usual number, (07960 610 393).

Uniform / What to bring to school

All children should return to school in full school uniform. Please ensure that all items are named clearly.

Children should bring a PE kit to school, including tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers. PE bags can remain on your child's peg for the half term. PE lessons will take place outside wherever possible.

Please provide your child with a named water bottle which can be refilled throughout the day.

Children should bring their book bag to school every day. Books will be changed twice a week as usual, but returned books will be 'quarantined' before being given to another child. We will now resume the use of the 'Reading Diaries' so please ensure this is in your child's bookbag.

Please ensure that children only bring the above listed items to school.

If you borrowed a device from the school to support your child's Remote Education, please return this, along with the carry bag and charger, to the school on the first day so that they can be used within school.

Face coverings

The Government continue to maintain that 'primary school children will not need to wear a face covering... face coverings would have a negative impact on teaching and their use in the classroom should be avoided'. Therefore, there is no need for a child to wear a face covering whilst on the school site.

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Track and Trace

The NHS Test and Trace service helps to control the rate of reproduction (R), reduce the spread of the infection and save lives. By playing your part through the actions set out below, you will directly help to contain the virus by reducing its spread.

Playing your part:

- if you develop symptoms, you must continue to follow the rules to self-isolate with other members of your household and get a test to find out if you have coronavirus
- if you test positive for coronavirus, you must share information promptly about your recent contacts through the NHS Test and Trace service to help us alert other people who may need to self-isolate
- if you have had close recent contact with someone who has coronavirus, you must self-isolate if the NHS Test and Trace service advises you to do so
- if you are returning from travel abroad it is important to check how you should self-isolate

As a school we will be adopting the track and trace system to support the NHS and reduce the spread of the virus. Please ensure we have up to date contact details for you as we may need to contact you at short notice. We will endeavour to keep school / bubbles open if it is safe to do so.

Lateral Flow Device testing is now offered to all staff to complete twice weekly, to minimise the spread of Covid. If we have a situation where we do not have enough staff due to self-isolation / illness, we may need to close a bubble.

What happens if my child is unwell?

If your child displays any symptoms of C-19, (new continuous cough, high temperature, a loss of, or change to their normal sense of taste or smell), please **DO NOT** send your child into school and call the school office to explain the circumstances. You are encouraged to obtain a test, and inform the school as soon as possible of the result. If your child tests positive, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days, as well as family members. If the school is notified of a positive case, we will seek advice as to whether a bubble needs to close. The school will treat any information confidentially.

If a member of your family, living in your household, displays the symptoms above, please do not send your child into school, until a negative result for C-19 has been obtained. If the result is positive, your child should be kept at home for 10 days to self-isolate. Please keep the school fully informed.

If your child develops symptoms of C-19 whilst in school, they will be isolated in a separate room under adult supervision and you will be asked to collect your child immediately and get them tested, ([NHS.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119). You will need to inform the school of the result at the earliest opportunity.

Normal absence procedures apply for sickness, diarrhoea, chicken pox etc. Please remember to call the school office by 9.30am, on the morning of the absence, if your child is expected into school but is unable to attend.

Parental involvement

In the short term, we need to continue to minimise on site parental involvement. Parents will not be allowed onto site without prior arrangement until further notice. Only essential visitors will be admitted. Guidelines permitting, we will be able to resume Terrific Tuesdays, Wonderful Wednesdays and Thrilling Thursdays from June 2021. We will also aim to resume workshops, Headteacher awards assemblies, family curriculum workshops and other parental events as soon as guidance allows.

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In order that we have a full picture of your child's attainment and progress, we have decided to move Parents Evening to after the Easter Holidays. These will now take place on Monday 26th April and Wednesday 28th April via Zoom. Further communication will be sent nearer the time. At these meetings you will be informed as to whether your child is working at the expected level, and you will be given specific targets for reading, writing and maths to work on with your child at home.

Curriculum

On the children's return, we will once again focus primarily on settling your children in and supporting their mental health and well-being during these difficult, uncertain times. Whilst our school counsellor is on maternity leave, Ms Mascarenhas, our Nurture Support Mentor, will be working with children in small groups and 1:1, to boost confidence, self-esteem and alleviate anxiety. She will also be available to talk to parents by request. Please telephone the school office if you would like to speak with her.

We continue to teach your children about what it means to be strong, positive and productive members of society, alongside the importance of looking after their own mental health and well-being.

We will continue to reinforce our five school values, **Positivity**, **Honesty**, **Courage**, **Kindness** and **Respect**, just as we have during lockdown.

We will also re-visit our Superskills for Learning and our learning behaviour expectations. Just a reminder of our Superskills: **Creativity**, **Collaboration**, **Communication**, **Confidence**, **Resourcefulness**, **Making connections**, **Risk Taking**, **Perseverance**, **Curiosity**, **being Reflective**.

On our return, will also focus on 'recovery' and intervention to ensure that any gaps in learning are addressed swiftly and effectively. All children will be informally assessed during the first weeks and we will use these 'baselines' to plan next steps for their learning.

The Government 'catch up' funding will continue to be utilised to ensure extra intervention for pupils where necessary using baseline data. Our intervention teacher, Mr Elsdon, will continue to support our personalised programme of interventions, in addition to interventions led by senior staff and support staff. Alongside our usual broad and rich curriculum, we will also ensure an extra focus on recall of key skills and knowledge in phonics, reading and maths. After Easter, topic webs will be circulated as usual so that you can support your child's learning at home. These will also be available on the school website. Our main aim is to ensure that your child has a happy and successful transition back into school life so that we can all get back to the fun of learning.

Many of you will have seen in the news that the Government has decided that there will be no formal assessments this year. Therefore, there will be no Phonics Screening Check and no Key Stage One SATs at the end of Year Two. We will continue to track your child's progress using our usual method, and their end of year attainment will be reported to you in their annual report in July.

We hope that the above information will give you reassurance that we are doing everything we possibly can to give your child a happy, safe and positive return to school life.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday 8th March and once again would like to thank you wholeheartedly for all your efforts with Remote Learning during the lockdown. We are sure you are looking forward your children being back in school where they belong!

Best wishes

The Headship Team

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