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Thursday 25th February 2021

Dear parents/carers,

As you're likely aware, the government has announced that schools will reopen to all pupils on 8 March. We're very much looking forward to welcoming back more of our pupils to face-to-face education then.

With regard to day to day operation, it is pretty much 'as you were' last term, with staggered starts/ends to the day etc. As a reminder, these are set here:

#### Attendance

From 8 March, school attendance will be mandatory and our usual rules on attendance will apply.

As a reminder, your child should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive
- Live with someone who has symptoms or have tested positive
- Are a close contact of someone who has tested positive

#### Health and Hygiene

The following is a list of some of the measures/procedures in place

- Each class will operate in a 'bubble' in order to reduce to a minimum contact with those in other classes during the school day.
- Staff may work across different bubbles but will, as far possible, maintain a social distance.
- Children will be able to take reading books, homework etc to/from school.
- Hand sanitising on entry/exit to school (Pupils, staff and visitors)
- Hand washing/sanitising at key points - before/after food, playtimes, toilet visit (obviously!), practical activities
- Enhanced, scheduled cleaning - daily and weekly
- Tissues and lidded bins in all classrooms (Catch it, kill it, bin it strategy)
- Full engagement with the NHS Test and Trace process
- One way systems around the school (where appropriate)

#### Symptoms of COVID-19

Where a pupil displays or describes having symptoms of COVID-19 they should not attend school. If the symptoms arise at school, the child will be isolated from their class and parents called. Collection must be as soon as possible to prevent possible exposure of others.

Parents will be advised to book a test for their child at the earliest opportunity and are requested to inform school of test results immediately:

- if someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.

- if someone tests positive, they should follow the [‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection’](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days

Should we have a confirmed COVID-19 case in school then we will refer to Public Health England for advice and guidance on the next steps.

#### Wrap around provision

This will continue in the normal way (as it is currently) at Brockton and Church Preen.

#### Uniform

All pupils will be required to wear their normal school uniform. PE kits will also be required.

#### Lunches

These will be provided in the normal way following the published menu, although children will eat together as a class bubble.

Lunch times and breaks will be staggered - either by time or distance.

#### Start/finish times

These will continue to be staggered. This is to minimise contact between pupils from different bubbles and also between parents at either end of the day. After reviewing how this has operated this term we have condensed the times to have a 10 minute gap for each class. Timing details as follows:

Class	Start	Finish
1	9:05	3:15
2	8:55	3:05
3	8:45	2:55

Where siblings are in different classes, you will continue with the times agreed last term.

It is important that you stick as closely as possible to your allocated timings and do not arrive too early or loiter afterwards.

#### Curriculum

It is our intention to maintain as broad and balanced curriculum as possible in the circumstances.

Whole school assemblies will not be taking place in the near future nor will there be any singing or sharing of, for example, musical instruments.

Staff are ready to tackle any issues that may arise in Individuals as a result of the event of the past few weeks and have prepared a bespoke PSHE (Personal Social Health Economic) programme.

#### Catch-Up

Teachers are ready and prepared to carry out assessments to determine what interventions may be required for individuals and/groups. These will then be delivered in a bespoke way that ‘fills’ any gaps and accelerates learning.

#### Transport

This will continue as normal with children, where possible and practicable, sitting apart. They will be requested to sanitise their hands on entering and leaving the vehicle. There will be no requirement to wear face coverings for children under 11. School transport providers have undertaken to conduct additional cleaning of vehicles to maintain high degrees of hygiene and cleanliness.

## Summary

The overall strategy which has led to the provisions described above is aimed at keep the number of possible contacts/transmissions during a school day to an absolute minimum.

We are aware that the bubbles may appear to compromised by attendance at before/after school club or having siblings in different classes or using school transport but it is believed that any measures, whether implemented fully or partially, will still lead to benefits when trying to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

I would like to assure you that we have taken every measure that is reasonably practicable to provide a safe learning environment that also enables us to readily respond to issues as they arise.

Lockdown has been a challenging period for all of us, and we'd like to thank you for your continuing support during this difficult and uncertain time. If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think your child might need extra support when they return, please get in touch with your class teacher.

We'd also like to thank you for all your support in helping your child learn from home. We'll continue to keep in touch if we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Tinker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave Tinker