

Dear Parents,

**Reopening Information for Parents**

I am writing to you, as I am now in a position to provide you with more detailed information as to the proposed reopening of pre-school on 1st June. I have worked in collaboration with Mrs Farrow to organise a comprehensive plan, which will follow the guidance as set out by the Government. This plan will also take into account the measures that the school are putting into place in order to support parents and provide consistency.

I can confirm that initially, we shall be reopening pre-school on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am – 3pm. By operating a three day week, we will be able to ensure that adequate time is spent deep cleaning the setting.

I would like to reassure all parents that essentially our pre-school will remain the same. The heart of our setting will still be visible in the comfort and support we give our children and our families. It will be the case that some new procedures will be in place and a few things may look a little different on your return. These changes are intended to manage the environment, so that it is as safe as possible for our children and staff.

**Social Distancing**

It is widely recognised that young children cannot be expected to socially distance from each other or the adults within an educational environment. For this reason, the guidance suggests that children remain within ‘bubble’ groups. The children in pre-school will become one bubble group and will remain as such, to avoid unnecessary interactions. This means that we **will not** travel outside of the hall grounds, including going over to the main school to use the library or other facilities. We understand that some children usually attend more than one setting, I am afraid that we have decided to ask that you refrain from this at the moment. I understand that this could prove challenging and we apologise for any inconvenience caused but the safety of our children and staff is paramount.

Although we aim to reduce all unnecessary interactions and minimise contacts, please be assured that Nicki and I will continue to comfort the children should they need it.

**Resources**

All excessive resources have been removed for the time being. This includes soft furnishings and those toys that cannot be easily wiped cleaned. We will be consistently cleaning items in between usage and the setting will receive a deeper clean each afternoon, when the children have gone home.

**Arrival at Pre-School**

To avoid unnecessary use of facilities and congestion within the entrance hall, we will be asking you to arrive via the bottom garden gate – this is the gate situated nearest the balcony. In the interest of safety, I am afraid that parents will not be permitted into the garden or the building, instead either Nicki or I will be available to welcome your child and receive them into the garden. We ask that one parent only comes to the gate and that you drop off as quickly as possible. If you do need to speak with a member of staff, please contact us using the pre-school mobile or via email.

We politely ask that all parents respect the social distancing regulations with all staff and other families, markers will be placed on the pathway to the gate as a gentle reminder.

The school will be operating a staggered drop off system to reduce crowding. If you have a child that is being dropped into the main school before 9am, please contact me via email as we may be able to arrange to accept your child into pre-school a little earlier than usual.

**The Pre-School Day**

Children will wash their hands on arrival at pre-school, and at frequent intervals throughout the day, including before and after eating and when coming in from the garden. This handwashing will be closely supervised and hand sanitiser will be used in addition to, not instead of, washing. A strict handwashing routine is one of the most important measures to reduce the risk of infection and staff will be extra vigilant, reminding children to keep their hands away from their mouths and eyes.

Weather permitting, we shall be using the garden area for as much ‘playing to learn’ as possible. Could we therefore remind you, that your child will require a sun hat and suncream.

In order to reduce the amount of intimate contacts that staff are required to make, could we politely ask that sun cream is applied before children come into pre-school - we will of course reapply as necessary.

For the time being, we are asking that children bring their own packed lunch, along with a named water bottle, which will be refilled with water throughout the day.

To avoid any cross contamination, **only essential items are to be bought into pre-school**.

**Home Time**

At the end of the day, your child can be collected from the garden gate. In order to avoid congestion, please adhere to the guidelines for arrival in the morning. We will endeavour to see children out as swiftly as possible. If you do notice that there are more than three parents waiting to collect children, may we advise waiting in your car until the pathway is clear.

**Effective Infection Protection and Control**

As a whole school and pre-school, we will continue to work through the hierarchy of measures set out in the DfE guidance:

➢ avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms

➢ frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices

➢ regular cleaning of classrooms and surrounding areas (settings)

➢ minimising contact and mixing

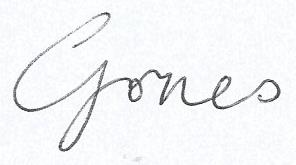
➢ ensuring good respiratory hygiene - promote the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach.

Children should not attend school if they are unwell and if the school has any concern about a child’s health, they will be sent home and will be asked to remain at home for 7 days.

I do hope that you find this information provides you with enough detail about the plan for our proposed reopening. Of course, the information contained, is subject to change depending on further adaptations to Government or DfE guidance.

Thank you so much for your continued patience and support during these challenging times. If you require any further information or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With warmest wishes

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Mrs Gillian Jones