Welcome Back To School

It has been a difficult few months for us all, but it is wonderful to see all the children back in school and we would like to welcome our new pupils and parents.

As we look forward to the new term, it is important to remember that Coronavirus is still with us and we have all had to make some changes to the way we do things. However, the children are adapting well and are settling into their new classes and routines.

We appreciate that some of these changes may be an inconvenience to some, but they have been made to try to ensure the safety of everyone and we would like to thank you for your support with these new measures.

Whilst we do not know what the next few weeks and months will hold, by working together, we are sure that we will come through these difficult times stronger as a school community.

Drop & Pick Up

When dropping off or picking up your child, please remember to queue while maintaining social distance at all times.

Have your contact details changed?

Did you, or someone on your child's contact list, get a new mobile phone during the holiday? Move house? Change doctors?

If any of your child’s contact details have changed, please inform the office who will update your child's record.

We recently sent home a pack containing forms that we need completed on an annual basis. Thank you to all those who have already returned them.

If you have not yet returned the forms, please return them as a matter of urgency. If you have not received them and they are not in your child’s book bag, please contact the school office.

Asthma

If your child needs an inhaler in school please call into the office to collect a permission slip. This must be updated on an annual basis.
Current Academy Times

Please see below for revised start and finish times, applicable until further notice.

Gates open at 8.30am

Parents do not need to enter the school yard in the morning.

Nursery:

Morning Sessions 8.30am to 11.30am
Afternoon Sessions 12.15pm to 3.15pm

Reception
8.50pm to 2.55pm (from 28th September)

Year One
8.50am to 3.10pm

Year Two
8.50am to 2.55pm

School meals

As you are aware, all children in Reception, Year One and Year Two will be given a School Meal. You do not need to pay for this as it is funded by the Government. The funding comes from two different places and the school receives extra funds if your child meets the traditional Free School Meals criteria. If your circumstances change please inform the office, as you can apply for this at any time. Our catering provider is Caterlink and we are sure all of the children will enjoy the food on offer. Menus will be put up around school and the daily options will be discussed with the children.

Packed Lunches

Should your child prefer a packed lunch from home, please advise the school office in advance. This option must be taken for at least one full week at a time as unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate daily changes to meal patterns.

Being Prepared

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of being prepared.

Children should bring their book bag with them every day, along with anything they may need during the day, such as their reading books. They will also need to keep their PE kit in school (this comes home at the end of each half term for washing).

All children should have eaten a healthy breakfast.

Sleep is also vitally important. As parents of young children, this will be an issue for all of you, but it shouldn’t be an issue for the children.

Children need sleep, even if they think they don’t. Lack of sleep can cause all sorts of issues for children because they don’t feel ready for the demands of a school day. If you are having difficulty establishing routines please ask to make an appointment to speak to Mrs Carvell.
Earrings

Please can we remind you that children cannot wear earrings for PE. Therefore, we are asking you not to have your child's ears pierced until the start of the school summer holiday, so that their earrings can be removed at the start of the new term.

Milk and Snack

The academy currently offers children a free piece of fruit during the day. Those who are under 5 years old will also receive free milk through our school milk supplier, Cool Milk. If your child is over 5 years old, they have the option of having 1/3 of a pint of milk every day. Please register and make payments with Cool Milk at www.coolmilk.com if you wish to continue with milk for your child once they turn 5 years of age.

Absences

Please may we ask that you contact the school office by 9.15am if your child is unable to attend due to illness.

*If you child is absent with symptoms of Covid-19, please see the flow chart at the end of the newsletter for guidance.

If your child has either sickness or diarrhoea then we ask that they remain away from school until 48 hours after the last time that they had symptoms.

If you are making a medical appointment for your child please try to make these either during the holidays or after school. If this is unavoidable then please do bring your child into school for as much as the day as possible—if the appointment is not until mid-morning they should still come to school and be collected for the appointment. Please provide a copy of the appointment card or letter for our records.

Photographs

We will also be visited by the school photographer on -

Friday 13th November

All children will have an individual photograph taken.

E-safety

Within school we teach all of the children about e-safety. E-safety is often defined as the safe and responsible use of technology. This includes the use of the Internet and also other means of communication using electronic media (e.g. text messages, gaming devices, email).

In order to help you support your child's e-safety we publish a 'tip of the month' in our newsletter. This month we are recommending you visit -

http://www.safetynettikids.org.uk

Safety net Kids
Wet playtimes

As you will be aware, the British weather can be quite variable. We feel that the children benefit enormously from spending time outside, and even if it is raining we do still go outside to play.

Please would you make sure that your child wears sensible black shoes to school and brings a raincoat, even if the sun is shining when you set off in the morning.

Naming Uniform

We would like to remind you about the importance of naming all items of your child’s uniform. This includes their coat, hat, scarf, gloves, PE kits as well as their school polo shirt, jumper/cardigan, skirt and trousers.

We recommend name tags, which can be sewn or ironed in. If you have written your child’s name in their uniform with a pen then remember to re-write it on a regular basis as it will wash out.

Uniform is available from Clothing4 on Anglesey Road.

School Dresses

Now the weather is getting cooler, please do not send your child to school in a summer dress. They may be worn once the Summer term begins next year.

Attendance Matters
...every school day counts!

Holidays during term time

Government guidelines indicate that primary school children should achieve at least 96% attendance. If you feel that there is anyway that we can support you in order to help your child achieve this, please come and see us.

We ask parents to restrict leave to the 13 weeks of school holidays, except where there are genuine exceptional cases. We will continue to publish in the newsletter the monthly attendance for each class, so parents can see how their child’s class is doing.
School Terms and Holiday Dates 2020/21

**Autumn Term 2020**

**Inset days:** Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 September  
**Term starts:** Thursday 3 September (students return)  
**Half term:** Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October  
**Term ends:** Friday 18 December  
**Holiday:** Monday 21 December - Friday 1 January

**Spring Term 2021**

**Inset Days:** Monday 4 January & Tuesday 5 January  
**Term start:** Wednesday 6th January (students return)  
**Half term:** Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February  
**Term ends:** Thursday 1 April  
**Holiday:** Friday 2 April - Friday 16 April  
**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 4 April

**Summer Term 2021**

**Term starts:** Monday 19 April  
**May Day:** Monday 3 May  
**Inset Day:** Friday 28 May  
**Half term:** Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June  
**Term ends:** Wednesday 21 July  
**Holiday:** Thursday 22 July - Tuesday 31 August
Test and Trace

23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
  1. **a high temperature**: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
  2. **a new continuous cough**: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
  3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste**: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal

- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.

- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/)

- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.
If the person with symptoms’ test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.

If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

It is vital for children’s learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Professor Viv Bennett CBE
Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years | Public Health England
Head of World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing and Midwifery
Follow me on Twitter: @VivJBennett

[Signature]

Dr Susan Hopkins
Interim Chief Medical Officer | NHS Test & Trace
Deputy Director | Public Health England
Consultant in Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
Royal Free, London
If you have been in close contact with someone who tests positive:

1. You may be alerted by NHS Test and Trace.
2. Isolate for 14 days after close contact.

If you develop symptoms:
- Household isolates for 14 days.
- You begin new 10 day isolation.
- You complete 14 day isolation.

Got coronavirus symptoms?

1. Start isolating for 10 days.
- You household or 14 days.

2. Book a test.
- NHS.uk/coronavirus or call 119.

3. Share contacts via NHS Test and Trace.
- Household stops isolating immediately.
- You stop isolating if you feel well.

STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE VIRUS, SAVE LIVES.