



Friars Primary Foundation School
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Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents

March 8th reopening plans.

We hope you are all well and adjusting to the recent news about the roadmap out of lockdown. You will now all know all schools in England will reopen on March 8th. This letter sets out our reopening plan which has been informed by DfE guidance.

All children will be expected back with us on Monday March 8th. Children will be coming back as full classes but we will have staggered start break, lunch and finish times to ensure the whole class "bubbles" can maintain a distance from each other.

Year group	Structure of day	Year group	Structure of day
YN	Start: 8:45am Home time (Part time children): 11:45 Home time (full time children): 3:00pm	Y3	Start: 9:05am Hometime: 3:20pm
YR	Start: 8:50am Home time: 3:05pm	Y4	Start: 9:10am Hometime: 3:25pm
Y1	Start 8:55am Hometime: 3:10pm	Y5	Start: 9:15am Hometime: 3:30pm
Y2	Start: 9:00am Hometime: 3:15pm	Y6	Start: 9:20am Hometime: 3:35pm

Breakfast club will resume on March 8th and will run from 7:45am – 8:45am. Playcentre will resume on March 15th and run from 3:30pm – 5:45pm. Other extracurricular clubs will resume in the summer term.

Staffing:

There have been no staff changes since before the Christmas holidays.

Attendance:

School attendance will once again become compulsory from March 8th. We understand there may still be some anxiety about children returning. However, up to 25% of the school roll have been attending school since the latest lockdown began. We have a well-established set of measures to ensure children and adults are safe which have been updated in the last few days in line with the latest DfE guidance. If your child is absent we will continue with first day calling. Google classroom will only be offered to children who cannot attend school for clinical or public health reasons. Class teachers have been, and will be, ringing children and parents who have indicated any anxiety this week and next week to offer reassurance and clarity. It is important for all parents to understand that we will follow our usual procedures for addressing non-attendance from March 8th.

Headteacher: Justin Burt

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Gentle reminders for parents:

- Parents must not drop off or collect children at times other than those detailed above.
- As per the Autumn term, parents will not be allowed onto the site unless they have made a prior arrangement and we expect parents to wear face coverings when on site.
- We also ask that only one adult bring your child to school and that parents do not congregate in groups at the front of the school.
- As we move through the different phases of the route out of lockdown this may change and we hope that we will be able to relax these expectations.

General guidance:

- Children that are not well and are showing symptoms of Covid 19 must not attend school.
- Children that are well but are part of a household that is self-isolating must not attend school during the self-isolation period.
- If a child starts to feel unwell at school and in particular if they are showing Covid19 symptoms they will be isolated from everyone else and we will expect them to be collected immediately along with any siblings that attend. We have home testing kits in school which we will give to parents of symptomatic children. We expect parents to get any symptomatic children tested as soon as possible after showing symptoms.
- If a child is tested for Covid 19 and the result is positive, parents must contact the school immediately as the rest of the child's class group may also have to self-isolate. We will liaise with Public Health Southwark if there are any confirmed cases for further guidance and advice.
- Stringent handwashing and hygiene practices ("Catch it, bin it kill it!") will be in place throughout the day. Staff will also regularly clean down surfaces and door handles throughout the day in addition to the daily cleaning provided by our cleaning contractors.
- Although you may choose for your child to wear face coverings on the way to school, the DfE are not recommending its use in school by primary aged children.
- Staff have been advised to wear face coverings in communal areas where they cannot maintain social distancing but this will not be the case in classrooms for the most part.
- Staff are also taking lateral flow device (LFD) tests twice a week, following DfE guidelines about minimising the risk of transmission of asymptomatic
- We will continue to keep year groups separate and siblings from different classes will have to stick to their designated start, break, lunch and pick up times.
- School staff will collect and deliver children to the gate and in order to minimise social contact and that includes breakfast and playcentre children
- Children will remain with their own class for lessons, breaktimes, and lunchtimes. The same adults will mostly remain with each class.

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- When in the classroom and the lunch hall, furniture will be arranged so that wherever possible children will not face each other and adults can maintain a 2m distance. However, we also need to accept that social distancing will not always be possible.
- We will control movement around the building so that there is minimal contact between groups and will use external entrances to classrooms wherever possible. The playground will be zoned into different areas and children will be given a specific space to be with their group.
- External staff who teach music, mandarin, PE and dance will be coming back to teach at Friars.
- Google classroom will stop being used routinely on Friday 5th March. It will only continue to be used if an individual, whole class or whole school has to isolate. Some teachers may choose to use it for giving homework, however, and we will give children regular reminders on how to use it to maintain their confidence and competence in using it.
- Children will continue to use their own labelled pencil cases so they are not sharing classroom equipment.
- Children are allowed to bring bags, PE kits and book folders to school as well as a water bottle.
- We will resume sending reading books home and we hope that you will continue to hear them read regularly.
- Children will have lots of opportunity to catch up on lost learning time. We will be assessing them in the week beginning March 8th to find out what gaps there are and then we will work hard to close them.
- As well as making sure we can identify the gaps in children's learning and acting quickly to close those gaps, we will be focussing heavily on children's wellbeing and as such will continue to use the RULER programme that we introduced last year. We will also re-establish our revised behaviour management policy which includes our "Covid behaviour red lines".
- Miss Wratten will be contacting parents of children who have had iPad, laptops or chromebooks loaned to them during lockdown about returning them to school.

As always, our plans are subject to change at short notice. We need parents to accept any changes that are made which will always be in the interest of pupil and adult safety and following national guidelines. However, we share the Government's cautious optimism and hope that this will be the last time we have to lockdown!

Yours sincerely,

J. Burtt

Headteacher: Justin Burtt

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