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Inspired to learn, motivated to achieve.

4th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 8th March following the period of lockdown since January 2021. We would like to thank you for all of your continued support and partnership working with our staff to maintain learning during this challenging time. The work and effort put in by our children, staff and you as parents / carers has been outstanding and will most definitely benefit your child in successfully returning to school.

This letter will outline all the necessary measures and arrangements we have put in place to enable this to happen and to promote a safe return to schools for children and our staff.

As was the case in September, we recognise that some parents may be feeling very anxious about their child's return to school and it is very important that everybody follows the guidance in this letter so we can keep each other safe.

We understand that children may be anxious too and we will address this within our bubbles / classes as the need arises. Children will be given the opportunity to talk about their feelings and worries and will be supported by all staff on their return. We encourage you to discuss the return with your child and to keep communication high.

Bubbles

All children and staff are assigned to bubbles and these bubbles will continue to be separated within the school. In our school we will have 3 bubbles- Oulton, Ranworth and Hickling. Bubbles will continue not to mix at all during the school day.

The changes within the classroom environment which were in place in the Autumn Term to limit the amount of face-to-face contact and regular handwashing throughout the school day, as well as regular cleaning of the environment continue.

Each child will have their own basic pack of equipment (supplied by school) that only they may use e.g. pencil, pen, ruler, crayons inside a pencil case. All other equipment that may be used by more than one child will be cleaned between each use.

In the event that a bubble needs to close we will revert to remote learning as per our provision since January, and will inform you via our website.

Hygiene

Children will wash their hands thoroughly (with soap and water) or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser gel often. Everyone will wash their hands on arrival at school, before eating, after coughing or sneezing, after visiting the toilet, after being outside and before going home. We will promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach when sneezing.

Face Coverings

Children travelling by taxi will continue to wear a mask for the duration of the journey.

Health

We will take everyone's temperature when they arrive at school.

At drop off, we will ask parents about their child's health. If they have any symptoms you will be asked to take them home immediately. It is essential that you or a registered family member are able to collect your child should they be required to be sent home.

Please ensure that your child does not come into school if they have symptoms, have tested positive in the last 10 days or have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test & Trace. Please report your child's absence in the usual way (by phoning the school office).

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they will be sent home. They must self-isolate for 10 days and should arrange to be tested. Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 10 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms or tested positive.

If a symptomatic child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to another room where they will be looked after by a member of staff while they wait to be collected.

Staff will wear personal protective equipment if they are looking after a symptomatic child or dealing with a child requiring first aid who they need to be in close contact with.

Staff will go home immediately if they become ill at work with symptoms.

Staff are taking the asymptomatic lateral flow test twice each week.

We will advise you if someone develops symptoms in your child's bubble or has tested positive, and will let you know what you need to do next.

Arrival at School

For the safety of all children in our bubbles it is important that children arrive at school at the correct time and are waiting at the correct gate. Please can adults wear a mask and only one adult per child for drop off. Parents will not be allowed on school premises and will need to leave their children at the gate where they will be welcomed by an adult.

Arrival times are as follows:

8.45 Oulton class~ main gate

8.45 Hickling class~ garden gate

9.00 Ranworth class~ main gate

Taxi children will be allowed to enter as soon as they arrive at school.

Whilst waiting to go into school, your child and their siblings must stay with you at all times. For their own safety and the safety of others, please do not allow them to run around the carpark or the church grounds.

Only members of a single household should travel together to and from school. It is essential that people continue to socially distance at all times, avoid gathering in groups and leave the premises as soon as possible.

What can my child bring to school?

It is very important that we limit the number of things that come in from home. Therefore, we ask that only these items come into school. No toys should be brought into school.

- Coat
- Water bottle
- Lunchbox (if required)
- PE kit
- Appropriate clothing on the days your child is involved in Outdoor learning

On Friday, all children should come to school in clothes appropriate for outdoor learning.

Lunch Arrangements

Children will be eating lunch in their bubbles. Hot meals are available to order, as always, via the school office. Please email Mrs. Jarrett (office@greatdunham.norfolk.sch.uk)

Uniform

School uniform should be worn every day, except Friday. There is no requirement for clothes to be washed daily, your normal washing routine is fine. Please ensure that your child has their school sweatshirt/cardigan with them every day as windows will be open in classrooms to aid ventilation and it may get a little chilly. Extra layers of undergarments will also help them keep warm.

Breakfast Club & After School Club

Breakfast and after school club will continue to be available.

Breakfast club 7.45-8.45

After School Club 3.25-5.00

Please book your places by Friday of the week before you will need the space.

Communicating with School Staff

If you need to speak to a member of staff please phone or email the school office. We will ensure that the most appropriate member of staff responds to your query.

End of the School Day

When collecting your child from school it is important that you arrive at your allotted time. As mentioned previously it is essential that people continue to socially distance at all times, adults please wear a face mask, avoid gathering in groups and leave the premises as soon as you have collected your child. Please can only one adult per child come to collection.

Pick up times are as follows:

3pm Oulton~ main gate

3pm Hickling~ garden gate

3.15pm Ranworth~ main gate

Attendance

From March 8th, full attendance by children is expected, and we will be operating in line with all of our usual attendance procedures in line with Department for Education guidance.

We realise that this is a long letter with lots of information in it but hopefully it answers all of your questions. However, if you have any further questions please contact the school office by phone or email before the end of term.

We look forward to the children returning on March 8th.

Kind regards,

Sharon Nour

Headteacher