

Newsletter
Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Autumn term is now well underway and the children and staff have now completed a full month back at school. I am happy to say that the children are well settled and although school life is different in many ways, it is delightful to see great enthusiasm as children embrace the new ways of learning. As well as a focus on core curriculum skills, we will continue to support children's emotional well-being and mental health. Thank you to all of the parents and carers for your ongoing support, cooperation and feedback.

School Start and Finish Times

Below is a reminder of your child's bubble start and end times. Staggered times have been used in order to promote social distancing. Therefore, in order to avoid congestion around the pedestrian entrance gate, we would ask that you and your child **do not arrive at school before your allocated time**. This will help to keep the numbers of people in and around the school site to a minimum.

Children should continue to be dropped off and collected by **ONE** family member, parent or carer only.

Please remember to **keep a safe distance from other families** (2 metres where possible) whilst arriving at and entering the school grounds. It is important that families feel safe and comfortable in and around the school site.

Unaccompanied Children

If your child walks to school without an adult or is dropped off at the school gate, then they must also arrive at their allocated time. Unfortunately, some children are arriving very early to congregate around the entrance and they are failing to keep a safe distance from others. If they are unable to follow these rules, then we would suggest that they be accompanied by an adult. This is for the safety of the school community.

Bubble Group	Start time	Finish time
Time for Twos	8:30	11.15 – 11.30
Morning Nursery	8:30	11.15 – 11.30
Afternoon Nursery	12.15	3.00
All day Nursery & Reception	8:30	3.00
Year 1	8.40	3.10
Year 2	8.40	3.10
Year 3	8.45	3.15
Year 4	8.50	3.20
Year 5	8.45	3.15
Year 6	8.50	3.20
SLB 1 & 2	8.55	3.25

These timings must be strictly adhered to in order to maintain safety.

If you need to talk to your child's teacher, please contact the school office via telephone or email to arrange an appointment. Parents will not be permitted to enter the school building without prior appointment.

Face Coverings

Thank you to the parents and carers who have been wearing face coverings whilst on the school grounds as recommended by the Local Authority. Given the increased risk of COVID-19 in the Dudley borough, **we now request that all parents and carers wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting children from school.** Staff will not be required to wear face coverings when greeting children at the doors in the morning, when releasing them at the end of the day, or whilst teaching in the classroom. Staff on external entrance and exit points will wear face coverings.

Any parents, carers or visitors entering the school building to visit staff (by prior appointment) are required to wear a face covering at all times.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

The suspension of breakfast club and after school club will be reviewed this month. In the coming weeks, you will receive a questionnaire to gauge interest in this provision.

Parents' Evenings

We will be unable to hold our usual parents' evenings in school this term. This is due to restrictions on visitors into the school building. Instead, appointments will be available for telephone consultations with your child's teacher after the half term break. Further information will follow in due course.

COVID-19 Symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal



It is important that if your child (or anyone in their household) has any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, they do not attend school and stay at home. You should arrange for them to get a test and let school know the test results. This will help the NHS Test and Trace process. If you have a positive test result, your household should remain at home and follow the Test and Trace self-isolation guidance.

Thank you again for continued support and understanding. We wish to reassure you that we are doing everything that we can to keep our school environment as safe as possible for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Bostock
Acting Headteacher